



Inside Northside **BOARD**Talk

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

October 24, 2017

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Brian Woods reported to the Board:

- **Ag in Action.** O'Connor HS hosted the annual Ag in Action event for more than 1,400 fourth-graders earlier this month. High school students serve as tour guides and presenters, showing the younger students different facets of agriculture.
- **Meetings at TASA/TASB.** Dr. Woods has been in several meetings with talks about the next Legislative session and the needs in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey will have huge effects on legislative priorities.
- **Bond Planning.** There is a lot of work underway planning for a potential bond election including results of a survey delivered by Raymond Turco & Associates. Next week the Citizens' Bond Committee will meet for the first time.
- **SAYL Panel.** Dr. Woods thanked the Board for their attendance at a San Antonio Youth Literacy (SAYL) panel.
- **Harlan HS dedication.** Two weeks ago was the dedication of **Harlan HS** which included a Texas-sized pep rally, tour, luncheon, and stage event with namesake Justice Harlan's two great-great granddaughters. Thank you to Principal Robert Harris, Harlan HS teachers and staff, the Board, and Communications and Fine Arts departments for their leadership of these events.
- **UIL Band Results.** All 11 NISD high school marching bands earned superior ratings at last weekend's UIL Marching Contest at Farris Stadium.
- **Northside Video Moment.** The Northside Video Moment highlighted a special gift for a student at **Scarborough ES** after a terrifying accident and a fencing lesson for students at **McDermott ES**. To view the video, go to www.youtube.com/NorthsideISD.

Board Members' Report

- **Trustee Carol Harle** visited the **Clark HS** library during "Power Up at Your Library" week and witnessed students engaged in a variety of activities. She acknowledged Clark HS librarian **Lucy Podmore** for creating an engaging environment. Harle attended the Ag in Action event at **O'Connor HS** and was impressed by both the O'Connor Ag Mechanics students as well as the fourth-graders who attended this event. Harle recognized **Lieck ES** for hosting author **Patricia Polacco** who shared inspirational life stories with students. Harle praised the student performers from **Harlan HS** for an amazing job of portraying their school namesake's values in their official dedication ceremony.
- **Trustee Karen Freeman** thanked fellow Trustees for allowing her the opportunity to serve as NISD's representative on the Board of Directors of the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB). Freeman attended the UIL Marching Contest which featured outstanding performances by all of Northside's high school band programs. Freeman also attended a recent event hosted by the **American Federation of Teachers** (AFT).
- **Trustee M'Lissa Chumbley** applauded the efforts of **Judy Flores** and other members of NISD's **North Transportation Station** for their efforts in collecting and delivering backpacks to students in Aransas Pass. Chumbley indicated the **Harlan HS** dedication was a great success. She attended a leadership program hosted by **Brennan HS** and appreciated the words shared by guest speakers: Bexar County District Attorney **Nicholas "Nico" LaHood** and NISD Executive Director of Athletics **Stan Laing**. Chumbley concluded by sharing appreciation to Dr. Woods for his participation on a guest speaker panel hosted by the San Antonio Youth Literacy (SAYL).
- **Trustee Joseph Medina** found the recent Texas Association of School Administrators/Texas Association of School Boards (TASA/TASB) state convention to be interesting and insightful.

- **Trustee Katie Reed** also attended the TASA/TASB state convention and shared appreciation to Trustee Freeman for serving as NISD's TASB representative. Reed recognized the contributions of the late **Nellie Reddix**, an NISD namesake and former Trustee who recently passed away.
- **Trustee Bobby Blount** appreciates the many NISD PTA's and principals who have welcomed him as he visits campuses and advocates for Northside and public education.

Trustees approve administrative appointments:

- **April Mata-Tausch**, formerly principal at Villarreal ES, was appointed **Principal** at **Brauchle ES**.
- **Julie Meneses**, formerly vice principal at Ellison ES, was appointed **Principal** at **Ellison ES**.
- **Francesca Neal**, formerly vice principal at Raba ES, was appointed **Principal** at **Raba ES**.
- **Erin McKinney**, formerly assistant principal at Briscoe MS, was appointed **Academic Dean** at **Neff MS**.
- **Dora Timbers**, formerly administrative intern at Glenoaks ES, was appointed **Vice Principal** at **Fisher ES**.

Recognitions

- **Business Department lauded 25th year in a row**
The Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting has been awarded to Northside ISD by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR). The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management. As primary person responsible for preparing the award-winning CAFR, **David Rastellini**, Deputy Superintendent for Business and Finance, has been awarded the Financial Reporting Achievement award. This is the 25th year in a row that NISD has received this designation.
- **Zachry MS teacher recognized for state award**
Justin King, an 8th grade collaborative special education teacher at Zachry MS, is the 2017 Texas Council of Administrators of Special Education (TCASE) Teacher of the Year. The award is designed to honor a general or special education teacher who is using research-based practices and exhibits a commitment to students with disabilities.
- **2017-2019 National PTA Schools of Excellence Recognized**
Five Northside ISD PTAs have been named 2017-2019 National PTA Schools of Excellence. **Beard, Murnin, Leon Springs**, and **Scarborough** elementary schools and **Neff MS** are among 143 schools from across the country to receive this special designation, and are the only schools in San Antonio to receive it. The awards are given to PTAs for their achievements in building strong family-school partnerships as part of the National PTA's ongoing efforts to increase family engagement in education.
- **2016-2017 Northside Leadership Academy (NLA) members recognized.**
Outgoing members of the 2016-17 Northside Leadership Academy (NLA) were presented with certificates of completion. The NLA class is a yearlong program that identifies and trains potential administrators. [Click here](#) for a list of the NLA members who were recognized.

Public hearing: NISD earns highest financial rating 15 years in a row

David Rastellini, Deputy Superintendent for Business & Finance, reported that for the fifteenth year in a row, Northside ISD has received the highest rating of "Superior" under the state's financial accountability rating system, called School Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST). The primary goal of School FIRST is to improve the management of school districts' financial resources. The School FIRST rating is based upon analysis of staff and student data reported for the 2015-16 school year, and budgetary and financial data for the 2016 fiscal year. As required by state law, Northside announced and held a public meeting to distribute a financial management report that explains the District's performance under each of 15 indicators and the District's rating.

Attendance zone for newest elementary school proposes to relieve Behlau ES and Lieck ES

Trustees heard the boundary proposal for the **Mora ES** attendance zone prior to the Oct. 26 School Boundary Advisory Committee meeting. The SBAC, assisted by staff, will review the staff proposals, study relevant data, conduct a public hearing, analyze information as required by policy, and make formal recommendations to the Board concerning attendance zones. Mora ES, located at 1520 American Lotus, will open in 2018 and is funded by School Bond 2014. The new school is expected to relieve Behlau and Lieck elementary schools. The proposed boundary will be posted later this week on the [Behlau](#), [Lieck](#) and [Mora](#) elementary school websites.

Budget amendment approved

Trustees approved Budget Amendment #1 which decreases fund balance by \$3,640,646 in the General Fund. Adjustments include the addition to appropriations resulting from approved carry forward of funds including those for 2016-17 purchase order commitments, campus formula account balances, high school allotment funds, and start-up funds for newly opened schools. Additional amounts were carried forward from assigned fund balance for the District's wide area network and anticipated classroom cameras and hail damage insurance proceeds from the 2016 hail storm. The amendment was presented by Deputy Superintendent for Business and Finance David Rastellini.

NISD's bond repayment savings total \$60 million; Board approves 5 bond resolutions

As part of a bigger debt management plan, Trustees approved five bond resolutions that allow the District to issue refunding bonds not to exceed \$167,745,000, new money authorizations not to exceed \$125,000,000 from School Bond 2014, remarketing of the 2013 Variable Rate Bond Issue not to exceed \$67,060,000 and remarketing of the 2015 Variable Rate Bond Issue not to exceed \$41,000,000. In addition, Trustees heard a report that over the last four bond transactions in 2016-2017, a savings and cost avoidance of \$60 million was realized. Trustees praised the efforts of the business department administrators who continue to manage the debt in a way that brings savings to taxpayers.

Bond survey results

Trustees were provided a summary review of results from online and phone surveys conducted by Raymond Turco and Associates and used to gain feedback from NISD stakeholders around a potential bond election in 2018. The survey data represents feedback gathered from historical voters, employees, parents, and community members.

Board approves facilities items:

- Trustees approved:
 - Interior Colors for **Mora ES** as developed by Noonan Rittimann Architects, LLC.
 - Interior and Exterior Colors for building replacement at **Glenn ES** as developed by LPA, Inc.
 - Contractor for Tennis Court Resurfacing – **Taft HS** – Premier Courts Limited Company
 - Consultant Appointments
 - Schematic Design for Science Classroom/Library Addition & Renovation at **Stinson MS** as presented by Pfluger Associates Architects
 - Schematic Design for Fine Arts Addition & Canopy at **Pease MS** as presented by Garza Architects, Inc.
 - Schematic Design for Cafeteria/Kitchen Renovations at **Clark HS** as presented by Garza Architects, Inc.

NISD seeks class-size waivers for 17 elementary classrooms

Trustees gave approval for the District to seek class-size waivers for 17 classrooms across the District in kinder to fourth grade. State law mandates a 22:1 ratio of students to teacher in kindergarten through fourth grades. A waiver is required by law should a K-4 class exceed 22:1.

Readings and Adoption of Policies

- Second Reading and Adoption of Local Policy Revisions in TASB Policy Update #108

Bids for goods approved

Trustees approved the following bids: Printing Services-Miscellaneous and Theatrical Equipment & Supplies. Trustees approved the following purchase orders: Mindworks Resources for academic enrichment for students in the Learning Tree After School program; Intech Southwest Services LLC for desktops, monitors, and laptops for Leon Springs ES and Mary Hull ES; Gartner Inc. for annual renewal of technology consulting services contract; SHI-Government Solutions Inc. for Commvault Software Premium Support coverage; Immix Technology Inc. for annual renewal of Kronos Workforce Timekeeper maintenance agreements; and ProQuest LLC for annual renewal of ProQuest software solution. For more information, contact Purchasing Director **George Ayala** at 397-8700.

You may mail correspondence to:

Trustees
c/o NISD
5900 Evers Road

Board of Trustees
M'Lissa M. Chumbley, President, District 3
Carol Harle, Ph.D., Vice President, District 6
Gerald B. Lopez, Secretary, District 2
Joseph H. Medina, Trustee, District 1
Robert Blount, Jr., Trustee, District 4

San Antonio, TX 78238

You may email them at info@nisd.net.

For additional information, call 210-397-8770.

Katie N. Reed, *Trustee, District 5*
Karen Freeman, *Trustee, District 7*

Administration

Superintendent Brian T. Woods, Ed.D.

Deputy Superintendent for Administration Ray Galindo

Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction Janis Jordan, Ed.D.

Deputy Superintendent for Business & Finance David Rastellini

Executive Director of Communications Barry Perez

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. 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.)*

- ☞ November 14, 2017, 7 p.m., Board Room, 5900 Evers Road
- ☞ December 12, 2017, 7 p.m., Board Room, 5900 Evers Road
- ☞ January 9, 2018, 7 p.m., Board Room, 5900 Evers Road
- ☞ January 23, 2018, 7 p.m., Board Room, 5900 Evers Road