



BOARD NOTES

A Summary of the December 12, 2016 Palestine ISD Board of Trustees Meeting

A.M. Story Intermediate students who are members of the K-Kids Club led pledges to the American and Texas flags.

Spotlight

Junior Rotarians and Students of the Month

Junior Rotarians for December:

Annalise Meyers and Jacob Neal

Students of the month of December:

Rosario Guzman and Jacob Montgomery

Financial Report

David Atkeisson, Chief Financial Officer, presented a brief financial report noting that state payments have ceased until April 2016; however the district has received tax collections of 10.45% as of November, compared to 3% at this time last year. Enrollment and attendance have been good this school year which are helping to provide adequate funding for the district.

Public Hearing – FIRST Rating

A public hearing was held to discuss the District's Schools FIRST (Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas) District Status for 2014-2015. David Atkeisson, Chief Financial Officer, reported that the ratings system has changed slightly from a three-tiered system to a four-tiered system. Palestine ISD received a rating of A-Superior which is the highest rating available. Vice President, Brandon Sheeley asked if there were any questions or concerns from attendees. There were none.

PISD Financial Audit

John LeGard of Smith, Lambright, and Associates presented financial audit information for year ending August 31, 2016. Following the presentation, the Board of Trustees accepted the 2015-2016 financial audit report.

Consent Items Approved

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 14, 2016
- Bills paid for November, 2016
- Financial Report
- Monthly Investment Report
- Tax Collection Report
- Donations

Palestine High School

\$1,000.00 from Walmart for the Kik Kat Drill Team.

- Credit by Exam – January, 2017 Administration
- 2017-2018 Junior High/High School Course Guides
- Out of State Band Trip

Campus Presentation

Jaime Clark, A.M. Story Intermediate Principal, shared Story campus happenings for the 2016-2017 school year. A video was shown featuring the Story campus.

District of Innovation Plan

Tammy Jones, Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services presented for approval the final District of Innovation Plan. The plan proposes flexibility in the following areas:

- 1) Student Discipline Provisions
- 2) Probationary Contracts
- 3) School Calendar
- 4) Class Size Ratio
- 5) Teacher Certification
- 6) 90 Percent Attendance Rule

The Board adopted the District of Innovation Plan as presented.

Public Form – PISD Federal Charter School Grant

Superintendent Jason Marshall and Tammy Jones, Assistant Superintendent, presented information about the creation of a district charter school. Vice President, Sheeley offered an opportunity for public comment. No comments were offered.

Application to Authorize Campus Charter

The Board approved an application for a Campus Charter School as required by PISD Board adopted policy (Policy updated on August 22, 2016).

Palestine Charter School Resolution

The Board adopted a resolution for PISD’s proposed charter school, Palestine Career and Technical High School as required by PISD Board adopted policy, and the 2017-2019 Public Charter School Program Start-Up Grant.

2017-2019 Public Charter School Program Start-Up Grant

The Board approved a 2017-2019 Public Charter School Program Start-Up Grant. Tammy Jones, Assistant Superintendent, provided information regarding the 2017-2019 Public Charter School Program Start-Up Grant that if awarded, would be used at the Palestine Career and Technical High School Campus.

Personnel

Lori Camacho	Art	A.M. Story Intermediate
Joshua Kennedy	Assistant Band	Palestine High School

Superintendent Jason Marshall accepted the resignation of David Jones.

Tennis Court Lighting

David Atkeisson, Chief Financial Officer, informed the Board that the District had been exploring the facility needs of the tennis program. Through the input of Scott Tyler, Tennis coach, and with the support of Robby Clark, Athletic Director, a determination was made that installation of lighting at the courts would provide the greatest immediate impact on the Tennis program. Bids were solicited, and the district received bids from Mark Henderson Electric, Techline Sports Lighting, and Sentry Sports Lighting. The lowest bid was from Henderson Electric and will provide 25 year maintenance free warranty and a 10 year re-lamp if lighting drops below guaranteed standards.

The Board awarded a contract for the installation of lighting at the PHS Tennis courts to Mark Henderson Electric.

Adoption of 2017 Legislative Platform

The Board adopted a resolution in support of a joint legislative platform that Anderson County and Freestone County public school districts worked together to develop. The joint legislative platform consisting of greatest areas of concern for the schools will be shared with elected officials to inform them of areas that need to be addressed during the 85th Texas Legislative Session.

Announcement of Board of Trustees Continuing Education

Board of Trustees Vice President, Brandon Sheeley, announced continuing education records earned by each trustee in 2016. Trustees exceeded the number of required hours.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Marshall reported on the following:
Student enrollment was 3,460 as of December 9, 2016.

PISD hosted 6 football games and 1 volleyball game during the 2016 playoff season earning a profit of \$9,213.51 for the district. The amount does not include concession earnings by the Athletic Booster Club.

Campus principals and District administrators have completed a Year in Review for their campus/department. The information will be shared with the Board at the January regular school board meeting.

A calendar of events was given to Board members. Campuses will have an early release on Friday, December 16th for the Christmas holidays which will begin on Monday, December 19, 2016. Staff will return for a professional development day on Monday, January 2, 2017, and students will return to class on Tuesday, January 3, 2017.

Superintendent Marshall shared with the Board that staff members were very appreciative for the Thanksgiving turkey and retention incentives that PISD employees received during the months of November and December.

**Next Regular Board Meeting
Monday, January 23, 2016 – 7:00 p.m.**