



Inside Northside

# BOARDTalk

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

July 20, 2021

## Superintendent's Report

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

- **Upcoming Back to School Events.** The annual Leadership Institute is next week, New Teacher Academies are the second week in August, and Convocation is the third week in August. We will be Northside Reunited for the 2021-22 school year.
- **ESSER Plan.** On tonight's agenda is consideration of an ESSER plan that will allow Northside to continue to deal with COVID-related learning loss. Dr. Woods thanked the team who sought feedback and developed the plan.
- **Video Moment.** The Northside Video Moment highlighted the "Choose Northside" testimonial video series which shines the spotlight on different aspects of and programs offered in the District. [The first video featured Nancy Esquivel, a kindergarten teacher at Fields ES](#), who has worked in Northside for the past 20 years. [The second video featured a parent, Charisma Villarreal, whose daughter now attends Beard ES](#). Villarreal pulled her child out of a private school because of the help we provide for students with dyslexia.

## Board Members' Report

- **Trustee M'Lissa Chumbley** welcomed Karen Freeman to her new role as Board President and expressed gratitude to outgoing President Dr. Carol Harle. Chumbley addressed recent social media posts that she described as inaccurate. She clarified that Trustees voted to approve a 3 percent salary increase as a way to acknowledge employees for their hard work but also made their decision with the financial integrity of the District in mind. Chumbley addressed a false claim made on social media regarding the Superintendent's contract. She clarified that Trustees voted to re-categorize an existing benefit in the contract. Chumbley praised the job done by Dr. Woods and his commitment to ensure that all staff continued to get paid during the pandemic.
- **Trustee Gerald Lopez** thanked Dr. Harle for her leadership while serving as Board President and for her focus on community and unity. Lopez shared that he is inspired by the leadership shown by both Harle and incoming Board President Freeman.
- **Trustee Carol Harle** shared that she has heard positive feedback from families who have been involved in various District summer programming as well as from staff who have attended summer professional development.
- **Trustee Corinne Saldana** acknowledged members of the **Holmes HS Class of 1977** who have, for the past 24 years, hosted an annual golf tournament in honor of classmate **Bill Ludwikowski**. Ludwikowski lost his battle with cancer on his graduation day in 1977. Through their work, the group has raised more than \$320,000 in scholarships for students at Holmes HS.

## Recognition

- **Jennifer Cain**, an Advanced Placement/Dual Credit U.S. History teacher at **O'Connor HS**, is the recipient of the 2021 Outstanding Teaching of the Humanities Award. Cain will be starting her sixth year at O'Connor, where she also serves as the Social Studies Department Coordinator. The Outstanding Teaching of the Humanities Awards recognize exemplary K-12 humanities teachers. Each year, 12 teachers are selected to receive a \$5,000 cash award and an additional \$1,000 for their respective schools to purchase humanities-based instructional materials.

### Trustees approve administrative appointments:

- **Veronica Mechler**, formerly assistant director of elementary special education, was appointed **Director of Special Education**.
- **Crystal Mitchell**, formerly associate principal at Luna MS, was appointed **Principal at Jay Science and Engineering Academy**.
- **Brad Hebert**, formerly assistant principal at Harlan HS, was appointed **Principal at NSITE (Northside School of Innovation, Technology, and Entrepreneurship)**.
- **Lindsey Christian**, formerly associate principal at McAndrew ES, was appointed **Principal at Kuentz ES**.
- **Melissa De Hoyos**, formerly associate principal at Carson ES, was appointed **Principal at Locke Hill ES**.
- **Travis Weissler**, formerly academic dean at Warren HS, was appointed **Associate Principal at Brandeis HS**.
- **Joshua D. Hall**, formerly assistant principal at Marshall HS, was appointed **Associate Principal at Brennan HS**.
- **Darrell Pankratz**, formerly assistant principal at O'Connor HS, was appointed **Associate Principal at Clark HS**.
- **Jenny Moreno-Gonzalez**, formerly administrative intern at Carlos Coon ES, was appointed **Associate Principal at May ES**.
- **Cole Bader**, formerly special education teacher at Mary Hull ES, was appointed **Associate Principal at Raba ES**.
- **Jacob Salinas**, formerly assistant principal at Brennan HS, was appointed **Assistant Principal at Harlan HS**.
- **Jeanette Figueroa**, formerly curriculum specialist at Cypress-Fairbanks ISD, was appointed **Assistant Principal at Jay HS**.
- **Aaron Galaviz**, formerly administrative intern at Jay HS, was appointed **Assistant Principal at Jay HS**.
- **Mateo Macias**, formerly assistant principal at North East ISD, was appointed **Assistant Principal at Stevenson MS**.
- **Ester Marie Salazar-Zavala**, formerly assistant principal at Hobby MS, was appointed **Academic Dean at Connally MS**.
- **Nicholas Longoria**, formerly assistant principal at Connally MS, was appointed **Academic Dean at Jefferson MS**.
- **Vanessa Solis**, formerly academic support teacher at Brennan HS, was appointed **Assistant Principal at Brennan HS**.

### Board approves facilities items:

- Exterior/Interior Colors for Cafeteria/Gym Upgrades and Door Hardware at **Powell ES** as developed by Pfluger Architects, Inc.
- Interior Colors for ALE/ADA Upgrades at **Esparza ES** as developed by Kaarlsen Noonan Rittimann Garcia Architecture
- Contractor for Wall Sound Insulation – **Northside Alternative MS** – SpawGlass Building Service
- Change Orders
  - **Farris Football Field** Turf Replacement – Return of unused portion of E-layer allowance – (\$184,350.00) (credit)
  - **Marshall Law & Medical Services** – Credit for removal of expanded parking area – (\$78,057.00) (credit)

### ESSER III Application

The intent and purpose of ESSER III funding is to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on students. Districts must submit an application no later than July 27, 2021 to receive this funding, and NISD is scheduled to receive approximately \$172 million. **Dr. Janis Jordan**, Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, presented an overview of the District's application.

### Bond survey results

Dr. Woods presented Trustees with preliminary data for a proposed school bond election. The data was collected from online and phone surveys conducted by Raymond Turco and Associates.

### Trustees approve waivers

- **Staff Development Minutes**. In the 2021-2022 school year, TEA will offer a Staff Development Minutes Waiver that provides for a maximum of 2,100 total waiver minutes to use for professional development for districts. This waiver is for staff development in place of student instruction. This waiver may not be used prior to the first day of student instruction or after the last day of student instruction. NISD will submit a Staff Development Minutes Waiver for the two staff development days, which are Oct. 11, 2021 and Feb. 21, 2022, and the two teacher choice days, which are Nov. 22 and 23, 2021.

- **Pregnancy Related Services on Campus Compensatory Education Home Instruction (CEHI).** Current law requires students to be served at their home campus if possible. The Northside ISD School Age Parenting Program (SAPP) is requesting a waiver to provide Compensatory Education Home Instruction (CEHI) to students at a central location, which is independent from all district secondary campuses. Students attend CEHI for three hours twice a week; a minimum of four hours on short academic weeks. They receive academic instruction from three CEHI teachers who coordinate instructional efforts with the home campus teachers. Support services (i.e., child care and case management) are available on site for students.

### Trustees approve Board Committee assignments

Trustees approved chairs and members of various Board Committees. Committees and their Chairs are:

- Academics – Joseph Medina
- Finance – Gerald Lopez
- Technology – Corinne Saldana
- Building – M'Lissa Chumbley
- Policy and Intergovernmental Relations – Dr. Carol Harle

Trustees also approved Board Operating Procedures and 2021-22 Board-Superintendent Goals.

### Bids for goods approved

Trustees approved the following bids: Art Kits for Middle & High Schools; Custodial Supplies; Prekindergarten Supply Kits; Paper for Printing Services; Hydrostatic Test & Service for Kitchen Suppression Systems; Vehicle & Equipment Parts and Service; Architectural Hardware; Voluntary Pre-Paid Legal; Group Voluntary Income Replacement; Self-Insured Retention Casualty Insurance; Casualty Insurance Third Party Administrator; Digital Marketing Services; Whole Child Development Comprehensive Data Platform; Travel Agency Services; Portable Building Relocation; and Professional Development Services & Supplemental Materials. Trustees approved the following purchase order: Educaide Software for the annual renewal for the maintenance and support for an online database that has teaching materials such as tests, worksheets, and flashcards. 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.)

- 📅 August 3, 2021, 6 p.m., Northside Activity Center, 7001 Culebra Road
- 📅 August 17, 2021, 6 p.m., Board Room, 5900 Evers Road
- 📅 August 24, 2021, 6 p.m., Board Room, 5900 Evers Road

Sept. 28, 2021, 6 p.m., Board Room, 5900 Evers Road