



# Inside Northside **BOARD**Talk

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

**November 17, 2020**

## **Superintendent's Report**

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

- **School Operations.** The District continues to balance the public health of students and staff with the instructional needs of students. Schools should be the last institution to close. NISD continues to consult with San Antonio Metro Health and has currently paused efforts to bring back any additional students to in-person learning at this time.
- **Elections/Upcoming Legislative Session.** Following the recent election cycle, little change will take place with respect to state legislative seats. We must continue to do all we can to advocate for appropriate funding of schools.
- **Drive Thru Flu Clinic and prep for COVID vaccine.** Thank you to **Don Schmidt**, Assistant Superintendent for Student, Family and Community Services, and the Northside Police Department. The District is in conversation with Metro Health for the potential for future COVID vaccination procedures.
- **NEF Virtual Gala.** Last week, the Northside Education Foundation (NEF) hosted its annual gala and recognition of the 2020 Pillars of Character in a virtual format. Thanks to NISD Director of Partnerships **Cassandra Miranda**, her staff, and the Foundation Board for a successful event.
- **Video Moment.** The Northside Video Moment highlighted **Dave Lambert**, a teacher and coach at **Folks MS**, who is going beyond the game for one of his players. To view the video, [visit the Northside ISD YouTube channel.](#)

## **Board Members' Report**

- **Trustee Katie Reed** shared that the Alamo Area Council of Governments Board recently chose to present an award for outstanding volunteerism due to COVID-19. The AACOG Board has made the decision to honor all those who submitted a nomination with an award including a submission by NISD. As a member of the NEF Board of Directors, Reed shared how pleased and honored she was that **Diana Ely**, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning, was named the first NEF Pillar of Learning.
- **Trustee Carol Harle** attended an event hosted by the San Antonio Leaders & Teachers (SALT) organization where Dr. Woods provided a special Flipgrid welcome. SALT was founded by **Business Careers HS** graduate **Jen Maestas** who also hosts Miss Education, a podcast produced by Geekdom. The event, a day of wellness, featured various presenters. **Rawlinson MS** art teacher **Cruz Ramirez** did an exceptional job of sharing the power of doodling for allowing people to revise and improve on creative thoughts and ideas. Harle recognized her sister and Marshall HS graduate **Sue Kuentz** who also presented. Kuentz is a Texas Commission of the Arts storyteller. Harle recognized her brother **Bob Berg**, also a Marshall HS graduate, for the premier of a film he wrote and produced in collaboration with **Eugene Rogers** and **Damien Geter**. The film, Cantata for a More Hopeful Tomorrow, was commissioned by the Washington National Chorus. Harle concluded by wishing all a Happy Thanksgiving.
- **Trustee M'Lissa Chumbley** congratulated **Diana Ely** and described her as the perfect choice for the first recipient of the Pillar of Learning recognition by NEF. Chumbley commended the NISD Partnerships Office along with the NEF Board for a great annual gala. She shared how much she enjoyed the presentations by both Dr. Woods and Katie Reed. Chumbley acknowledged **Holmes HS** principal **Ada Bohlken** and **Randy Neuenfeldt**, principal of the **Northside School of Innovation, Technology & Entrepreneurship (NSITE)**, for reaching out to their school families using a campus-produced video highlighting safety protocols at both sites. Chumbley continues to be impressed by the way District athletic events are taking place from the safety protocols to the positive interactions on the part of students and coaches. She commended **Stan Laing**, Executive Director of Athletics, and his staff.

- **Trustee Karen Freeman** attended the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) XG Leadership Summit and provided each Trustee with a copy of the book, *The Governance Core*. The author, **Davis Campbell**, also presented at the summit. Freeman updated Trustees on the modification of a framework on school board development by the State Board of Education (SBOE). She mentioned that TASB has been seeking input from trustees across the state in preparation to provide recommendations to the SBOE. Freeman commended Dr. Woods for his participation in a podcast hosted by education advocate **Annette Carlisle**. Freeman spoke to high levels of turnover on school boards across the state as well as the resignation of multiple superintendents across the state following the recent election cycle. She addressed the need to find ways to support school districts as the pandemic has taken its toll.
- **Trustee Joseph Medina** began by thanking **Dr. Woods** for the job he does in leading the District as well as for hosting an NEF forum with State Representatives **Diego Bernal** and **Steve Allison**. Their dialogue focused on the state's current educational environment. He mentioned that the Texas Senate Education Committee met and heard testimony from superintendents across the state. Medina closed by thanking all school patrons and stakeholders for doing their part to keep each other safe.
- **Trustee Bobby Blount** shared an update on the Bexar County School Boards Coalition initiative to publish a book highlighting the local school districts. The book, *Public Education in the San Antonio Area*, is currently at the publisher and should be available soon. He also shared two collaborative opportunities that exist with the School Board Project, a non-profit entity that provides training, and the Bexar County Education Coalition.
- **Trustee Gerald Lopez** congratulated Director of NISD Partnerships **Cassandra Miranda**, NEF staff, and the NEF Board on a successful annual gala. The event, while a challenging one to coordinate, had great participation and was impressive.

## Recognitions

- **Region 20 ESL Teacher of the Year. Marianna Oyervides**, an ESL teacher at **Jones MS**, has been named the 2020 ESL Teacher of the Year for Region 20. The award was established to recognize the efforts of outstanding educators teaching in the ESL classroom setting within the ESC-20 area.

## Trustees approve administrative appointments:

- **Tiffany Contreras**, formerly Director of Special Revenue and Compliance, was appointed **Assistant Superintendent for Budget and Finance**.
- **Jill Hackney**, formerly Academic Dean at Clark HS, was appointed **Director of Advanced Academics**.
- **Paul Ramirez**, formerly Vice Principal at Jones MS, was appointed **Principal at Rudder MS**.
- **Andrés Lopez**, formerly English Department Coordinator at Stevens HS, was appointed **Academic Dean at Stevens HS**.

## Attendance zone for Tomlinson ES approved

Trustees approved the attendance zone for the new **Tomlinson ES** which opens in August 2021. The zone moves 459 students from the **Kallison ES** attendance area and 65 students would be moved from the **Scarborough ES** attendance area. Tomlinson ES is located at 9748 Swayback Ranch. The approved boundary zones for these schools will be posted on their campus websites.

## Trustees approve revised 2020-2021 Academic Calendar

Trustees approved a revised 2020-2021 academic calendar to include the addition of six Teacher Planning Time/Student Early Dismissal Days during the second semester. Each day will provide teachers at every level an additional three hours of planning time. More information will be shared on the NISD website and by campus principals.

## Board approves facilities items:

- Master Plan & Schematic Design – ADA Work, ALE & Window Upgrades and Mechanical Upgrades – at **Esparza ES** as developed by Kaarlsen Noonan Rittimann Garcia Architecture
- Schematic Design – Addition/Renovation – at **Zachry Magnet School** as developed by Pfluger Associates Architects
- Interior Colors for Library Addition/Renovation at **Taft HS** as developed by Kaarlsen Noonan Rittimann Garcia Architecture
- Exterior/Interior Colors for Administration Upgrades at **Adams Hill ES** as developed by Garza/Bomberger & Associates, Inc.

- Contractor for 2016 Hail Damage Roof Restoration and Replacement – **Holmes HS; Boone, McDermott, and Mead** elementary schools; Child Nutrition Warehouse Office; and Transportation Rhodes Station – Cram Roofing Company, Inc.
- Contractor for 2016 Hail Damage Roof Restoration and Replacement – Northside Learning Center – Topside Contracting, LLC
- Change Orders:
  - **Rayburn MS** – Building Replacement – Extended General Conditions and Weather Delays – \$295,000.00 (add)

### Trustees approve Instructional Materials Committee

Trustees approved members of the 2020-2021 Official District Instructional Materials Committee. The committee will consist of one teacher representative from each subject area under consideration and their work will be facilitated by the appropriate director or instructional specialist.

### Board approves 2020 Tax Roll

Trustees approved the 2020 Tax Roll as required by the Bexar County Tax Assessor-Collector. The value of taxable property in Northside is \$62,398,383,884.

### Trustees approve legislative priorities for the 2021 session

Every legislative session, the Board of Trustees develops a list of legislative priorities which will benefit Northside students, taxpayers, and employees. The approved priorities will be posted on the [District's Government Relations and Advocacy website](#).

### Resolution

Trustees discussed and voted to extend a resolution concerning Modified Operations due to COVID-19.

### Readings of Policy

- First Reading and Adoption of Policy EIAA (LOCAL)
- Second Reading and Adoption of Policy CCA (LOCAL)
- Second Reading and Adoption of Local Policies in TASB Policy Update #115

### Bids for goods approved

Trustees approved the following bids: Excess Workers Compensation Insurance and Water-Based Fire Protection System Repair – IDQ. Trustees approved the following purchase orders: Intech Southwest Services, LLC for HP desktops and monitors for the Hatchett, Knowlton, Meadow Village, and Ott elementary schools and Hobby and Luna middle schools technology deployments; Lexia Learning Systems LLC for Lexia Core 5 Student Reading Subscription; and Netsync Network Solutions for Cisco Umbrella Cloud Software. For more information, contact Purchasing Director **George Ayala** 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

**Carol Harle, Ph.D., President, District 6**  
**Karen Freeman, Vice President, District 7**  
**Joseph H. Medina, Secretary, District 1**  
**Gerald B. Lopez, Secretary, District 2**  
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**Katie N. Reed, Trustee, District 5**

#### 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.)*

- 📅 Dec. 15, 2020, 6 p.m., Northside Activity Center
- 📅 Jan. 19, 2021, 6 p.m., Northside Activity Center
- 📅 Feb. 9, 2021, 6 p.m., Location TBD
- 📅 Feb. 23, 2021, 6 p.m., Location TBD