



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 25, 2024

Superintendent's Report

Dr. John Craft reported to the Board:

- **Graduations.** It was an exciting end to the school year, as 13 graduation ceremonies were held and completed, and 7,024 hands were shaken.
- **Increased number of scholarships.** The Class of 2024 earned \$194 million in scholarships, compared to \$181.4 million last school year.
- **Reddix Celebration.** A favorite event each year is the "Transition Celebration for the Reddix Center students. This event marks the beginning of adult life for around 60 students who are transitioning from an education setting into a work setting. It is always such an emotional time for the families and the staff and a reminder of our "why."
- **Leadership TASB.** Congratulations to Vice President Corinne Saldana, the latest NISD Trustee to earn the status of Master Trustee through the Leadership TASB Program.
- **James B. Crowe Award.** Congratulations to Board President Bobby Blount for receiving the 2024 James B. Crow Innovation in Governance Award from TASB. He was presented with the award during the recent Summer Leadership Institute held in San Antonio.
- **Walkthrough Chumbley ES.** We recently held a walkthrough with Namesake M'Lissa Chumbley at the new Chumbley Elementary School, which will open in August 2024.
- **Support Leadership Institute.** Tomorrow is the Support Leadership Institute, which involves department leaders (non-instructional). The theme is the 75th anniversary, and sessions will focus on building leadership skills and honing customer service expectations. Thanks to the SLI Design Team, who organized what will be a great event.
- **Convocations 2024.** As mentioned previously, NISD turns 75 this coming school year, and our Convocations will focus on lessons learned from the past and a look towards the future. The dates for Convocation will be Aug. 13 and 14, and we will hold three sessions each day.
- **Video Moment:** School P.E. classes have certainly evolved over the years from dodgeball, jumping jacks, and climbing ropes. This month's Video Moment shows students at Mead Elementary School having fun during P.E. class utilizing "Blaze Pods." [Click here to watch this fun, immersive activity](#) that helps with reaction time, communication, and decision-making skills.

Board Members' Report

- **Trustee Corinne Saldana** congratulated the Class of 2024 graduates. She also thanked her fellow Trustees and Dr. Craft for allowing her to participate in the Leadership TASB Program where she earned the status of Master Trustee. Her experience in the program reinforced how fortunate the District is in many different ways.
- **Trustee Homer Guevara** congratulated the graduates of the Class of 2024. He enjoyed participating in the TASB Summer Leadership Institute (SLI) earlier this month. Guevara congratulated Trustee Saldana on her completion of the TASB Leadership Program.
- **Trustee Karla Duran** congratulated members of the Class of 2024 and reminded them to register to vote and exercise their right to vote. Duran congratulated **Clark HS** graduate **Arianna Roberson** on being selected for the USA Woman's U18 National Basketball Team who went on to win the FIBA U19 AmeriCup. She also congratulated NISD student **Mateo Lopez** for being recognized in a proclamation by the Commissioner's Court for being the youngest mariachi.

- **Trustee Carol Harle** congratulated Trustee Saldana on attaining the status of Master Trustee through the TASB Leadership Program and enjoyed participating in the SLI. She referenced that NISD Trustees are always learning. Harle said graduations were great and referenced the **Nellie Reddix** Transition Ceremony as a wonderful way to kick off the graduation season. She mentioned this year's annual Rising Stars summer production which will be Willy Wonka, Jr. and hosted in the new **Jay HS** Auditorium on June 27 at 2 PM. The summer camp is a collaboration between Fine Arts and State & Federal Programs departments. Harle announced that HEB and Clarity Child Guidance Center will be hosting Claritycon on July 18-19 that will offer sessions on mental health, trauma, social media, and other wellness-related topics.

Recognitions

- **Northside Trustee Future Teacher Scholarship.** The first two recipients of the newly-created NISD Trustee Future Teacher Scholarship were recognized. They are **Lauren Worrich** from **Brandeis High School** and **Gabrielle Chacon** from **Health Careers High School**.

Trustees hear SHAC report

SHAC Chair **Richard Crabb** presented the end-of-year report from the 2023-2024 NISD School Health Advisory Council (SHAC) to the trustees. The SHAC is a group of individuals appointed by the school district who represent various segments of the community and provide recommendations to the District on coordinated school health programming and its impact on student health and learning.

Trustees approve Flexible School Day for Chavez Academy

Trustees approved an optional flexible school day for the Chavez Academy for the 2024-2025 school year. This is an annual application that must be submitted to TEA if districts plan to participate in the Optional Flexible School Day Program. The goal of this program in NISD's Chavez Excel Academy is to improve graduation rates for students who are in danger of dropping out of school, have dropped out, or are behind in core subject courses.

Trustees hear 2024-25 Expenditure Budget Update

District staff presented to Trustees the preliminary 2024-2025 General Fund, Child Nutrition and Debt Service budget summaries. At a later Board meeting, Trustees are expected to call for a public hearing to be held at a regular Board meeting.

Trustees reviewed NISD Advocacy Resolution

Trustees reviewed and discussed 17 advocacy resolutions for submission to the Texas Association of School Boards' Delegate Assembly.

Trustees approve administrative appointments:

- **Jacob Villarreal**, formerly Executive Director of Construction & Engineering, was appointed **Assistant Superintendent for Facilities and Operations**.
- **Rebecca Zamora-Barraza**, formerly Associate Principal at Fernandez ES, was appointed **Principal at Fernandez Elementary School**.
- **Cindy Gibson**, formerly Principal at Los Reyes ES, was appointed **Principal at Martin Elementary School**.
- **Wendi Peralta**, formerly Associate Principal at Straus MS, was appointed **Principal at Straus Middle School**.
- **Isabel Anaya**, formerly Instructional Support teacher at Kuentz ES, was appointed **Associate Principal at Cable Elementary School**.
- **David Romero**, formerly Administrative Intern at Rudder MS, was appointed **Associate Principal at Mead Elementary School**.
- **Brian Pfeifer**, formerly Assistant Principal at Edgewood ISD, was appointed **Assistant Principal at Jones Middle School**.
- **Laura Shae Huntington**, formerly English teacher/coach at Harlan HS, was appointed **Assistant Principal at Harlan High School**.
- **Rebecca Reyes**, formerly Vice Principal at Medina Valley ISD, was appointed **Assistant Principal at Sotomayor High School**.
- **Moises Ochoa**, formerly Associate Principal at Luna MS, was appointed **Assistant Principal at Stevens High School**.

Board approves facilities items:

- Conceptual Design for building upgrades at **Jay HS/JSEA** – Alamo Architects
- Contractor for exterior door alarm hardware upgrades districtwide – A3 Communications, Inc. dba 3Sixty Integrated
- Change Orders:
 - Electrical improvements for utilities for three 2024 construction portables - \$281,620 (add)

Bids for goods approved

Trustees approved the following bids, awards, and recognition items: Cyber Liability Insurance, Child Nutrition supplies, iPad parts and repair services, Special Education protective gear, Generator Field Services, and beverages for Child Nutrition. Trustees approved the following purchase orders: QBS MIDCO, LLC/DBA QBS, LLC for professional development services. 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

Bobby Blount, *President, District 4*
Corinne Saldaña, *Vice President, District 5*
David Salcido, *Secretary, District 1*
Homer Guevara, Ed.D., *Trustee, District 2*
Karla Duran, Ph.D., *Trustee, District 3*
Carol Harle, Ph.D., *Trustee, District 6*
Karen Freeman *Trustee, District 7*

Administration

Superintendent John Craft, 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.
Assistant Superintendent 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 6 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 before the start of the meeting.

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

- July 23, 2024, 6 p.m., Board Room, 5900 Evers Road (Regular Board Meeting)
- Aug. 27, 2024, 6 p.m., Board Room, 5900 Evers Road (Regular Board Meeting)