

ON BOARD

BY - THE - MINUTES REPORT

November 2014

Routine action set for Board

The CISD Board met for the second time in November to discuss and consider approval of several items. Their first meeting was held jointly with other boards in the Community Schools Transformation Alliance in Sunnyvale. At the CSTA meeting, the boards discussed the upcoming legislative session and what potential impact it will have on public education.

During its regular monthly meeting on November 17, the Board approved District and Campus Improvement Plans, a class size waiver exception for one section of kindergarten, and approved Local Policy EHAC which allows the superintendent to certify certain organized activities outside of school, such as dance, to count for PE credit in sixth through eighth grades.

The Board approved the 2013-2014 financial audit from Rutherford, Taylor and Company, PC, of Greenville. The auditors gave the district an unqualified opinion, the best available for its financial practices for last year. Mike Taylor, representing the auditing firm, said the district had a fund balance of \$3,679,023, or three month's operating expenses, an amount considered optimum by the Texas Education Agency.

He reported that the district spent 48 cents of every dollar on classroom instruction with 6 cents of every dollar going to debt.

The District reported a 99.2 percent highly qualified teacher status with only one section out of compliance at Commerce High School.

Energy savings reported during a five-year period has totaled over \$1 million. Superintendent Blake Cooper was pleased with the savings that could be used for instruction instead of energy. He praised the efforts of the entire staff and especially Jayson Campbell, who heads up the conservation efforts.



▲ Pledges to the American and Texas flags were led by CES students Emily Williams and Hannan Pemberton

◀ The CISD Board recognized the winners of the Commerce Fire Department's fire prevention poster contest. Students shown left to right are Telsi Sorim, CHS; Caleb Winston, CES; Mia Cardona, ACW; and Libby Blount, CMS. Board member Gabe Wittkopf (right) and other Commerce firefighters were on hand for the presentation.



ON BOARD



BOARD MEETINGS

7:00 • 3315 Washington

Monday Dec. 15

IN INFORMATIONAL REPORTS...

- ▶ Mr. Cooper reported enrollment up to 1554, up four from last month. He was pleased that enrollment has continued to climb.
- ▶ The Board will attend Team of Eight training on December 10. Doug Williams, superintendent of Sunnyvale ISD, will lead. The training is an annual requirement for the Board and superintendent.
- ▶ Director of Finance John Walker reported that 52 transactions were made using the RevTrak online payment service for food service last month. The \$60 cost incurred by the district was considered a service allowing parents the added convenience of paying with a card.
- ▶ Director of Technology Al Shipp reported that EdcampPalooza, an unconference held at CHS November 15, was a success with over 90 educators attending. Teachers can collaborate with each another sharing what they know and what they want to know.
- ▶ Mr. Cooper shared a proposal for analyzing and drawing plans to remedy a drainage problem at CMS. Water is pooling underneath the north side of the building and causing structural problems.
- ▶ He also invited staff and the Board to participate in the Commerce Christmas parade on December 6.
- ▶ The Winter Arts Festival is scheduled for December 11 at 6:0 at CHS.
- ▶ The next regular Board meeting will be held on December 15.



CES students displayed their jump roping skills which they perfected during the Jump Rope for Heart fundraiser. The school raised over \$2800 this month for the American Heart Association.