



Inside Northside

BOARDTalk

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

March 22, 2022

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Brian Woods reported to the Board:

- **Excellence in Education Awards.** One Northside principal and two teachers are state finalists in the 2022 H-E-B Excellence in Education Awards. The finalists were surprised last month and are – **Lacy Greco**, GT teacher at **Leon Springs ES**; **Jose Garay**, STEM teacher at **Valley Hi ES**; and **Dr. Lisa Baker**, principal at **Communications Arts HS**.
- **Athletics Accomplishments.** The **Clark HS** girls basketball team made their first appearance in program history at the UIL State Basketball Tournament earlier this month. The **Brennan HS** boys basketball team advanced to the regional finals. Soccer playoffs will begin later this week and spring sports are underway.
- **Special Olympics.** The annual Special Olympics Track and Field Meet returned to an in-person event at Gus Stadium earlier this month. Over five days, 1,100 athletes were able to compete.
- **First LEGO League (FLL) Robotics Qualifiers.** It's competition season for many elementary and middle school robotics teams. The District has hosted and will host several qualifiers and Dr. Woods has been able to watch teams in action.
- **NEF Gala.** Earlier this month was the annual Northside Education Foundation Gala and recognition of the 2021-22 Pillars of Character. Thanks to NISD Director of Partnerships **Cassandra Miranda** and the Foundation Board for a wonderful in-person event.
- **National Grand Champions.** The **Brandeis HS** Chamber Orchestra traveled to New York City to compete in the National Orchestra Cup and won first place, Grand Champions. The group, under the direction of **Kevin Garcia-Hettinger** and Assistant Director **Olga De Leon**, performed at Alice Tully Hall in Lincoln Center and competed against some of the best orchestra programs in the country.

Board Members' Report

- **Trustee Carol Harle** spoke to the state's Teacher Retention and Recruitment Task Force and hopes that NISD teachers can be included in this initiative. She thanked **Dr. Janis Jordan**, Deputy Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction, and her department for providing a two-day update on the state of social emotional learning. Harle referenced a new book, *Just Help*, by United States Supreme Court Justice and NISD school namesake **Sonia Sotomayor**.
- **Trustee M'Lissa Chumbley** congratulated the **Brandeis HS** varsity orchestra on their recent accomplishment. She thanked Director of Fine Arts **James Miculka** for his leadership. Chumbley congratulated **Agriculture Science & Technology Academy (ASTA)** students for a great performance at the Houston Livestock Show's Agricultural Mechanics competition. She congratulated ASTA teacher **Wes McFarlane**. Chumbley congratulated the three H-E-B Excellence in Education finalists.
- **Trustee Bobby Blount** attended the Texas Caucus of Black School Board members state conference. Blount reminded Trustees of the District's annual Solar Cars event scheduled for April 23.
- **Trustee Gerald Lopez** thanked and congratulated the NISD Athletics Department and student athletes. He reminded Trustees of the annual Los Leones event on March 26 which will showcase student artwork. The event will be held at **Marshall HS**. Lopez recognized Director of Fine Arts **James Miculka**.

- **Trustee Corinne Saldana** recognized the **Clark HS** Lady Cougars on a well-played game at the UIL state basketball tournament. She commended **Holmes HS** on winning the University Health San Antonio Student Training Program of the Year Award. Saldana enjoyed attending the opening ceremonies of the district's annual Special Olympics. She congratulated Assistant Director of Fine Arts **Elizabeth Sanchez-Lopez** on her receipt of the Texas Dance Educators Association's Hall of Fame Award.

Recognitions

- **TMEA All-State Musicians**
Twelve Fine Arts students from eight high schools were selected to the Texas Music Educators' Association (TMEA) All-State Band, Choir, Orchestra, and Jazz bands. Selection to Texas All-State is the highest public school award for individual achievement in music that a student can receive. It represents the top one percent of student musicians in Texas. [A full list of students and their pictures can be found on the NISD website.](#)
- **Texas Dance Educators Association's Hall of Fame Award**
Elizabeth Sanchez-Lopez, Assistant Director of Fine Arts, has been selected to be the recipient of the Texas Dance Educators Association's Hall of Fame Award. The award is the most prestigious award achieved by an individual who has made a significant historical, unique, or innovative contribution to Fine Arts Dance and Drill Team in the state of Texas. She will be inducted next January at the Annual TDEA Convention in Houston.

Trustees approve administrative appointments:

- **Stacy McWilliams**, formerly assistant principal in SCUCISD, was appointed **Assistant Principal** at **Sotomayor HS**.
- **Amanda Mayfield**, formerly assistant principal at Clark HS, was appointed **Assistant Principal** at **Sotomayor HS**.

Trustees approve Summer Programs

Trustees approved 2022 Summer Programs which include regular high school summer programs for remediation and acceleration, programs for middle and elementary school, and state-mandated programs. Also included are enrichment and remediation programs at all levels and programs sponsored by the Adult and Community Education, Bilingual, Career & Technical Education, Fine Arts, and Special Education departments. Information about summer learning opportunities will be posted on the NISD website soon.

Trustees approve stipend for HB 3 Reading Academies participants

The HB 3 Reading Academies are research-based professional development courses passed by the 86th legislature in June 2019 requiring all K-3 teachers, including special education teachers, and principals to be enrolled in the HB 3 academies by the 2022-23 school year. Coursework includes 12 modules that require participants to dedicate a minimum 60 hours of work time. The Board approved a proposal regarding compensation using ESSER funds to the teachers and literacy leaders required to complete these academies.

Trustees discuss naming elementary school

Trustees continued discussing the naming process and nominations submitted for "Village at West Pointe North area" elementary school.

Board approves facilities items:

- Contractor for "Village at West Pointe North area" elementary school – F. A. Nunnally Company
- Master Plan for **Hobby MS**
- Amendment #1 – Fine Arts Replacement and Renovation – GMP – **Jay HS**
- Interior Graphics at **Sotomayor HS** as developed by Alamo Architects
- Contractor for Paving Upgrades – **Alternative MS** – Pronto Sandblasting & Coating & Oil Field Services Co., Inc.
- Contractor for Window, ADA, and Paving Upgrades – **Linton ES** – CGC General Contractors, Inc.
- Contractor for Administration, Window, and ADA Upgrades – **Leon Valley ES** – D. L. Bandy Constructors, Inc.
- Contractor for ALE, Window, and ADA Upgrades – **Cable ES** – D. L. Bandy Constructors, Inc.
- Contractor for Drainage Upgrades – **McDermott ES** – SBM General Contractor, LLC
- Contractor for Football Field Upgrades – **Hobby, Jefferson, and Luna** middle schools – Jerdon Enterprise, L.P.
- Contractor for Paving and Drainage Upgrades – **Hatchett ES** – SBM General Contractor, LLC
- Contractor for Roof Replacement – **Villarreal ES** – Port Enterprises, Ltd.
- Contractor for Roof Replacement – **Rayburn MS** and **Glenoaks ES** – Topside Contracting, LLC

- Contractor for MAC (Moving, Adding, Changing) Telecommunications Cabling – various campuses – 2022 Construction Portables – Facility Solutions Group
- Change Orders
 - **Straus MS** – Return of contingency and allowances – (\$153,437) (credit)
 - **May ES** – Mechanical Upgrades – Return of contingency and allowances – (\$150,400) (credit)
 - **Neff MS** – Administration and Cafeteria Upgrades change order rescission – On Oct. 26, 2021, the Board approved a change order for the sum of \$90,000. These improvements are not needed.
 - **Neff MS** – Administration and Cafeteria Upgrades – Sidewalk Improvements – \$86,167 (add)

Readings and adoptions of policy

- Second Reading and Adoption of Local Policies in TASB Update #118
- Second Reading and Adoption of Local Policy DGBA
- Second Reading and Adoption of Local Policy FNG
- Second Reading and Adoption of Local Policy GF

Bids for goods approved

Trustees approved the following bids: Healthcare Documentation System and Computer Installation and Deployment Services. Trustees approved the following purchase orders: Discovery Dome Portable Dome Theaters and use of the planetarium software and Buck Institute for Education for Project-Based Learning (PBL) staff workshop training in support of the Professional Learning Department. 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.

For additional information, call 210-397-8770.

Board of Trustees

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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. 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.)

- April 12, 2022, 6 p.m., Board Room, 5900 Evers Road
- April 26, 2022, 6 p.m., Board Room, 5900 Evers Road
- May 24, 2022, 6 p.m., Board Room, 5900 Evers Road