



Inside Northside

# BOARDTalk

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

**October 26, 2021**

## Superintendent's Report

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

- **Ag in Action.** Earlier this month, the **Agriculture Science and Technology Academy** hosted the annual Ag in Action event for fourth graders. Thank you to the administrators, agriculture teachers, agriculture students, and Elementary Social Studies Department for their work.
- **New School Dedications.** The dedication of **Joey Tomlinson ES** was held earlier this month. Thank you to Principal **Wendy Tiemann**, Associate Principal **James Dominguez**, Tomlinson ES teachers and staff, and the Communications and Fine Arts departments for their leadership of this event. Next week is the dedication of **Joe Straus III MS**.
- **NEF Golf.** Last week the NEF Golf Tournament was held at the Dominion Country Club. Thanks to Director of Partnerships **Cassandra Miranda**, Partnerships Office staff, the NEF Board, and corporate sponsors for their support of this event.
- **Hobby 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.** Last week was the **Hobby MS** 50th anniversary celebration. Thank you to principal **Lawrence Carranco** and staff for a wonderful ceremony highlighting past and present students and staff.
- **Harbor Freight Tools for Schools.** Last week **Jay HS** automotive technology teacher **John Gunderson** was awarded \$50,000 as a national winner in the Harbor Freight Tools for Schools Prize for Teaching Excellence.
- **AlamoPROMISE.** The AlamoPROMISE program is expanding to **Marshall** and **Stevens** high schools. It covers tuition and required fees for current academic year graduates from participating high schools seeking an academic certificate or Associate's degree at one of the Alamo Colleges. **Jay** and **Holmes** high schools are already included in the program.
- **Parade of Nations.** On Monday, **Colonies North ES** hosted its annual Parade of Nations celebrating the diversity of the school's student body. This year, 30 countries were represented in the parade with students carrying their nation's flag. The school is home to many refugee and "newcomer" students and there are 25 identified languages spoken there.

## Board Members' Report

- **Trustee Gerald Lopez** praised two District Fine Arts programs on recent success at competition: the NISD mariachi and high school band programs. The mariachi groups from **Harlan**, **Jay**, and **Holmes** high schools and **Rawlinson**, **Rayburn**, **Ross**, and **Vale** middle schools recently competed at the Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA) Region 29 mariachi competition. The mariachi groups are all advancing to state competition. Likewise, all NISD high school bands competed in the UIL Region 9 competition with all bands receiving a rating score of 1, the best rating possible. The bands will be advancing to the next level of competition. Lopez commended all of the District's Fine Arts programs and Fine Arts Director **James Miculka** and his staff.
- **Trustee Corinne Saldana** congratulated **Zachry MS** teacher **Amanda Garcia** on being recognized in honor of World Teachers' Day by Whataburger. Saldana attended several District events and praised those hosting as well as the student performers. The events included the **Agriculture Science and Technology Academy** annual Ag in Action event, a **Holmes HS** theatre production, the **Tomlinson ES** dedication, the **Hobby MS** 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and the Parade of Nations at **Colonies North ES**. Saldana also attended a Night of Family Learning event hosted by **Rudder MS**.
- **Trustee Karen Freeman** thanked Trustees **Chumbley** and **Harle** for delivering remarks on behalf of the Board at recent District events.

- **Trustee Joseph Medina** congratulated the District’s football teams and wished those headed into playoff season well. Medina recognized all NISD teachers and students for a very successful first nine weeks of school.
- **Trustee Carole Harle** enjoyed attending the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration at **Hobby MS** along with her mother and sister. Harle, whose father was the campus first PTA president, commended the student performers. She attended the Parade of Nations event at **Colonies North ES** and acknowledged Senator **Jose Menendez** who also attended. Harle, a **Marshall HS** graduate, appreciated the opportunity to assist with the coin toss at a recent campus football game. Harle shared her appreciation to all District teachers showcasing student work on social media.
- **Trustee Bobby Blount** thanked all of the schools and campus staff who consistently allow for the utilization of campus facilities by the community.

## Recognitions

- **National PTA Schools of Excellence Recognized**  
Three Northside ISD PTAs have been named 2020-2022 National PTA Schools of Excellence. **Scarborough Elementary School** and **Folks** and **Jordan Middle Schools** are among 351 schools from across the country to receive this special designation, and are three of the six PTAs in the Bexar County area to receive this top honor. The awards are given to PTAs for their achievements in building strong family-school partnerships as part of the National PTA’s ongoing efforts to increase family engagement in education. This is the seventh year in a row that NISD PTAs have received this designation.
- **Trustees sign Code of Ethics**  
The Board and Superintendent annually sign a Code of Ethics as a symbol of their commitment to adhere to educational and ethical standards.

## Trustees approve administrative appointments:

- **Stacey Winton**, formerly associate principal at Valley Hi ES, was appointed **Principal** at **Oak Hills Terrace ES**.
- **David La Boy**, formerly assistant principal at Bernal MS, was appointed **Associate Principal** at **Bernal MS**.

## Public hearing: NISD earns highest financial rating 19 years in a row

Assistant Superintendent for Budget & Finance **Tiffany Contreras** reported that for the 19<sup>th</sup> year in a row, Northside ISD has received the highest rating of “Superior Achievement” under the state’s financial accountability rating system, called School Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST). The primary goal of School FIRST is to improve the management of school districts’ financial resources. The School FIRST rating is based upon analysis of staff and student data reported for the 2019- 20 school year, and budgetary and financial data for the 2020 fiscal year. As required by state law, Northside announced and held a public meeting to distribute a financial management report that explains the District’s performance under each of 20 indicators and the District’s rating.

## Sotomayor HS attendance zone approved

Trustees approved the attendance zone for the new **Sotomayor HS** which opens in August 2022. The zone moves approximately 1,547 students from **Harlan HS**, 338 students from **O’Connor HS**, and 24 students from **Taft HS** in 2022-23. Sotomayor HS is located at 12801 Tall Timber Lane. The approved boundary will be posted on the NISD website.

## Update on ESSER funding

Trustees heard an update on expenditures for the remainder of Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) III and ESSER II funding. It included items for facilities and technology that are approved expenditures.

## Board approves Bond orders

As part of the 2021-2022 debt management plan, Trustees approved bond orders that allow the District to issue fixed or variable rate debt up to \$300 million in new money bonds related to the 2018 bond authorization. In addition, the orders allow for issuing current refunding bonds in the amount of \$100 million and up to \$270 million in advance refunding bonds, either of which can be fixed or variable.

## Readings and adoption of policy

- Second Reading and Adoption of Local Policies in TASB Policy Update #117
- First Reading of Local Policy EIAA

## Board approves facilities items:

- Schematic Design for Window, ADA and Paving Upgrades at **Linton ES** as developed by Kaarlsen Noonan Rittimann Garcia Architecture
- Schematic Design for New Classroom Building at **Holmes HS** as developed by Pfluger Architects, Inc.
- Schematic Design for ALE, Window and ADA Upgrades at **Cable ES** as developed by Garza Architects
- Schematic Design for Bus/Student Covered Walkway at **Rhodes ES** as developed by Chesney Morales Partners, Inc.
- Schematic Design for Fine Arts Replacement and Renovation at **Jay HS** as developed by Alamo Architects
- Contractor for Fire Alarm and Mechanical Upgrades – **Fisher ES** – Consolidated Electric Service, Inc.
- Contractor for Lighting, Mechanical, and Sound System Upgrades – **Stevenson** and **Stinson** middle schools – CRI Electric, Inc.
- Contractor for Lighting Upgrades at **Brennan HS**, Transportation- Culebra Station & Transportation- Rhodes Station and Mechanical Upgrades at Transportation- Rhodes Station – Central Electric Ent. & Co.
- Interior Colors for Cafeteria/Kitchen Renovation at **Elrod ES** as developed by Kaarlsen Noonan Rittimann Garcia Architecture
- Change Orders
  - 2020 Security Lobbies for 23 Campuses (BP) – Return of contingency and allowances (\$117,698.00) (credit)
  - **Tomlinson ES** (BP) – Return of contingency and allowances – (\$227,898.99) (credit)
  - 2021 Pre-K Expansion Phase III (GF) – Return of contingency – (\$83,300.00) (credit)
  - **Elrod ES** (BP) - Cafeteria/Kitchen Renovation and ALE Classroom renovation – Not to Exceed \$196,968 (add)
  - **Neff MS** (BP) – Administration and Cafeteria Upgrades – Replacement of non-compliant driveways – Not to Exceed \$90,000 (add)

## Board approves insurance carrier

Trustees approved the renewal of a policy with Westchester for Property and Boiler & Machinery Insurance.

## Bids for goods approved

Trustees approved the following bids: Theatrical Equipment & Supplies; Printing Services – Miscellaneous; Storage Containers; and Technology and Related Equipment Recycling. Trustees approved the following purchase orders: Mind Research Institute for professional development and use of the software ST Math to focus on monitoring and supporting students and enhancing instructional practices; and Toolkit Technologies for CTE work tables at Clark HS and Holmes HS. 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.)*

- 📅 Nov. 16, 2021, 6 p.m., Board Room, 5900 Evers Road
- 📅 Dec. 14, 2021, 6 p.m., Board Room, 5900 Evers Road
- 📅 Jan. 25, 2022, 6 p.m., Board Room, 5900 Evers Road