



Inside Northside

# BOARDTalk

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

**January 25, 2022**

## Superintendent's Report

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

- **COVID Operations Update.** Dr. Woods provided an operations update that included COVID-19 testing, vaccinations, absenteeism, other protocols, and postponed/rescheduled events.
- **NEF Clay Shoot.** Last week was the Northside Education Foundation Clay Shoot. Thank you to **Cassandra Miranda**, Director of Partnerships, and business partners for their support of grants to staff that directly benefit students.
- **District Swimming/Diving.** Congratulations to the swimmers and divers moving on to regional competition after this weekend's district events.
- **Gerlach Show.** The annual Walter Gerlach Livestock Show and Sale is underway. The auction is this Saturday, Jan. 29.
- **Thank you.** It has been a challenging two years for all of us, especially those in schools and healthcare settings. Dr. Woods thanked all staff for working together to keep services to students going as well as possible. He also thanked the Board of Trustees for their work and support during this now quite long time of challenge.

## Board Members' Report

- **Trustee Carol Harle** echoed Dr. Woods' words of appreciation to all campus staff for doing what is necessary to keep schools open and students safe.
- **Trustee M'Lissa Chumbley** thanked **Ross MS** Principal **Faustino Ortega**, Family and Community Liaison **Irene Alvarez**, and all the campus staff for hosting her at a recent campus luncheon. She congratulated Ross MS librarian **A.J. Talamantes** on his recent receipt of the American Library Association's I Love My Librarian award. Chumbley thanked all those who have attended the Gerlach Livestock Show including District staff **Ray Galindo**, **Steve Daniel**, **Eric Tobias**, and **Julie Ann Matonis**. She congratulated all the students who participated in the Gerlach Livestock Show's Agricultural Mechanics competition. Chumbley expressed that while some may not agree with some of the Board's decisions, the intent of Trustees is to always act with the safety of students and staff in mind.
- **Trustee Karen Freeman** attended a **Zachry Magnet School** open house event and appreciated the chance to speak to both teachers and students. Freeman thanked all teachers, administrators, and staff for their hard work. Freeman shared that a local media outlet recently featured the work of parent volunteers at **Burke ES** and at many other schools across the District.
- **Trustee Bobby Blount** gave an update on the Go Public campaign including a Feb. 4 Go Public Night with the San Antonio Spurs. Blount gave an update on Northside's continued hosting of the Science Bowl event. Blount informed Trustees of a two-day education summit in March hosted by the Texas Caucus of Black School Board Members.
- **Trustee Gerald Lopez** congratulated all the students and campus staff who assisted in the success of the middle school Winter Spectacular. Lopez acknowledged NISD Director of Fine Arts **James Miculka** and campus staff.
- **Trustee Joseph Medina** attended the National School Boards Association conference covering a host of topics relevant to public education. Medina acknowledged his own son who participated on a student panel.
- **Trustee Corinne Saldana** shared appreciation for all of the District's police officers for helping keep campuses safe and orderly. She also thanked Northside's custodial staff for their work in keeping facilities clean.

## Trustees approve administrative appointments:

- **Bethany Reid**, formerly GT specialist at Beard ES, was appointed **Associate Principal** at **Beard ES**.
- **Tammy Reyna**, formerly librarian at Lieck ES, was appointed **Associate Principal** at **Cody ES**.
- **Alyssa DelaGarza**, formerly second grade teacher at Powell ES, was appointed **Associate Principal** at **Ott ES**.
- **Jacquelyn Lambert**, formerly academic dean at Taft HS, was appointed **Associate Principal** at **Sotomayor HS**.
- **Michael Tilbury**, formerly assistant principal at Marshall HS, was appointed **Academic Dean** at **Marshall HS**.
- **Guadalupe Esparza**, formerly assistant principal at Harlan HS, was appointed **Academic Dean** at **Sotomayor HS**.
- **Jennifer L. Christensen**, formerly 504 coordinator at O'Connor HS, was appointed **Assistant Principal** at **Hector Garcia MS**.
- **Lauren Gonzaba**, formerly English coordinator at Northside Alternative HS, was appointed **Assistant Principal** at **Northside Alternative HS**.

## Trustees call for \$992 million bond election to be held May 7

The Northside Board of Trustees voted to call for a \$992 million bond election to be held May 7. The majority of the monies requested would go to improve existing schools with only one new elementary school in the proposal. More than half of NISD's schools are over 20 years old, the oldest nearly 70 years old. In addition to addressing aging schools and infrastructure, other highlights of the bond include enhancing career and technical education (CTE) programs, expanding middle school magnet opportunities, and improving technology and safety and security across the District. A detailed list of projects will be posted at [nisd.net](http://nisd.net).

## Board approves audit of District's financial report

The Board approved the audit of Northside's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for fiscal year ending August 31, 2021. The report consists of management's representations concerning the financial condition and operations of the District and the results of an audit performed by the certified public accounting firm of Weaver and Tidwell LLP. The audit was performed in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. The auditors have expressed an unmodified opinion which is the highest level of assurance that the financial statements are free of material misstatement, according to **Dr. Rene Barajas**, Deputy Superintendent for Business & Finance.

## ESSER Funding Update

Trustees received a mid-year review of year 1 of Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) expenditures.

## Trustees approve Sound Field Systems proposal

A Classroom Sound System includes a mobile device that improves clarity of the teacher's voice in addition to amplification. The many benefits include improved language acquisition, reduction of vocal strain and fatigue, and elimination of distractions. This is an ESSER funded item. It will be piloted at several elementary campuses in the 2022-2023 school year and expanded as needed.

## Board approves Innovative Courses

The Board approved two new Innovative Courses for Northside high school students – Entrepreneurship II and Marketing.

## Readings of policy

- First Reading of Local Policy EHAA
- First Reading of Local Policy EHBAA
- First Reading of Local Policy EHB
- First Reading of Local Policy DEC

## Board approves facilities items:

- Schematic design for the **Stevens HS/CAST Teach HS** as developed by Pfluger Architects, Inc.
- Contractor for Band Pad Replacement – **Clark HS** – R. L. Rohde General Contracting, Inc.
- Contractor for Clock System and Mechanical Upgrades – **O'Connor** and **Stevens high schools** and **Hardin Athletic Complex** – CRI Electric, Inc.
- Contractor for Electrical Improvements at various campuses – ESSER Related Portables – CRI Electric, Inc.
- Contractor for Fire Alarm and Mechanical Upgrades – **Hatchett ES** – CRI Electric, Inc.

- Contractor for Fire Alarm and Mechanical Upgrades – **Rawlinson MS** – Central Electric Enterprises & Co.
- Contractor for Library Renovation and Mechanical Upgrades – **Mary Hull ES** – W.R. Griggs Construction Co., Inc.
- Contractor for MAC (Moving/Adding/Changing) Telecommunications Cabling at various campuses – ESSER Related Portables – Facility Solutions Group
- Contractor for Playground Shade Structures Phase II at various campuses – CGC General Contractors, Inc.
- Contractor for School Age Parenting Program Expansion – **Driggers ES** – CRI Electric, Inc.
- Contractor for Waterproofing – **Teicher Student Services** – Alamo Waterproofing Services, Inc.
- Change Orders
  - **Passmore ES** Library Renovation and HVAC Replacement – Return of contingency and Allowances – (\$112,229.72) (credit)
  - **Holmes HS** Science Fume Hood Replacements – Return of contingency and allowances – (\$57,715.00) (credit)

### Bids for goods approved

Trustees approved the following bids: Charter Bus Rental & Service; Cabling Infrastructure E-Rate; Art Supplies & Miscellaneous Items; and Body Cameras, GPS System Service & Repairs. For more information, contact the Purchasing Department at 210-397-8700.

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 210-397-8770.

#### Board of Trustees

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

#### 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 Rene Barajas, Ph.D.**  
**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](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.)

- Feb. 8, 2022, 6 p.m., Board Room, 5900 Evers Road
- Feb. 22, 2022, 6 p.m., Board Room, 5900 Evers Road
- March 22, 2022, 6 p.m., Board Room, 5900 Evers Road