

## Board Highlights • April 2015

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### RECOGNITIONS

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

- students who participated in the Board Shadowing project;
- **Amanda Niebur**, junior at Cy-Fair High School, for rescuing the child of a Cy-Fair educator;
- **Second Baptist Church** and **Home Depot** for their partnership, service and commitment to CFISD through the donation of labor and supplies to enhance several school grounds; and
- **CFISD**, for being named the Best School District in the 2015 Best Picks Edition of the Cypress Creek Mirror.

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

- **CFISD** and **41** campuses that were honored as recipients of the **Texas Comptroller's 2014 Texas Honors Circle Award**, recognizing schools and districts that achieve strong academic success through cost-effective operations, spending relatively little compared to their peers. **CFISD** was one of only **46** Texas districts to earn the five-star rating, its fifth consecutive;
- the **Education Resource Group (ERG)**, a data-driven company that provides accountability and performance management optimization for public schools, has again, for the third consecutive year, ranked CFISD in the top two among the 200 largest districts in Texas for academic and financial performance in its 2013-2014 Best Practice Awards;
- Sheridan Elementary School Principal **Gina Guidry** and Cypress Falls High School Principal **Becky Denton** were selected as district representatives for the **2014-15 Region 4 Principal of the Year Award**. Both will be honored in June at the **Region 4 ESC Principal Recognition Ceremony**;

- CFISD students from **Cy-Fair, Cypress Creek, Cypress Lakes, Cypress Ranch, Cypress Ridge, Cypress Springs, Cypress Woods** and **Langham Creek** recently won awards at the *SkillsUSA Texas District 8 Leadership Conference*. First- and second-place winners recently participated in the state conference and first- and second-place winners from state will be recognized at the May Board meeting;
- **Cypress Creek High School**, which won the **District 17-6A Academics Spring Meet** with **Cypress Woods** placing second and **Cy-Fair** placing third;
- six CFISD high schools, **Cy-Fair, Cypress Creek, Cypress Falls, Cypress Lakes, Cypress Ranch** and **Jersey Village**, who advanced from the District 17-6A One-Act Play zone competitions to the One-Act Play District Contest. **Cy-Fair, Cypress Lakes** and **Cypress Ranch** placed in the top three to compete in the bi-district competition where **Cy Ranch** was selected to advance to the **UIL Area** contest;
- the **Cypress Woods** girls' basketball team, for clinching its first-ever **UIL Class 6A state championship** on March 7 in San Antonio to end the season with a 35-1 record;
- the **Cypress Springs** boys' soccer team for winning district, with **Cypress Ranch** placing second, **Cypress Lakes** placing third and **Cypress Ridge** placing fourth. In girls' soccer, **Cy-Fair** was the district winner, with **Cypress Creek** coming in second, **Cypress Woods** in third and **Cypress Ranch** in fourth. **Cypress Ranch, Cypress Lakes** and **Cypress Ridge** boys' and **Cypress Creek, Cypress Ranch** and **Cypress Woods** girls also won their **Region III-6A bi-district** playoff games to advance to the area playoffs. From there, the **Cypress Ridge** boys advanced to quarterfinals where their season ended;
- the **Cy-Fair** boys' golf team, for winning the **District 17-6A boys' team golf championship** with **Cypress Ranch** placing second. The **Cy-Fair** girls won first in district and **Cypress Woods** placed second. All four teams advance to regionals;
- the **Cypress Ranch** boys' tennis team for winning first place in the **District 17-6A Tennis Tournament** with **Cypress Woods** finishing second and **Langham Creek**, third. **Langham Creek** girls also won first place in district with **Cypress Creek** second and **Cypress Woods**, third. **Cypress Ranch** also won district titles in the boys' singles and doubles events. **Langham Creek** won district titles in girls' doubles.

#### **NEW PRINCIPAL**

**Amy Frank**, an assistant principal at Sheridan Elementary School, was named the principal at Owens Elementary School on April 9. Frank replaces Laura Barrett, who was named the principal at Yeager Elementary School in February.

#### **BOND UPDATE**

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

- Pridgeon Stadium Pavement Replacement & Site Improvements Pkg. 1;
- Running Track Improvements at Cy-Fair HS and Cypress Ridge HS; and
- CFISD 2015 Security Upgrades.

The Board authorized the superintendent or designee to enter into the miscellaneous professional service contracts related to the following project:

- Pridgeon Stadium Pavement Replacement & Site Improvements Pkg. 1.

The Board approved execution of the plat for Sadie Woodard Elementary School No. 54 located in Alder Trails at Barker Cypress and Cypress North Houston.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S BRIEFING**

**April 12-18** was **National Volunteer Week**, and **April** is **National Volunteer Month**. The community support for our district's students and teachers is impressive and appreciated.

The **2015 STAAR assessment** continued **April 21-22** in **grades 3 through 8 in Reading, Math, Science and Social Studies**. Dr. Henry thanked parents for supporting their children and encouraging them to do their best. The individual student's performance provides valuable data that are used when determining the student's instructional needs for next year.

The **75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Festival** was held on Saturday, April 25, from 5 to 8:45 p.m. at the Berry Center. The event capped an exciting 2014-2015 year that has paid tribute to 75 years of excellence in education in CFISD.

The annual Retirement Banquet, generously sponsored in part by the **Cy-Fair Federal Credit Union**, is scheduled for **Monday, April 27** at 6 p.m. at the Berry Center. Honorees include district employees who are retiring during this school year. This event always provides an evening of entertainment, fun and delicious food as these valued employees are honored.

**May 4-8** is Teacher Appreciation Week and Tuesday, **May 5** is National Teacher Day. Dr. Henry honored the CFISD educators and acknowledged the crucial role that teachers play in making sure every student receives a quality education.

Wednesday, May 6, is National School Nurses Day, and Dr. Henry extended his appreciation to this group of professionals who provide dedicated and caring medical support to our students and district.

Wednesday, May 13 is Texas Public School Paraprofessional Day. Dr. Henry thanked all paraprofessionals for playing a vital role in helping provide support to the district.

The community programs department is now enrolling for two different summer programs, **CFISD Fun Camps** and **Club Rewind Summer Camp**. In addition, the swim lesson program **SPLASH** is available for ages 4-18. Swim lessons are now being offered and continue through June at the Cypress Ranch pool on Fry Road. Please visit the CFISD website and click on the community programs logo for more details.

CFISD will participate in “**Take Our Children to Work Day**” on **Monday, June 8**. Although the national event is scheduled in April, students will not be excused from classes on April 23. **June 8** allows students to maximize their instructional days and utilize a summer day to accompany their parent to work.

## **AGENDA ITEMS**

In other action, the Board approved:

- awarding bids and contracts and/or authorizing purchase orders as recommended in the posted agenda item:
  - Automotive OEM Proprietary Parts and Labor for Blue Bird, Ford, International, Thermo King and Thomas Bus;
  - Building Materials and General Maintenance Supplies;
  - College Readiness and Career Interest Tests;
  - Cypress Falls High School Bleacher Replacement;
  - Energy and Facility management Software;
  - Lenovo T540P Laptops;
  - School Buses; and
  - Swimming Pool Chemicals, Supplies, Parts and Repair;
- the Instructional Materials Allotment and TEKS Certification for 2015-2016;
- certifying that the district has met all requirements established by TEA and the Texas Education Code relating to instructional materials;
- the District textbook recommendations for 2015-2016. Content areas included are:
  - K-12 social studies;
  - K-12 art;
  - K-12 music;
  - K-12 theatre arts;
  - high school dance;
  - high school mathematics; and
  - AP Physics C;
- on second reading additions, revisions or deletions to district policies:
  - EB (LOCAL) School Year (Add);
  - EIAB (LOCAL) Grading/Progress Reports to Parents: Makeup Work (Delete); and
  - EIF (LOCAL) Academic Achievement: Graduation (Revise);
- the ratification of the issuance of an emergency purchase order to be paid from the General Fund for the gym floor replacement and cleanup/restoration operations required resulting from a small fire and sprinkler system discharge which caused water damage and Spillane Middle School:
  - Spillane MS Gym Fire Damage Replacement;
- tax refunds of \$500 or greater for Cypress-Fairbanks ISD;
- on first reading additions, revisions or deletions to district policies:
  - GKDA (LOCAL) Nonschool Use of School Facilities: Distribution of Nonschool

Literature;

- the shared service arrangement between Cypress-Fairbanks ISD and Northwest Harris County Cooperative for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing;
- an Engagement Letter between Cypress-Fairbanks ISD and West and Associates, LLP, in connection with the engagement for Disclosure Counsel services and in accordance with the terms of the agreement;
- a Financial Advisory Agreement between Cypress-Fairbanks ISD and Frost Bank, in connection with the issuance of obligations of indebtedness and in accordance with the terms of the agreement;
- an Interlocal Contract regarding installation, operation and maintenance of research instrumentation between the University of Houston and Cypress-Fairbanks ISD at the designated campuses and authorized the superintendent or designee to negotiate and execute the final terms and conditions and execute all documents;
- granting a Temporary Construction Easement to Harris County to facilitate the roadside ditch improvements along Barker Cypress at the Richard E. Berry Center and authorized the Superintendent or Designee to negotiate the final terms and conditions and execute all documents;
- granting a Temporary Access/Construction Easement and Maintenance Easement with Chesmar Homes, Ltd., for the purpose of the construction, installation and maintenance of landscaping, irrigation and sidewalk along Greenhouse Road at Postma Elementary School and authorized the superintendent or designee to negotiate the final terms and conditions and execute all documents; and
- upheld a Level II decision denying a parental grievance filed by Lisa and Todd Hoover.