

Board Highlights • August 2014

RECOGNITIONS

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

- CFISD, for receiving the **2014 Leadership Circle Platinum Award**, spotlighting entities that meet an even higher standard of financial transparency online. CFISD scored a near-perfect 21 out of 22 in combined minor and major criteria to earn this highest-possible designation. CFISD was also recognized in a report issued by the office of Susan Combs, Comptroller for Public Accounts, for its fiscal responsibility with school construction. The report commended districts that implement practices to save taxpayer dollars. CFISD earned special mention for using architectural prototypes for schools that have saved significant construction time and expenses. The report also revealed that CFISD paid 30 percent less than the average adjusted cost per square foot;
- CFISD, for being rated “**Best Overall in Academic & Financial Performance**” for the second consecutive year by the Education Resource Group, a data-driven company that provides accountability and performance management of public schools;
- the **Cypress Ranch High School Key Club**, for earning the **President’s Volunteer Service Award** for 2013. The award is issued by the President’s Council on Service and Civic Participation on behalf of the President of the United States. The 75 students collectively completed nearly 10,000 service hours in CFISD schools and the local community; and
- five football players, one each from **Cypress Ranch, Cypress Ridge, Cy-Fair, Cypress Falls** and **Jersey Village** high schools, who have been named to represent CFISD on the **2014 All-Greater Houston Preseason High School Football Team** by the Touchdown club of Houston.

STAAR / ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT

The administration reported on the 2014 STAAR 3-8, End-of-Course, State Accountability Ratings and Community and Student Engagement Ratings.

SUPERINTENDENT'S BRIEFING

Summer school has concluded, and the district served more than **14,500** students in a variety of programs at the elementary and secondary levels. Approximately **175 students** met graduation requirements and commencement exercises were held at the Berry Center on Aug. 6.

The Instructional Technology Department hosted its 2nd annual **Digital Learning Conference** on July 30-31 at Cypress Woods High School. This year's theme was **Inspiring Connections**, and approximately 600 teachers were in attendance over the course of the two days.

The conference provided teachers and administrators with new instructional strategies and tools to embed technology into their classrooms to promote student-centered environments. Featured speakers, along with CFISD teachers who make learning in their classroom rigorous, relevant and engaging through the use of technology, presented at the event.

The second annual **CFISD Community Expo** will be held Saturday, Aug. 16 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Berry Center, offering parents a series of helpful back-to-school services in one convenient location. An effort of the student services department, the **Community Expo** is open to all incoming CFISD students and families, and will include services such as online registration for new students, immunizations, employment opportunities, free/reduced lunch and CHIP applications, dental screenings, athletic physicals and community programs registration.

The 2014-15 school year begins Monday, Aug. 25. Many people have worked very hard to prepare district facilities for the approximately 113,600 students at CFISD's 86 campuses. CFISD has one new campus, Anthony Middle School, opening this year.

The annual **CFISD Bus Buddies program** provides assistance to elementary students in exiting their bus at the correct location during the first three days of school. This is the eighth year for the program and is a valuable partnership between our volunteers, schools, Transportation department and the Cy-Fair Houston Chamber of Commerce. Interested volunteers can sign up to be a **Bus Buddy** by calling 281-894-3950 or via the district's website, www.cfisd.net.

Monday, September 1st will be a student and staff holiday in observance of **Labor Day**, and all CFISD facilities will be closed. In the event of an emergency, contact the CFISD Security office at 281-897-4337.

AGENDA ITEMS

In other action, the Board approved:

- awarding bids and contracts and/or authorizing purchase orders as recommended in the posted agenda item;
- on second reading additions, revisions or deletions to district policies:
 - CCA (LOCAL) LOCAL REVENUE SOURCE BOND ISSUES (Revise)
 - DBE (LOCAL) EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS: Nepotism (Delete)
 - DC (LOCAL) EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES (Revise)

- DH (LOCAL) EMPLOYEE STANDARDS OF CONDUCT (Revise)
- DK (LOCAL) ASSIGNMENT AND SCHEDULES (Revise)
- EHDC (LOCAL) ALTERNATIVE METHODS FOR EARNING CREDIT: Credit by Examination without Prior Instructions (Revise);
- tax refunds of \$500 or greater for Cypress-Fairbanks ISD;
- on first reading additions, revisions or deletions to district policies:
 - CK (LOCAL) Safety Programs/ Risk Management (Revise)
 - FFH (LOCAL) Student Welfare: Freedom from Discrimination, Harassment and Retaliation (Revise)
 - FNCD (LOCAL) Student Conduct: Tobacco Use and Possession (Revise);
- Board members Dr. John Ogletree Jr. and Christine Hartley to serve as delegate and alternate delegate, respectively, to the 2013 Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) annual delegate assembly;
- a resolution to suspend portions of EIE (LOCAL) for the 2014-15 school year only;
- an update of the District's Hazardous Traffic Conditions Resolution which, pursuant to TEA requirements for the District to receive supplemental transportation funding, defines hazardous traffic conditions applicable to the district and identifies the specific hazardous areas which exist;
- the 2014-2015 Cypress-Fairbanks ISD Student Code of Conduct;
- the Memorandum of Understanding between Harris County Juvenile Board and the Cypress-Fairbanks ISD to participate in the JJAEP for the 2014-2015 school year; and
- a dedication of 0.0685 acres of land for a roadway easement to Harris County for expansion of Mayard Road adjacent to Hairgrove Elementary.

ADDENDUM

The Board endorsed Ann Williams, Alief ISD, for candidacy for the TASB Board of Directors for Position 4B.

The Board authorized the superintendent or designee to finalize and execute a purchase and sale agreement for the purchase of an approximate 13-acre tract of land located adjacent to Cy-Fair High School at U.S. 290 and Matzke Road and negotiated and executed any necessary closing documents and agreements required for the purchase pursuant to the terms discussed in closed session.