



BOARD NOTES

A Summary of the September 17, 2012 Palestine ISD Board of Trustees Meeting

Eric Haltom, A.M. Story Intermediate Assistant Principal; introduced John Lamb, Story GT Teacher and the Story 4th & 5th grade GT class who led the pledges to the American and Texas flags. **THANK YOU Mr. Lamb, Morgan Lasiter, Emma Bennett, William Quarles, Mason Ratliff, Sheen Kirkpatrick, and Brianna Croon!**

Spotlight

Students of the Month

Palestine High School, students of the month for September are; Amber Magee and Timothy Klauser.

Kathleen Brown, PHS Science Teacher and Janice Magee, PHS Math Teacher introduced Amber and Timothy and shared the accomplishments and future plans of each of the students.

Amber Magee is ranked #1 in the PHS senior class; she is currently serving as National Honor Society President. She plays the flute and is drum major of the PHS Wildcat Band. She is a two time regional qualifier in Lincoln Douglas Debate. Amber is involved in the Little Buddy Program at Southside Elementary and Project Gratitude for our soldiers. She plans to attend medical school and become a neurosurgeon.

Timothy Klauser is ranked in the Top 10 of the senior class and is involved in cross country, soccer, and football. He is a member of the National Honor Society, Interact, RYLA, FCA, and participates in UIL. Timothy is the activities director for vacation bible school at Southside Baptist Church and enjoys his church youth group. He plans to attend medical school and would like to participate in foreign mission projects.

Amber Magee and Timothy Klauser have both recently been nominated to attend the National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine; a program for high school students who are considering the medical field.

Junior Rotarians of the Month

Junior Rotarians for the month of September are PHS students, Dana Whitehead and Jack Rogers.

Dana Whitehead is a cheerleader and plays volleyball, basketball, softball, and runs track. Dana plans to attend the University of Texas at Austin to study medicine and plans to participate in the UT sports program.

Jack Rogers participates in the PHS work based learning program. He plans to attend college and earn a degree in business management and also attend a trade school. Jack is a member of Boy Scouts Troop 440 and has recently earned the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest advancement rank in Boy Scouting.

Sarah Johnson, PHS Lead Counselor and Angie Gilbert, PHS Registrar were recognized for their dedication to Palestine High School. William Stewart, PHS Principal thanked Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Gilbert and stated that they have each worked countless hours and help with many tasks in addition to their usual duties. Palestine High School is lucky to have staff members who work to ensure that PHS runs smoothly.

Balfour Beatty Construction Update

Jack Ream of Balfour Beatty Construction and Walt Wood of Claycomb Associates Architects; updated the Board of Trustees on the PHS construction project. The PHS punch list is 96% complete with remaining work being done after school hours and on weekends.

Design-Build Project Update

Terry Gober of Buford-Thompson Construction Company, presented the Board of Trustees a construction update for the Design Build project. Phase I of this project is complete and Phase II is on schedule to be completed by October 15, 2012, except for the culinary arts area which will take a little more time due to additional structure needed for rooftop air units and electrical service needed from Encor Electric. New landscaping has been installed on the exterior of the building and care will be done by the PHS horticulture class.

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 2012-2013 budget is now underway. Palestine ISD 2012-2013 enrollment numbers are higher than expected from calculations projected earlier this summer which will provide more funding for 2012-2013.

Softball Field Renovation Approved

The Board of Trustees approved a softball field renovation that will be located next to Palestine Middle School. Funds for this project were previously approved and included in the Design-Build Project.

Meal Requirements

2012-2013 meal requirements were reviewed.

Consent Items Approved

- Corrected Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 16, 2012
- Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 20, 2012
- Bills paid for August, 2012
- Financial Report
- Monthly Investment Report
- Tax Collection Report
- Donations
 - Palestine High School Athletics
 - \$1,871.50 from PHS Athletic Booster Club for volleyball equipment.
- 2012-2013 Emergency Operations Plan

School Health Advisory Council (SHAC)

The Board of Trustees approved committee members for the School Health Advisory Council (SHAC) to serve for the 2012-2013 school year. Board member, Stanley Sokolowski abstained from voting as his wife, Ann Sokolowski serves on the SHAC Committee.

2012-2013 SHAC Committee Members are: Carolyn Martin, Joe Tinsley, Mimi Spreen, Linda Bowser, Dustin Barron, Amber Magee, Tim Klauser, Peggy Witt, Jamie Hatfield, Georgia Booker, Pat Steelhammer, Sharon Reed, Karen Bledsoe, Tracy Niedecken, Melissa Winkler, Cheryl Walding, Linda Paul, Joella Deckard, Kowina Walker, Gina Dedley, Ann Sokolowski, Nanette Bennett, Marynez Llanes, Dorothy Jackson, Charlene Hutchison, Elen Oliva, Cynthia Stephens, Laura Renteria, Lisa Chason, and Liz Missildine.

Board Meeting Dates for October-December 2012

The following dates were approved for remaining 2012 school board meetings:

October 22, 2012 - 6:00 pm

Regular October Meeting (moved from 10/15 due to Homecoming Parade)

October 29, 2012 - 6:00 pm

Called Meeting (Team of 8 Training, Prepare PISD Legislative Platform)

November 26, 2012 - 6:00 pm

Regular November Meeting (moved from 11/19 due to Thanksgiving week off)

December 3, 2012 – Time TBA

Possible Called Meeting with all Anderson County School Boards for Anderson County Legislative Platform

December 17, 2012 – 6:00 pm

Regular December Meeting (normal 3rd Monday)

AgriLife Agreement

The Board of Trustees approved an adjunct faculty agreement with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, which will allow Palestine ISD students to participate in Leon County 4H activities. The Board also adopted a resolution that recognizes the Leon County Texas 4-H Organization as approved for recognition and eligible for extracurricular status consideration under 19 Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 76.1, pertaining to extracurricular activities.

2012-2013 Student Transfer Tuition Fee

The student transfer tuition fee for 2012-2013 was approved in the amount of \$628.00. This fee will be changed to transfer students who enroll after the August cut-off date for free transfers.

Policy FNF (Local) Revision

Suzanne Eiben, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources; presented information for a revision to Policy FNF (Local) regarding student drug testing. The revision will allow students who meet certain stipulations including required drug counseling to return to receive their extracurricular privileges sooner than the assigned date. The parent and/or student will incur the cost of counseling.

Personnel Approved

William Hawthorne

English

Palestine Middle School

Mary Updegrove

Kindergarten

Northside Primary (new position due to increased enrollment)

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Jason Marshall stated that Palestine ISD student enrollment is approximately 3,300, the highest enrollment since 2006-2007. The District has hired an additional kindergarten teacher and plans to hire another kindergarten teacher due to larger than expected class sizes at Northside Primary. Students enrolled in career and technical courses have increased and there are 152 students taking 319 dual credit courses.

The Texas public school finance lawsuit will begin on Monday, October 22nd in Travis County Court in Austin. A ruling is expected prior to January 2013. The hope is that the outcome of this lawsuit will have a positive effect on the 2013 Legislative Session and will benefit public schools in Texas.

The Palestine ISD Strategic Planning Committee will review the District's Strategic Plan for 2010-2015 at a workshop on Tuesday, September 25th at the Ben E. Keith Community Room.

On Monday, October 29th, the Palestine ISD Board of Trustees will meet for a Team of 8 Workshop led by Marvin Thompson, Region 7 Field Agent. The Board will also develop a list of items that Palestine ISD would like to see accomplished in the 2013 Legislative Session.

PHS will be hosting the District's 5th annual homecoming parade, community pep rally and tailgate party on Monday, October 15th.

**Next Regular Board Meeting
October 22, 2012 – 7:00 p.m.**