



BOARD NOTES

A Summary of the July 18, 2011 Palestine ISD Board of Trustees Meeting

Construction Projects Update

Walt Wood of Claycomb Associates, Architects provided the Board of Trustees an update of the construction progress.

Overall, the Palestine ISD projects are 64% complete and 20.6 million of the 64 million bond has been expended. At Palestine High School, the demolition of the main building began last week and is approximately 30% complete. The new PHS gym is complete and work continues on the new auditorium, band hall, cafeteria, and classrooms. At A.M. Story Intermediate new flooring is being laid and new restrooms are under construction. Both of these projects are scheduled to be completed before school begins.

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 Update

David Atkeisson, Director of Business Services, informed the Board of Trustees regarding District budget information. Mr. Atkeisson informed the Board regarding a budget template for the 2011-2012 budget that is currently being reviewed to help make projections for next year’s budget. In 2011-2012, the District will receive approximately \$545,912 from Edu Jobs which will help with next year’s budget short fall. The District will review its investment strategy this fall to ensure the greatest return possible on district investments. A budget workshop is scheduled for August 1, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss and plan the 2011-2012 budget.

Consent Items Approved

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 13, 2011
- Minutes of the Called Meeting of June 14, 2011
- Minutes of the Called Meeting of June 20, 2011
- Minutes of the Called Meeting of June 21, 2011
- Minutes of the Called Meeting of June 22, 2011
- Minutes of the Called Meeting of June 27, 2011
- Bills paid for June, 2011
- Financial Report
- Monthly Investment Report

- Tax Collection Report
- Donations

Palestine High School Athletics

\$1,795.00 from the Palestine High School Athletic Booster Club to be used for the purchase of two 20 gallon portable water dispensers.

Palestine High School Athletics

\$150.00 from Westwood Baptist Church to be used for athletic training.

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, Suzanne Eiben reviewed and the Board of Trustees approved Policy Update 90 revisions that affect the following local policies.

BBD (Local): Board members, training and orientation.

BBI (Local): Board members, technology resources and electronic communications.

CQ (Local): Technology resources.

CY (Local): Intellectual property.

EFE (Local): Instructional resources, copyrighted material.

EI (Local): Academic achievement.

FMH (Local): Student activities, commencement.

FNC (Local): Students rights and responsibilities, student conduct.

FNCE (Local): Student conduct, personal telecommunications/electronic devices.

The Board of Trustees approved the 2011-2012 teacher shortage areas identified by the Texas Education Agency.

- Special Education
- Mathematics
- Science
- Foreign Language (Languages other than English)
- Bilingual/ESL
- Technology Applications

Student handbooks for 2011-2012 were approved.

Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services, Carolyn Martin reviewed the 2011-2012 professional development plan, grading procedures, homework procedures, and the Vision 20/20 Laptop Handbook.

The Board of Trustees approved the Early Reading Standards Plan, Gifted & Talented Plan, Bilingual Plan and the District Improvement Plan for 2011-2012.

Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services, Carolyn Martin presented the 2010-2011 TAKS Report.

Personnel Approved for 2011-2012

Personnel Approved:

Robert Brooks	Special Education	A.M. Story Intermediate
Jessica Cooper	Kindergarten	Northside Primary
Dee Dietz	Special Education Director	Palestine ISD
Kevin Feldser	Asst. Band Director	Palestine High School
Jesus Garcia-Castillo	Spanish	Palestine High School
Grace Mancilla	Asst. Principal	A.M. Story Intermediate
Melissa Molandes	Title Coordinator	A.M. Story Intermediate
Bowen C. Reed	Asst. Principal	Palestine Middle School
Kendale Stoker	PE	Palestine Middle School

Interim Superintendent, Marvin Thompson accepted the following resignations: Ericka Andrews, Brandon Hargers, Debbie Larty, and Darcy Tyus.

Superintendent's Report

Interim Superintendent Marvin Thompson presented information regarding a grant opportunity through the Institute where Creativity Empowers Education Success (ICEE). ICEE Success is an arts and science initiative in which Palestine resident Lucinda Presley is the director. The ICEE Success program would provide students an opportunity to develop 21st century thinking skills including conceptual thinking, creative and critical thinking, collaboration, communication, and creative problem solving. Suzanne Eiben, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources will provide more information regarding the program at a later meeting in which the Board will consider implementation of the arts and science initiative.

Mr. Thompson reported that a nurse position would be added for the 2011-2012 school year due to the Texas Department of Health no longer offering immunizations in Palestine. This will make it easier for parents to obtain the needed immunizations for their children.

**Next Regular Board Meeting
August 15, 2011 – 7:00 p.m.**