



BOARD NOTES

A Summary of the March 24, 2014 Palestine ISD Board of Trustees Meeting

Southside Elementary students led the pledges to the American and Texas flags. Thank you to second graders; Aubree Worley, Jadyne Freeman, Shannon Jackson, James Aiden Moore, Jenna Barnes, and third graders; Samantha Yost, Reginald Kimbrough, Aleja Bowser, Julio Soto!

Spotlight

Recognition of Ladycat Powerlifting Team

Cody Tunstall, Ladycat Powerlifting Coach shared accomplishments from the Ladycats Powerlifting season. The team competed in the Texas High School Powerlifting Association in Region 3, one of the most competitive Regions in the state where they won 9 gold, 5 silver, 6 bronze medals, and 6 outstanding lifter awards. Breanna Vasquez, Mariah Castillo, Mallorie Sander, and Lacey Tillis qualified for the Regional Competition, where Mallorie and Lacey were Regional Champions. The group went on to participate at the State Competition where Lacey earned a Bronze medal.

Recognition of Palestine High School Choir

Chaundra Dantin, Palestine ISD Secondary Choir Director introduced Haley Cook and Branden Dantin, who both advanced to area competition in choir. Branden Dantin advanced to the All-State Men's Choir along with thousands of students across Texas who entered the All-Region process at the beginning of this school year. Branden is one of the top 2.2% who earned a seat in one of the All-State performing groups and is Palestine High School's first student since 2005 to perform as part of one of the All-State Choirs. Haley and Branden both received a Superior Rating in the UIL Solo & Ensemble competition. Haley and Branden, along with 4 other PHS students will advance to the State UIL Solo & Ensemble Competition in May.

Junior Rotarians of the Month

Congratulations to the February and March Junior Rotarians!

February, 2014: Kiare Jackson and Alex Wehling

March, 2014: Shannon Smalley and Sam Snyder

Students of the Month

Congratulations to the Students of the Month for February and March!

February, 2014: Abigail Earle and Jaren Crist

March, 2014: Natalie Dickerson and Parker Hamon

Financial Report

Superintendent Jason Marshall gave a brief financial report. At this time, revenue exceeds expenditures by approximately 15%. Superintendent Marshall complimented staff for keeping expenditures within the current budget.

Consent Items Approved

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 17, 2014
- Bills paid for February, 2014
- Financial Report
- Monthly Investment Report
- Tax Collection Report
- Donations
 - Northside Primary
\$144.36 from Target for Northside Primary.
 - Palestine High School
\$500.00 from Spencer Distributing to the Math or Science Department.
- Roth 403b and 457 Plan Agreement for Employees
- 2014-15 Local Textbook Adoption
- Certification of EMAT System for 2014-2015 Textbook Order
- Out of State Field Trip for Palestine High School Choir

First Read of 2014-15 District Goals

Carolyn Martin, Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services shared information for 2014-15 district goals. 2013-14 district goals were reviewed and updated by the District Action Team to meet STAAR standards of postsecondary readiness and the District's forward move into the integration of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math with the implementation of STEAM Centers. The centers will serve Northside Primary, Southside Elementary, A.M. Story Intermediate, and Palestine Junior High School. These goals will ensure that the District is on target to meet the state postsecondary readiness goal of 2020. This was a first read of proposed goals with the final goals to be approved at a later meeting.

Personnel

The Board of Trustees approved term and probationary contracts of teachers for the 2014-2015 school year.

The Board approved the termination of the probationary contracts at the end of the contract terms for Glenna Lowery and Maxine Moore.

Superintendent Jason Marshall accepted the resignations/retirements of Tiva Dixon, Charles Drane, Kayla Fields, Scott Johnston, Charles King, Holley Marshall, Lynece Standley, and Stephen Wickham.

Media Honor Roll Nomination

The Board did not have an opportunity to visit with all members regarding a nomination for the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Media Honor Roll. The item will be considered at a future meeting.

2014-2016 Internet Safety Guidelines

The Board of Trustees approved the current content filtering in use by the District as required by the Texas Education Agency. Fortinet hardware appliance recognizes staff and students by their unique login ID and applies the necessary internet content filtering accordingly. Additionally, each student with a school supplied email account is required to view and pass a test on internet safety before they can use their web account on Gaggle.

Certification of Unopposed Candidates

The PISD Board certified candidates for Places 6 and 7 of the Board of Trustees as unopposed as only one candidate filed to run for each of the positions. Stanley Sokolowski, the current Board Vice President filed for Place 6 and Michael Bennett, current Board member filed for Place 7. They will be sworn in at the May board meeting and will serve from May 2014 until May 2017.

Cancellation of Election

The Board approved the cancellation of the May 10, 2014 Board of Trustees Election due to there being no opposed candidates.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Jason Marshall informed the Board that the District's enrollment as of the 125th day of the school year is 3,249 which is 133 students higher than the first day of 2013-14 and one student higher than at this point in 2012-13.

The Ladycats Soccer Team will play a bi-district game against Navasota at Waco Robinson on Tuesday, March 25, 2014. The Wildcat Soccer Team will play College Station. Palestine ISD will host the One-Act Play District Competition in the PHS Auditorium at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 29, 2014. The Harlem All-Star Legends will perform at Palestine High School on Saturday, March 29, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

TASB Summer Leadership Institutes will be held this summer to provide Board members two opportunities to receive required continuing education training. The first will be held in San Antonio, June 19-21, and the second one in Fort Worth, June 26-28, 2014.

**Next Regular Board Meeting
April 21, 2014 – 7:00 p.m.**