



Inside Northside

# BOARDTalk

**BOARDTalk** is published to help keep staff and citizens informed about actions of the Northside Independent School District Board of Trustees.

**June 21, 2016**

## Superintendent's Report

### **Dr. Brian Woods reported to the Board:**

- **End of Year Events.** Dr. Woods complimented several end of year District and school events.
  - **Tech Expo.** More than 100 schools participated in the third annual Kelly Smith Technology Expo. Thanks to **Lori Jones**, Assistant Superintendent for Technology Services; **Doug Shudde**, Director of Academic Technology; and hundreds of NISD students and teachers for their efforts.
  - **Neff MS Holocaust Museum.** Eighth graders at **Neff MS** participated in the school's eighth annual Holocaust Museum. Thanks to **Christine Morales**, eighth grade teacher, and **Camila Castro**, librarian.
  - **Middle School GT Expos.** Middle school campuses hosted GT Expos of student work. Called Middle School Innovative Projects, students were able to pick topics, conduct research, and ultimately present on what they learned throughout the year-long study.
  - **Student-Athlete Leadership Summit.** Last week the first Student-Athlete Leadership Summit was held at Paul Taylor Field House for 250 high school students. Thanks to **Stan Laing**, Executive Director of Athletics, coaches, and guest speakers.
- **6,700 graduates.** Earlier this month, NISD conducted 12 graduation ceremonies where more than 6,700 seniors graduated. Dr. Woods congratulated the graduates and their families and thanked the Board, Administration staff, and high school principals and their staffs for a great graduation season.
- **Legislative Session.** Meetings have begun with legislators and staff in preparation for the 2017 legislative session.
- **Budget Items.** Dr. Woods thanked Trustees for their work on budget-related items including compensation, growth and improvement, and health insurance.
- **Northside Video Moment.** The Northside Video Moment highlighted the recent Recognition and Retirement Celebration held at **Brandeis HS**. More than 450 employees were honored for almost 10,000 years of service to NISD. To view the video, go to [www.youtube.com/NorthsideISD](http://www.youtube.com/NorthsideISD).

## Board Members' Report

- **Trustee Karen Freeman** reported that she attended the National School Boards Association Advocacy Institute where she and Board President Katie Reed interacted with federal officials about issues of importance as they relate to education.
- **Trustee Katie Reed** restated the importance of the interaction and conversations with federal elected officials about education issues especially the Every Student Succeeds Act. She also thanked the entire Board for their presence at the graduations.
- **Trustee M'Lissa Chumbley** complimented the design and features of the Northside Sports Gym which includes an impressive concourse and a Plaza of Influence where people may purchase a brick to honor a person that influenced their lives.
- **Trustee Bobby Blount** stated that the recently released data about the 2015 graduation rates is "significant" as it shows that NISD is closing the achievement gap among all segments of students. NISD's graduation rate went up by one percent to 94.3 percent. He mentioned that he was a guest speaker at a class of cohorts at UTSA.
- **Trustee Joseph Medina** thanked the parents who continue to support students in all areas. He encouraged parents to keep children active all summer. He also had the opportunity to visit a Summer Feeding program site where children can get a free breakfast and lunch during the summer.
- **Trustee Dr. Carol Harle** complimented the high school staff members who planned graduations which she described as "flawless." She also wished Marshall HS graduate **Christopher Law** luck as he tries out for the U.S. Olympic Diving Team. She also remarked about the increased graduation rate.

- **Trustee Gerald Lopez** attended the TASB Summer Leadership Institute and sessions about good stewardship. He mentioned that the NISD Board operates at a high level of professionalism and felt great pride in being a member of the NISD Board. He complimented the District on attaining a high graduation rate.

### **Board approves administrative appointments**

- **Gretchen Bley**, formerly Vice Principal at Jay Science & Engineering Academy, was appointed **Principal** at **Jay Science & Engineering Academy**.
- **Anabel Romero**, formerly Vice Principal at Neff MS, was appointed **Principal** at **Jordan MS**.
- **Venez Gonzalez**, formerly Assistant Principal at Southwest ISD, was appointed **Vice Principal** at **Northside Alternative High School**.
- **Jeremy Day**, formerly administrative intern at Pease MS, was appointed **Vice Principal** at **Beard ES**.
- **Jose Jimenez**, formerly principal at Eagle Pass ISD, was appointed **Vice Principal** at **Glenoaks ES**.
- **Melanie Strawbridge**, formerly teacher at Knowlton ES, was appointed **Vice Principal** at **Hoffmann ES**.
- **Antoinette Saenz**, formerly Vice Principal at Passmore ES, was appointed **Vice Principal** at **Locke Hill ES**.
- **Priscilla Siano**, formerly Vice Principal at Behlau ES, was appointed **Vice Principal** at **Northwest Crossing ES**.
- **Pete Pruneda**, formerly administrative intern at Jay HS, was appointed **Assistant Principal** at **Jay HS**.
- **Fernando Nieto**, formerly administrative intern at Stevens HS, was appointed **Assistant Principal** at **Taft HS**.

### **Other administrative appointment**

- **Christopher Guerra**, formerly MUNIS Administrator in the Business & Finance Department, was appointed **Director of Business Technology Systems**.

### **Trustees approve salary raises for all employees and a \$51,750 starting salary for first-year bachelor's degreed teachers**

Trustees approved a \$14.6 million compensation package that will provide salary increases for around 14,000 employees. The raise includes an overall 1.8 percent increase for teachers, librarians, counselors, and nurses. This equates to \$1,000. All other employees will receive an overall midpoint 1.8 percent increase. In addition, hard-to-fill auxiliary positions will receive an increase of up to 3 percent. Raises are effective for the new school year. Trustees also approved the starting salary for beginning teachers. First year teachers with a bachelor's degree will earn \$51,750, and first year teachers with a master's degree will earn \$53,250. Some substitute teacher pay will increase five dollars per day. The new salary schedules are posted on the [Human Resources website](#).

### **Trustees approve Growth & Improvement Budget for 2016-2017**

Trustees also approved a growth and improvement plan that increases the District's staff by an additional 198 positions to accommodate an increase in student enrollment for 2016-2017, the opening of **Fields** and **Cole** elementary schools, and startup costs for **Harlan HS**. The total G&I budget is \$21,785,078.

### **UnitedHealthcare renewed as medical insurance provider**

Trustees approved the renewal of UnitedHealthcare as the District's medical insurance provider for 2017.

### **Public Hearing and Approval: Optional Flexible School Day for Chavez Excel Academy**

NISD will submit an application notifying the Texas Education Agency that it plans to participate in the 2016-17 Optional Flexible School Day Program (OFSDP) for **Chavez Excel Academy**. Per Texas Education Code, the board of trustees of a school district must hold a public hearing concerning the proposed application. The goal of the Chavez Excel Academy program is to improve graduation rates for students who are in danger of dropping out of school or have dropped out or who are behind in core subject courses. Trustees approved the application.

### **Trustees and Superintendent sign Code of Ethics**

The seven elected Trustees and the Superintendent publicly signed the 2016-2017 Code of Ethics symbolizing their commitment to serve always in the best interests of the school district. The Code of Ethics is prominently displayed in the Board Room and is available on the [Board of Trustees website](#).

### **Trustees hear School Health Advisory Council Annual Report**

**Rita Petersen**, Chair of the School Health Advisory Council (SHAC), presented the Board of Trustees with the group's annual report. The District facilitator to the SHAC is **Linda Seewald**, Director of Health and Physical Education. For more information, visit the [SHAC website](#).

### **Board approves facilities items:**

- Trustees approved:
  - Interior Colors – Cafeterias – **Cody** and **Leon Valley** elementary schools – Garza Architects, Inc.
  - Exterior Colors – **Kallison ES** – Garza Bomberger & Associates

- Interior/Exterior Colors – Classroom Addition – **Allen ES** – Shawn Kaarlsen & Associates
- Contractor for Installation of Security Devices – **Fields ES** – Alterman Technologies
- Change Orders
  - Child Nutrition Warehouse – \$96,140 – deduct value engineering

### First readings and Adoption of Policies

- First reading and adoption of Legal Policies – TASB Localized Update #104
- First reading of Local Policies – TASB Policy Update #104

### Trustees approve attendance waiver requests

Trustees approved attendance waiver requests due to electrical outages or excessive rain for **Brennan** and **Stevens** high schools and **McAndrew ES**.

### Board approves TASB Advocacy Resolutions

Trustees approved NISD’s advocacy resolutions that will be forwarded to the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) to bring before the legislature and other governmental entities.

### Trustees approve Board Committee assignments

Trustees approved chairs and members of various Board Committees. Committees and their Chairs are:

- Academics – **M’Lissa Chumbley**
- Finance – **Gerald Lopez**
- Technology – **Bobby Blount**
- Building – **Karen Freeman**
- Policy and Intergovernmental Relations – **Joseph Medina**

### Bids for goods approved

Trustees approved the following bids: Child Nutrition Supplies; Paint, Painting Supplies & Sundries; Custodial Supplies; Two-way Radios; Basketball and Soccer Equipment. For more information, contact Purchasing Director **George Ayala** at 397-8700.

You may mail correspondence to:

**Trustees**  
**c/o NISD**  
**5900 Evers Road**  
**San Antonio, TX 78238**

You may email them at [info@nisd.net](mailto:info@nisd.net).

For additional information, call 210-397-8500.

#### Board of Trustees

**Katie N. Reed, President, District 5**  
**M’Lissa M. Chumbley, Vice President, District 3**  
**Carol Harle, Ph.D., Secretary, District 6**  
**Joseph H. Medina, Trustee, District 1**  
**Gerald B. Lopez, Trustee, District 2**  
**Robert Blount, Jr., Trustee, District 4**  
**Karen Freeman, Trustee, District 7**

#### Administration

**Superintendent Brian T. Woods, Ed.D.**  
**Deputy Superintendent for Administration Ray Galindo**  
**Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction Linda Mora, Ph.D.**  
**Deputy Superintendent for Business & Finance David Rastellini**  
**Executive Director of Communications Pascual Gonzalez**

### 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 website, [www.nisd.net](http://www.nisd.net). Citizens who wish to address the Board must sign up to speak just prior to the beginning of the Meeting.

### Upcoming School Board Meeting(s): (See posted agendas on website as dates, locations, and/or times may change.)

- ☞ July 26, 2016, 7 p.m., Board Room, 5900 Evers Road
- ☞ August 2, 2016, 7 p.m., Board Room, 5900 Evers Road
- ☞ August 16, 2016, 7 p.m., Board Room, 5900 Evers Road
- ☞ August 23, 2016, 7 p.m., Board Room, 5900 Evers Road