August 25, 2009

Superintendent’s Report

Dr. John Folks reported to the Board:

- Twelve back-to-school Convocations were held Aug. 18-21 at Brandeis HS for about 12,000 employees. Kudos were paid to the Communications Dept. and to James Miculka, Director of Fine Arts, for producing the student performances that were featured.
- NISD successfully opened four new schools this year as well as a new magnet academy. The new schools are: Hoffmann ES, Kuentz ES, Langley ES, Hector Garcia MS, and Construction Careers Academy.
- Enrollment on the first day of school 2009 is 3,387 more students than the first day of classes in 2008. The enrollment is expected to climb to close to 92,000 by mid September.
- Maricela Alarcon, fifth grade teacher at Burke ES, has been named one of three finalists for Texas Elementary Teacher of the Year.
- Summer Commencement was held Aug. 19 at Paul Taylor Field House.
- The Northside Education Foundation Endowment Banquet and Pillar Recognition, also known as the NEF Gala, will be held 5:30 p.m. Sept. 1 at the Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort.
- NISD will celebrate its 90,000th registered student at 8 a.m. Sept. 1 at Mead ES with a “Prize Patrol” event.
- The Northside Video Moment featured the first day of school at NISD’s new campuses.

Board Member Reports

- Bobby Blount reported about the Bexar County School Board Coalition (19 area school districts) annual retreat on Sept. 12 and 13.
- M’Lissa Chumbley complimented staff and teachers about the back-to-school Convocations.
- Trustee Lynn Britton was selected for the 2009-2010 Leadership TASB class.

Trustees announce administrative appointments

The Board of Trustees made the following appointments:

- Alfredo Garcia, currently Assistant Principal at Rudder MS, was named Assistant Principal at Jay HS.
- Crystal Szcyubialka, currently assistant principal at Taft HS, was named Academic Dean at Zachry MS.

Long time aquatics educator is namesake of Aquatics Center

The Northside Aquatics Center, located at the Hardin Athletic Complex, was renamed the George Block Aquatics Center recognizing the contributions of the long-time educator for NISD aquatics programs and thousands of students. Block retired this summer following three decades of leadership in developing NISD into an aquatics powerhouse in the state and nation. He also led the development of the Northside Natatorium. Block, an active community volunteer, also has worked on various sports commissions and boards.

Trustees approve $1.088 billion budget for 2009-10;

Tax rate to support the budget is 2 cents lower than projected

Following a public hearing last week, Trustees approved a $1.088 billion budget for the 2009-10 school year. In addition, Trustees approved increasing the property tax rate by 3.5 cents from $1.3025 to $1.3375. The tax increase is needed to pay for voter-approved bonds to fund new schools and renovation and expansion projects throughout the District. The tax rate increase is needed because of a reduction in state funding and lower increases in property values. However, the tax rate increase is still more than 2 cents lower than what was projected when voters passed School Bond 2007. Of the 12 San Antonio districts (not including military districts) NISD has the sixth lowest tax rate. Northside opened four new
schools this year and will open five new schools next year to accommodate an enrollment that is steadily growing by 3,000 students a year.

**Board reviews boundary proposals to relieve overcrowding at Powell, Esparza, Linton, Villarreal, and Myers elementary schools**

- Trustees reviewed the attendance boundary proposal for Martin ES, which will open in August 2010 at 730 Canterbury Drive. Martin ES will relieve overcrowding at Powell, Esparza, Linton, and Villarreal elementary schools. To view specific neighborhoods that may be affected, go to [www.nisd.net/schools/info/189](http://www.nisd.net/schools/info/189) and click on the link under “Boundary Information.” In an associated boundary change,

- Trustees reviewed a plan to move four neighborhoods from Myers ES to Carlos Coon ES to relieve overcrowding at Myers and use available space at Carlos Coon. The four neighborhoods that are proposed to move from Myers to Carlos Coon are: Doral Club, Deer Creek, The Huntington, and Pipers Square. For more details about the boundary change proposal, go to [http://nisd.net/schools/info/160](http://nisd.net/schools/info/160) and click on the appropriate link under “Boundary Information.”

(Links may not be available until the end of the day Wednesday.)

The School Boundary Advisory Committee will meet Aug. 31 to review the proposals and issue a recommendation to the Board. The Board is scheduled to vote on the boundary changes Sept. 22. If approved, the boundary changes would go into effect August 2010.

**Staff members at 22 campuses are eligible to receive $5.4 million**

The District Award for Teacher Excellence, or DATE, is a program created by the 79th Legislature to provide funding for districts to reward teachers for having a positive impact on student achievement. The Northside DATE plan targets campuses with high percentages of economically disadvantaged students. Staff members at the 22 selected DATE campuses are eligible to receive $5.4 million in DATE grants. For the first year of implementation, TAKS scores from the 2008-2009 school year will be used as the performance measure in deciding which eligible teachers should receive the award, and in calculating the amount of each award. Educators will receive awards of varying amounts up to $5,439 based the subject and grade level they teach and whether they teach a TAKS-tested subject. Awards will be paid in October 2009, and the grant has been funded for the 2009-2010 school year as well. The following campuses are participating in DATE: Elementary Schools: Burke, Esparza, Glass, Glenoaks, Hatchett, Mary Hull, Knowlton, Lackland City, Mead, Meadow Village, Michael, Myers, Valley Hi, Villarreal, and Westwood Terrace. Middle Schools: Jones, Pease, Rayburn, and Ross. High Schools: Jay, Stevens, and Warren.

**2009-10 Board-Superintendent goals approved**

The Board of Trustees and Superintendent John Folks established goals for the 2009-10 school year. The goals can be viewed at [http://www.nisd.net/general/board/goals/](http://www.nisd.net/general/board/goals/)

**Strategic Plan update presented**


**Two members nominated to Bexar Appraisal District Board of Directors**

Trustees nominated Harold “Butch” Galm and Jim Martin to represent Northside ISD on the Bexar Appraisal District Board of Directors. Galm is a former Trustee and Martin is the former Assistant Superintendent for Facilities & Operations.

**Board approves facilities items**

- Trustees approved the following change orders:
  - Clark HS – increase of $38,659.38 to reroute conduits for existing telephone and data lines
  - Briscoe MS – credit of $400,000 for buyout savings
  - Briscoe MS – credit of $32,500 for science lab casework lock substitution
  - Jay HS – credit of $100,000 for reduction of contingency allowance

**Policy changes**

The Board of Trustees approved the following policy changes:

- Local Policies CNB, DEA, DEC, and FC – Transportation Management: District Vehicles; Compensation and Benefits: Salaries and Wages; Compensation and Benefits: Leaves and Absences; and School Attendance Areas
Bids and purchase orders for goods approved
Trustees approved the following bids and proposals: Online Payment System, Restroom Partitions & Installation, Electrical-IDQ, Curriculum & Instructional Supplies, Paper for Printing Services, Administrative Furniture, Maps and Globes, Science Microscopes & Equipment for Elementary Schools, Calculators & Accessories, Science Lab Equipment, Concert/Guard/Dance/Spirit Uniforms, Water-Based Fire Protection Systems, Fire Alarm Maintenance & Monitoring-II, Vent Hood Cleaning, Storage Containers, Athletic Uniforms, Student Records File Cabinets & Supplies, Two-Way Radio Communication Equipment/Supplies/Installation, Drug Testing & Post Offer Physicals, Pest Control, and Avermedia Hybrid TV Box II. Trustees approved the following purchase orders: Trinity University for the purchase of Psychology Graduate Assistants and Psychology Interns; Alamo Community Colleges to facilitate cooperation between the College and the District in the provision of instruction of courses; Alice Slavin to provide support to parent groups, includes training to staff to assist in development of parent training activities and other duties as they develop; Brandee Brandt to provide staff development, preparation, and follow up training for Pre-Teach, Pro-Active learning collaborative model; Rice University for TAKScopes, an interactive learning experience for elementary science; and Marzano Research Laboratory for Rubric development training to train teachers in writing quality rubrics based on their specific content area TEKS. For more information about these bids and requisitions, contact Purchasing Director Eric Walls at 397-8701.

You may mail correspondence to:
Trustees
c/o NISD
5900 Evers Road
San Antonio, TX 78238

You may email them at info@nisd.net.

For additional information call 397-8550.

Board of Trustees
M'Lissa M. Chumbley, President, District 3
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Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction Linda Mora, Ph.D.
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Board meeting information
NISD Trustees meet monthly in regular meetings on the fourth Tuesday of the month. They may also meet in called meetings for workshops, retreats, or to handle routine business. Meetings are held at 7 p.m. in the Board Room, 5900 Evers Road, unless otherwise posted. Meetings are open to the public. Agendas are posted on the NISD web site, nisd.net. Citizens who wish to address the Board may sign up to speak just prior to the beginning of the meeting.

Next School Board Meeting(s): (See posted agendas on web site; dates, locations, and/or times may change.)
- September 22, 2009, 7 p.m., Board Room, 5900 Evers Road
- October 27, 2009, 7 p.m., Board Room, 5900 Evers Road
- November 17, 2009, 7 p.m., Board Room, 5900 Evers Road