

Board Highlights • November 2015

RECOGNITIONS

The Board of Trustees was recognized by Dr. Mark Henry, superintendent of schools, and Johnny Veselka, executive director for Texas Association of School Administrators, for being selected as the 2015 Outstanding Honor Board by TASA.

The Board of Trustees recognized the following students, staff and community members for their achievements:

- the CFISD communication department for its commitment and hard work in preparing the Board of the Year application;
- architectural firms approved at the October 2015 Board meeting in response to the request for qualifications for architectural services;
- Regina Jennings for earning her first Diamond Award for excellence in coaching from the National Speech and Debate Association (NSDA); and
- Samantha Berry, journalism teacher at Cypress Creek High School, for receiving the Pathfinder Award from the Texas Association for Journalism Education (TAJE).

The superintendent recognized students and staff members for honors and achievements earned in recent weeks. Congratulations were extended to the following:

- **Bob Covey**, trustee, for being reelected to a three-year term on the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Board of Directors, representing TASB Region 4, position F;
- the Cy-Fair Educational Foundation, for generating more than \$165,000 for scholarships and staff grants at the Salute to the Stars Gala in October;
- cross country teams for placing in district competition. In boys' cross country, **Cypress Ranch** placed first in district, with **Cypress Creek** placing second and **Langham Creek** third. In girls' cross country, **Cy-Fair** won first place in district, **Cypress Woods** placed second and **Cypress Ranch** finished third. The **Cy-Fair** girls placed third in the **Region III-6A Cross Country Championship** and qualified for the **UIL Cross Country State Championship**, placing 10th at that event;
- volleyball teams that advanced to the playoffs. **Cypress Falls** was the district champion, followed by runner-up **Langham Creek**, third-place **Cy-Fair** and fourth-place **Cypress Ranch**. **Cypress Falls**, **Cy-Fair** and **Langham Creek** won their Region III-6A bi-district playoff games. **Cypress Falls** won its area playoff game and will advance to the regional quarterfinal against Katy Seven Lakes, ending its season;

- tennis teams that advanced to the postseason. **Cypress Ranch** won the District 17-6A tennis championship, **Cypress Woods** came in second and **Langham Creek** placed third. **Cypress Ranch** finished as runner-up at the area competition to qualify for the Region III-6A tournament where its season ended;
- football teams that advanced to the UIL playoffs. **Cypress Ranch** won the district championship with an undefeated 9-0 record, **Cypress Falls** placed second, **Cypress Creek** placed third and **Cy-Fair** placed fourth. All four teams competed in the UIL Region III-6A playoff games;
- eight CFISD marching bands that earned *Superior* ratings at the UIL Region 27 Marching Band Contest: **Cy-Fair**, **Cypress Creek**, **Cypress Falls**, **Cypress Lakes**, **Cypress Ranch**, **Cypress Woods**, **Jersey Village** and **Langham Creek**. The **Cypress Falls** band also finished in sixth place out of 41 bands from 13 states at the **Bands of America Super Regional** held in Atlanta, Ga.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSIGNMENTS

Vicki Snokhous, principal at Arnold Middle School, was named the new principal at Cypress Creek High School on Oct. 19. Snokhous replaces Sandy Trujillo, who announced her resignation this fall.

Chris Hecker, principal at Dean Middle School, was named the first principal for CFISD's 11th high school, Cypress Park High School, on Oct. 19.

BOND UPDATE

The administration provided a design development report on the progress of the design of the New Transportation Facility and New Agricultural Science Center at the corner of Westgreen Blvd. and West Campus Drive near the new Cypress Park High School.

The administration provided a design development report on the progress of the design of the New Satellite Cold Storage Warehouse located at the corner of Spring Cypress Road and Woods-Spillane Blvd.

The Board approved construction proposals and contracts paid from Bond funds to the recommended contractor and authorized the superintendent or designee to execute all necessary documents related to such contracts as follows:

- New Transportation & Agricultural Science Centers.

The Board approved and authorized the Superintendent or designee to enter into the miscellaneous professional service contracts related to the following projects:

- New Transportation & Agricultural Science Centers – Materials Testing Services; HVAC Testing & Balancing Services; Roofing Inspection Services

SUPERINTENDENT'S BRIEFING

Dr. Henry thanked veterans for their service to our country as **Veterans Day** was celebrated on Nov. 11.

STAAR End-of-Course exams will take place **Dec. 7-10** for students who have completed these courses: English I, English II, Algebra I, Biology and US History. The students who will test in the December End-of-Course administration include: students who were absent for the Spring 2015 tests, students who completed full course credits in summer or fall and students who have not previously passed.

Military Academy Night was held on Nov. 17 at the Berry Center. Representatives from five service academies, along with The Citadel, Texas Maritime Academy and the Army and Airforce ROTC, were at the event.

Nov. 18 was designated as **National Education Support Professionals Day**. The district recognized our support staff for the contributions they make to public education through their dedicated service to students.

Schools were closed the week of **Nov. 23-27** for the **Thanksgiving holidays**. Dr. Henry wished all students and employees a relaxing and safe holiday.

AGENDA ITEMS

In other action, the Board approved:

- awarding bids and contracts and/or authorizing purchase orders as recommended in the posted agenda item:
 - Commercial Dough Mixer for Food Service
 - Horizontal Flow Wrapper for Food Service
 - Music Supplies
 - Portable Building Tie-Down / Anchor Removal and Installation Proposal Package
 - Replacement Furniture for Francone and Hancock Elementary Schools;
- construction proposals and contracts paid from General Funds to the recommended contractor and authorized the superintendent or designee to execute all necessary documents related to such contracts as follows:
 - Cy-Fair ISD ISC Board Room Technology Upgrades;
- budget amendments for the period of July 1, 2015 through September 30, 2015;
- tax refunds of \$500 or greater for Cypress-Fairbanks ISD;
- the Cypress-Fairbanks Professional Development and Appraisal System certified appraisers for the 2015-2016 school year as outlined in the Certified Appraiser Report;
- the district's 2015 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and accepted the independent auditors' report on the district's general purpose financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015;
- the independent auditors' Federal Single Audit report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015; as required by provisions of the Single Audit Act of 1984, U.S. Office of Management and Budget Circular A-128;
- a resolution casting its ballot for its choice of a nominee to serve on the Board of Directors of the Harris County Appraisal District for a term commencing on January 1, 2016, and extending through December 31, 2017; and
- the granting of a temporary construction easement to Mischer Development for earthwork and turf replacement at Smith Middle School and Warner Elementary School

and authorized the Superintendent or designee to negotiate the final terms and execute all related documents.

PUBLIC HEARING

The Board held a public hearing at 6 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 9, 2015, on the 2013-2014 district's Schools FIRST accountability rating.