



# BOARD NOTES

## A Summary of the February 23, 2015 Palestine ISD Board of Trustees Meeting

### Spotlight

The spotlight portion of the meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather. February spotlight items will be placed on the March 26, 2015 Board of Trustees meeting agenda.

### Financial Report

Superintendent Jason Marshall gave a brief financial report noting that the district is within budget at this time and that revenue is significantly higher than expected due to higher student enrollment.

### Consent Items Approved

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 22, 2015
- Bills paid for January, 2015
- Financial Report
- Monthly Investment Report
- Tax Collection Report
- Budget Amendment

Increase revenue from the Foundation School Program (199/5812) from current amount of \$12,596,091.00 to \$13,296,091.00. Total increase of \$700,000.00. These funds will be utilized for the following:

1. Increase expenditures in function 11 (Instruction) by \$300,000.00 for special education payroll.
2. Increase expenditures in function 34 (Transportation) by \$250,000.00 for purchase of two buses and rehab of 2 buses.
3. Increase expenditures in function 11 (Instruction) by \$150,000.00 to accommodate any unforeseen instructional needs.

- Donations

#### Palestine ISD

\$200.00 gift card from Walmart to be used to purchase sewing machine for TACE Program.

#### Palestine ISD

\$300.00 from Michael & Robin Yeager to be used for Wildcat Golf Course.

#### Palestine High School

Notebooks valued at \$200.00 from Bill Crutcher (PHS Alumni Assoc./Class of 1970).

- Certification of Superintendent to Region 7 Education Service Center Regional Advisory Committee
- Submission of Class Size Reduction Waiver

- Resolution to Disclaim Certain Real Property (old Alamo School building)
- Request for Proposals for (RFP) for LED Signage
- Smith, Lambright, & Associates, P.C. Approval to Provide Palestine ISD Financial Audit for Year Ending August 31, 2015
- Cosmetology Innovative Course and Certification

### **Universal Breakfast Waiver for School Year 2015-2016**

The Texas Department of Agriculture requires public school campuses with 80 percent or more enrolled students who are eligible for free or reduced-price meals to provide breakfast at no cost to all students unless the district receives a waiver. Board President, Stanley Sokolowski offered an opportunity for public comment. There were no public comments.

Due to some PISD campuses qualifying for free breakfast and some not, students at some of the campuses would receive free breakfast and some would not; therefore the Board felt it in the best interest of all students to approve a Universal Breakfast Waiver to opt out of this requirement. The Board approved the submission of a Universal Breakfast Waiver for school year 2015-16.

### **Texas Public Schools 2015**

The Board of Trustees adopted a resolution titled “Celebrate Texas Public Schools 2015” (formerly known as Texas Public Schools Week). Motion carried unanimously.

The resolution encourages that we remain committed to strengthening our schools and encourages all residents to visit their local schools during the week of March 2-6, 2015.

“Education is Bigger Here” has been designated as this year’s theme to focus on the significant accomplishments our state has made in educating all students.

### **2015-2016 School Calendar**

The Board of Trustees approved the 2015-2016 school calendar. In 2015-16, the first day of school for students will be Monday, August 24, 2015. Staff development days prior to the start of school are Friday, August 14<sup>th</sup> and Monday-Friday, August 17<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>. The last day of school will be Friday, June 3, 2015.

### **Campus Presentation**

A presentation by Stephen Cooksey, Palestine Junior High School Principal was postponed due to inclement weather.

### **Cheerleading Constitution Tabled**

The Board discussed and considered a requested change to the Cheerleading Constitution. However, a consensus was reached that additional information was needed in order to consider the change. The item was tabled until the March board meeting.

### **Personnel**

The Board approved the following personnel as presented.

Leslie Hasler-Gail

1<sup>st</sup> Grade

Northside Primary

The Board approved an administrative contract for Robby Clark. Coach Clark will serve as PISD Athletic Director and Head Football Coach.

The Board of Trustees approved contract extensions for Administrators and Directors.

### **Board of Trustees Election**

The Board of Trustees approved an order for an election to be held on Saturday, May 9, 2015, to elect officers for Place 1 and Place 2 of the Palestine ISD Board of Trustees.

The Board also approved a joint election agreement with the City of Palestine.

### **2014-15 School Calendar Revision**

The Board approved extending hours for staff on Tuesday, June 2, 2015 to replace the Saturday, June 6, 2015 work day currently listed on the District calendar.

### **Interlocal Agreement with Anderson County**

An Interlocal Agreement between Palestine ISD and Anderson County was approved by the Board. If the Interlocal Agreement is approved by Anderson County, the county will assist Palestine ISD with the clearing of land at the Wildcat Golf Course driving range.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Jason Marshall shared the following information:

PISD's current student enrollment is 3,349.

The PHS Boys' Varsity Basketball Team has made the first round of the playoffs and will play Waco-Robinson in a bi-district game on Tuesday, February 24, 2015, 7:30 p.m. at Buffalo High School.

The District will be closed for spring break the week of March 16-20, 2015.

The Texas Association of School Boards Summer Leadership Institute dates are set for June 11-13, 2015 in San Antonio and June 18-20, 2015 in Fort Worth.

**Next Regular Board Meeting  
March 26, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.**