



BOARD NOTES

A Summary of the April 16, 2012 Palestine ISD Board of Trustees Meeting

Many thanks to the Northside Primary “Honor Readers” who led the pledges to the American and Texas flags. These students have earned 40 or more Accelerated Reader points: Madison White, Zade Absey, Osvaldo Quevedo, Ariana Escalante, Tori Mancia, Jessica Bowden, Aden Torma, Nicholas Renteria, Kyimarri Ester, Andrew Gregory, and Ian Garcia.

Spotlight

Recognition of Art Students

Connie Teal, Palestine High School Art teacher presented the results of the VASE competition. Twenty-five students participated in the Regional competition in February and fifteen of those received Superior ratings. Arika Shook and Lyhoung Te advanced to State this past weekend where Arika received a Medallion for a perfect score and another Superior rating.

Recognition of YMCA Youth in Government Students

Sandy Webb, Youth & Government Lead Advisor presented a Powerpoint and results from the YMCA Jr. Youth in Government State Conference held in Austin, Texas, February, 2012 and the YMCA High School Youth & Government State Conference in held in Austin, Texas, January, 2012. Jr. YG delegates Davis Morton and Macy Stone were named State Distinguished Delegates. YG Delegate Chris Winfield was the winner of the District 5 Angie Baggett Award at the Youth & Government District Conference in December, 2011. Officers and volunteers for the year were also honored with a certificate of appreciation.

Junior Rotarians of the Month

Junior Rotarians for the month of April are PHS students, Emily Miller and Charles Perry. These students weren't able to be present as they were both attending District activities. Emily was competing in a golf tournament and Charles was attending a banquet honoring students selected to the All-State Football Team.

Students of the Month

Students of the month for April are PHS students, Sherece Donnell and Ulises Arzola.

Sherece Donnell serves as an athletic trainer for District athletic events. She is actively involved in Relay for Life and her class raised over \$2,000 to help fight cancer. She is enrolled in the TVCC Nurse Aide Program and is a very conscientious and diligent student. Sherece plans to go into nursing after graduation.

Ulises Arzola is involved in many activities including FFA, Interact, and the Spanish Club. He is the treasurer for the Student Council and is the Senior Class President. He participates in CX Debate and this year competed in the area of accounting. This will help as he plans to pursue a degree in accounting at the University of Texas in San Antonio.

Construction Projects Update

Jeff Edwards of Claycomb Associates, Architects provided the Board of Trustees a construction update for Palestine High School. Installation of food service equipment in the kitchen and serving areas is complete and is being tested. Stage rigging, equipment, and lighting is being installed in the auditorium area. All of the roof systems are nearing completion. Overall, the PHS project is 86% complete.

Pictures of the projects and aerial photos of the construction sites can be viewed on the district website at (www.palestineschools.org). Go to "About PISD" at the top of the page, then select "Construction Updates".

Financial Report

David Atkeisson, Chief Financial Officer, stated that the District has received 73% of projected revenue and has only expended 58% at this time. The District has collected 94% of property taxes which is an increase from last year at this point in the year. Interest earned on investments is \$20,000 ahead from last year. Principals and directors have shown good fiscal responsibility which is good news for the budget.

The Board of Trustees approved the addition of Superintendent Jason Marshall as an authorized representative for LOGIC Participant Services, Texas DAILY Client Services, Texas CLASS, TexSTAR Participant Services, and TEXPOOL Participant Services.

Buford Thompson Construction Company was approved as the construction company for the Design-Build Projects. These projects include renovations to the Palestine High School vocational building. Also to be considered if funds are available; are renovations at the Northside and Southside campuses, a PHS softball field, and additional football stadium parking.

Consent Items Approved

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 26, 2012
- Minutes of the Called Meeting of March 30, 2012
- Bills paid for March, 2012
- Financial Report
- Monthly Investment Report
- Tax Collection Report
- Change in Election Judge for the Palestine Dream Center

Summer School

Summer School Programs will be reviewed at the May regular board meeting due to STAAR results not becoming available from the Texas Education Agency until May 28, 2012.

Policy Revisions

The Board of Trustees adopted of resolution to suspend the portion of District Local Policy EIA regarding the End of Course 15 percent provision for the 2011-2012 school year.

The Board of Trustees approved Local District Update 93, affecting local policies FFH (Local) and FFI (Local) in regards to student welfare, freedom from discrimination and freedom from bullying.

A revision to Policy CH (Local) affecting purchasing and acquisition was approved. The District's purchasing authority will increase from \$25,000 to \$50,000. This revision was recommended so that legal and local policy indicate the same amount for purchase of goods and services.

Personnel Approved

Sandra Cravens-Bristow CTE/Health Science
Shanna Marshall TTIPS Grant Coordinator

Superintendent Jason Marshall accepted the resignations/retirements of Ruth Carlson, Andrea Earle, Misty Hood, Benjamin McGeehee, Leslee McGeehee, Elise Smith, and James Warren.

The Board of Trustees approved term and probationary contracts of teachers for 2012-2013.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Jason Marshall informed the Board that the District's enrollment as of April 16, 2012 is 3,174.

An Employee Appreciation Lunch on the Grounds will be held on May 21st at Palestine Middle School. A Baccalaureate Service will be held for Palestine High School seniors on Sunday, May 20th, 3:00 pm at Evangelistic Temple. Graduation will be held on Friday, June 1st at Wildcat Stadium.

Superintendent Jason Marshall gave an update on the public school finance lawsuit that calls on the Legislature to treat all Texas taxpayers and public school children fairly as required by the Texas Constitution. Originally, there were five lawsuits, four of which have been combined into one. The combined case is expected to be heard in Travis County district court in October, 2012.

**Next Regular Board Meeting
May 21, 2012 – 7:00 p.m.**