

ON BOARD

BY - THE - MINUTES REPORT

AUGUST 2017



Courtney Mills joins the CISD Health Services Team as a registered nurse. Although all health services team members may be called to assist at any campus, Mrs. Mills will be stationed primarily at CMS and ACW.

She and her husband, James, are graduates of CHS and he is a science teacher at the high school.

BOARD MEETINGS

7:00 - 3315 Washington

Mon. 9/18

Mon. 10/16

Thurs. . . . 11/16

Mon. 12/18



Board approves \$17 per hour for bus drivers

With school districts competing heavily in the area for bus drivers, board members in July asked district administrators to propose an hourly pay increase that would make CISD hourly pay competitive. During the August regular board meeting, administrators proposed a \$3.16/hour pay increase for beginning drivers, a total hourly rate of \$17. Board members voted unanimously to approve the pay increase.

Last month, administrators agreed to pay all costs associated with testing, fingerprinting, licensing and physical exams for newly hired drivers.

Last year, 21 bus drivers were employed. At the beginning of this school year, only 12 drivers remained. Door-to-door pickup and dropoff and age appropriate buses have ceased. Some drivers have double routes and some students are picked up as early as 6:05 a.m.

Administrators continue to modify bus routes to make transportation more efficient and are optimistic that more drivers can be hired because of the increased pay.



Officer Contreras joins CISD PD

Officer Dave Contreras was sworn in as the second officer in the CISD Police Department. Contreras joined the district from Texas A&M University-Commerce. He will also be teaching classes at CHS. He is shown with his fiancée Kelsey Helgerson.

The university donated a used police vehicle to the district for his use.



The Commerce FFA Alumni presented a check for \$1000 to the CHS Ag program. Shown are Alumni President Brad Rex (left) with CHS ag teachers Courtney Goodwin and Dustee Daugherty (holding check) along with students.

ON BOARD

Board recognizes community partnerships

Summer and back-to-school projects brought in many community and business volunteers who were recognized for their contributions by the Board of Trustees during their August meeting.

Receiving Texas Association of School Board Business Recognition for continually standing up and supporting public schools were Fix & Feed, Sonic, Walmart and Peace of Bread.

Other businesses recognized for their contributions were Alliance Bank for supporting the CMS Meet the Teacher night and B&A Concrete for their donations to the CMS courtyard. The Rotary Club was recognized for sponsoring the Stuff the Bus campaign for school supplies.

Dr. Bob Johnson and Sherry Johnson were recognized for their work with the Commerce Community Action Program to provide a summer art institute at CMS.



Linda Gallagher and Pablo Guzman with Alliance Bank



Superintendent Alderman thanks Brent and Amanda Turner of B&A Concrete



Bobby Hill and Trey Bailey of Fix & Feed



Wendy Humphries of Sonic



Superintendent Alderman recognized Sherry Johnson and Dr. Bob Johnson



Rotary Club members who attended the Board recognition were Alison Walker, Jean Klaus, Karen Maxwell, Jim Ayres, Gene Lockhart, Dr. LaVelle Hendricks and Dr. Mark Reid.

In the Superintendent's report...

Superintendent Charlie Alderman reported that enrollment has increased 68 students from the first day of school. The 1474 tenth day total is 99 students down from the end of school last year, which equates to a loss of \$390,000 in funding for the year.

He stated that a housing shortage in the city as a potential cause of the drop in enrollment. A lack of affordable rental property also contributes to the drop in enrollment.

Alderman also shared a slide show featuring facility improvements made throughout the district during the last year. The Board voted to take \$1 million from fund balance to pay for the repairs and enhancements instead of borrowing the money.

[See the slide show here.](#)

Chief appraiser presents building proposal

Brent South, chief appraiser for the Hunt County Appraisal District, explained a plan to expand the appraisal office space, much needed, he said, due to the growing population of Hunt County. He proposed that the 34 entities making up the district purchase a former church building at 3301 Ridgecrest in Greenville to relocate the office.

If the purchase is approved by the entities, the appraisal district would sell its current building and contribute proceeds to the new building and its renovation. The annual cost per entity is expected to be from \$5000-\$6000.

If the Appraisal Board approves the proposal in October, South expects to present the proposal for the Board's consideration in November. The purchase would affect CISD's 2019 budget.

Board votes to release reverter for Children's Museum

The Northeast Texas Children's Museum Board asked the CISD Board to release the reverter on property once slated as the site of the museum. The property, which is north of Chicken Express, is not suited for the museum's current needs, according to museum board president Donna Tavener. Museum board members would like to sell the property and use the funds to build a new museum.

In 1996, the City of Commerce, the Commerce Water District, CISD, Hunt County and the Hunt Memorial Hospital District sold a tract of land to the Northeast Texas Children's Museum for \$50. The deed stated that the property would revert back to the taxing entities if the museum did not use it.

The CISD approved the measure to release the reverter. Other entities must also consider the proposal for approval.

ESL certification requirement delayed

The Board voted to change the requirement that all secondary teachers must acquire ESL certification. The newly approved DBA policy delays the requirement until 2017-2018 school year and limits the teaching areas subject to the requirement to science, math, English and social studies.

In other action...

The Board voted to approve:

- tax resale deed for property at S5090 Sunrise Addition Block 2 Lot 23-24 and
- certified values of \$396,153,942 for Hunt County and \$1,923,566 for Delta County
- The Board heard an update on the college and career readiness plan from Jenna O'Neal, CHS College and Career Coordinator, and CHS Principal Steve Drummond. O'Neal explained that she meets with seniors on Wednesdays to make sure they are on track with their post-graduation plans.
- Director of Finance John Walker held the annual review of the investment policy and the investment strategies.