



Inside Northside

BOARDTalk

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

February 23, 2021

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Brian Woods reported to the Board:

- **Impacts of Winter Weather.** Dr. Woods provided updates on the status of district buildings since the winter weather last week and thanked Maintenance and Custodial department staff for their hard work. He also thanked Technology Services for keeping systems running so work could occur. Though four days of instruction were lost, the Board will be asked to approve a waiver and consider a resolution on pay for employees next month. Staff is working to reschedule various events that could not happen even remotely without power and reliable internet in homes. Dr. Woods thanked all employees who helped the District provide instruction this week, from teachers to bus drivers and Child Nutrition staff.
- **Serving Students in the 2021-22 School Year.** District staff is making progress with plans of how to serve students in the 2021-22 school year.
- **Capital Improvement Package.** Staff is also looking at a capital improvement package to put before the Board and eventually voters. As in 2018, this package looks to be vast majority renovation work at our oldest campuses. Updates will be brought before the Building Committee.
- **Legislative Update.** Dr. Woods has been meeting with various members of the legislature to encourage release of Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER II) Funds to use for remediation of learning loss.
- **Hybrid Founders Day.** A hybrid PTA Founders Day event was held earlier this month at **Brennan HS**. Thanks to Principal **Dr. John Trimble**, NISD and Brennan Fine Arts staff, and the NISD Council of PTAs for reimagining this annual event that highlights the efforts of our PTAs and showcases our talented Fine Arts students.
- **Gerlach Show.** The annual Walter Gerlach Livestock Show & Sale was a great success and although there were modifications for health and safety protocols, a lot was learned for future shows. Thanks to the community for their continued support of this tradition.

Board Members' Report

- **Trustee Katie Reed** thanked District employees, including bus drivers, custodians, and Child Nutrition staff, for their hard work in navigating both a difficult year because of COVID and the recent weather event of last week.
- **Trustee Carol Harle** thanked all NISD employees, community members, and neighbors who looked out for one another during last week's weather event. Harle was grateful for the gift of having students and staff able to return on Monday. She shared a special thanks to the District's crossing guards for being in place Monday morning ready to welcome back students. Harle reminded employees that the Be Well, Stay Well virtual wellness event has been rescheduled for April 10. She spoke of the incredible effort on the part of Executive Director **Dr. Kimberly Ridgley** and the District's Whole Child Development Department to organize this conference. Harle congratulated the **Marshall Law & Medical Services** students who participated in a state-level mock trial competition. She commended their communication and teamwork during this virtual event and thanked the teachers who supported the team.
- **Trustee M'Lissa Chumbley** referenced the concept of heroes when she made several acknowledgements, including to Dr. Woods and members of the Superintendent's Cabinet for their time and effort in addressing the recent weather event of last week. She thanked **Leroy San Miguel**, Assistant Superintendent for Facilities and Operations, **Jacob Villarreal**, Executive Director of Construction and Engineering, and the District's Maintenance and Facilities staff for the massive effort to prepare all buildings and campuses for the return of students and staff. Chumbley spoke of the

success of the annual Walter Gerlach Livestock Show & Sale which raised \$1.12 million benefitting 460 students. She attributed the success to the great effort on the part of many volunteers and groups. She thanked the O'Connor FFA Booster Club, the Walter Gerlach Livestock Show Board of Directors, the **Agriculture Science & Technology Academy** teachers and administrative staff, the NISD Communications Department, and the Texas Sports Productions team responsible for livestreaming the event. Chumbley acknowledged the commitment on the part of the O'Connor Booster Club and Dr. Woods to ensuring that the stock show and sale would proceed and go forward.

- **Trustee Karen Freeman** thanked the multitude of staff, including Maintenance and Facilities Department staff, campus principals, and teachers, for their work to provide a sense of normalcy following last week's weather event. She also thanked Dr. Woods for his work and leadership. Freeman acknowledged **Construction Careers Academy** (CCA) sophomore **Meadow Quigley**. The 15-year-old recently applied plumbing, pipe fitting, and welding skills learned at CCA to make repairs at her home and then assist neighbors. Freeman announced that students from **Warren HS** recently submitted an entry to the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) video contest and were selected as 1 of 23 schools across the state to have their video showcased. Voting from March 1-5 will determine a People's Choice winner.
- **Trustee Gerald Lopez** shared appreciation to all District staff for their recent efforts following the weather events of last week. He acknowledged **James Miculka**, Director of Fine Arts, and the Fine Arts Department staff for their efforts in facilitating multiple District events.
- **Trustee Joseph Medina** recognized the work of the NISD Maintenance Department and Dr. Woods for their role in ensuring students and staff could return safely to buildings this week. Medina enjoyed a recent visit to **Jones MS** and the **Jones Magnet School** and recognized **Michella Wheat**, Jones MS Principal, and **Xavier Maldonado**, Jones Magnet Academic Dean. He described the opportunity to witness the project-based and problem-based learning as rewarding. Medina had an opportunity to view some of the renovations taking place on the campus that will soon house the STEM magnet program.

Trustees approve administrative appointments:

- **Jenna Bloom**, formerly assistant principal at Brandeis HS, was appointed **Vice Principal** at **Vale MS**.
- **Kim Young**, formerly administrative intern at Folks MS, was appointed **Assistant Principal** at **Folks MS**.

At the Feb. 9 Called Board Meeting, the following administrators were appointed:

- **Ben Muir**, formerly Director of Elementary Human Resources, was appointed **Executive Director of Elementary Administration**.
- **Sandra Luna**, formerly vice principal at Leon Valley ES, was appointed **Principal** at **Scarborough ES**.

Trustees hold Public Hearing on Texas Academic Performance Report

NISD's Academic Performance Report was presented by **Dr. Janis Jordan**, Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, and a public hearing was held, as required by Texas law. All school districts are required to publish an annual report that includes the Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR), district accreditation status, student enrollment and academic performance, PEIMS Financial Standards Report, a report of violent or criminal incidents, and information received from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) for each high school campus. The report will be available online on the NISD website and copies of specific reports will be available upon request through the Communications Department.

Board approves Emergency Procurement Resolution

Trustees approved a resolution for the emergency procurement of goods and services to repair or mitigate damage to District facilities resulting from last week's unforeseen winter weather event.

Board approves facilities items:

- Contractor for Athletic Upgrades – **Stevenson MS** – Adolfsen & Peterson Construction
- Contractor for Cafeteria/Gym Upgrades and Door Hardware – **Powell ES** – Casias Construction, LLC
- Contractor for Flooring Replacement – **Jordan MS** – San Antonio Floor Finishers, Inc.
- Contractor for Lighting, Mechanical & Fire Alarm Upgrades – various campuses – Consolidated Electric Service, Inc.
- Contractor for Playground Shade Structures – various elementary schools – R. L. Rohde General Contracting, Inc.
- Contractor for Science Renovation – **Hobby MS** – CGC General Contractors, Inc.
- Change Orders
 - Various Campuses – Surveillance Camera Upgrades for ISMS – Return of contingency and allowances – (\$52,292) (credit)
 - **Straus MS** – Return of unused allowances and scope reduction – (\$504,960) (credit)

- **Rayburn MS** – Fine Arts Upgrades – Code requirements and drainage improvement – \$151,108 (add)
- **Neff MS** – Administration Replacement & Cafeteria Upgrades – Code requirements and theatrical lighting – \$116,094 (add)
- **Harlan, Health Careers, Taft, and Warren** high schools – Synthetic Turf Football Field & Track Upgrades Contract negotiation – (\$250,000) (credit)
- **Brennan and Health Careers** high schools; **Jefferson and Pease** middle schools; **Mireles and Oak Hills Terrace** elementary schools, Northside Tennis Center, and North Transportation Center – 2016 Hail Damage Roof Restoration and Repair Roof replacement at North Transportation Center – \$132,197 (add)

Candidates announce plans to run for the School Board

Northside ISD will hold an election on May 1, 2021 for Single Member Districts 5, 6, and 7. Announcing her intention to run for District 5 was Irma Iris Duran de Rodriguez. At a Called Board Meeting held on Feb. 9, candidates who announced included Dr. Sharon Chumbley for District 5, Dr. Carol Harle for District 6, and Kevin Escobar, Blake Rawitt, and Karen Freeman for District 7.

Policy EIAA (LOCAL) approved

- Policy EIAA (LOCAL) was approved on first reading.

Bids for goods approved

Trustees approved the following bids: Special Education Supplies & Equipment; Library Books & Learning Resources; High School Ceremony Photographs; HVAC Maintenance, Repairs and Parts; Band Uniforms and Accessories; Structured Cabling E-Rate; LAN Equipment E-Rate; Wireless (WIFI) Equipment Project E-Rate; and High School Band Uniforms. Trustees approved the following purchase order: The Princeton Review for SAT prep classes for all juniors for test readiness. 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.

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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.)*

- ☞ March 23, 2021, 6 p.m., Northside Activity Center
- ☞ April 13, 2021, 6 p.m., Northside Activity Center
- ☞ April 27, 2021, 6 p.m., Northside Activity Center