

## **Board Highlights • December 2014**

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### **RECOGNITIONS**

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

- students from **Cy-Fair, Cypress Lakes and Cypress Woods high schools** who won awards at the Journalism Education Association (JEA) Write-Off Contest held at the JEA/National Scholastic Press Association (NSPA) National High School Journalism Convention;
- **Amar Moturu**, Cy-Fair High School freshman, for finishing as runner-up at the National You Be The Chemist competition. As an eighth-grade student at Hamilton Middle School, Moturu also won his second consecutive statewide You Be The Chemist challenge last April;
- students from **Cy-Fair, Cypress Creek, Cypress Falls, Cypress Lakes, Cypress Ranch, Cypress Springs, Cypress Woods, Jersey Village and Langham Creek high schools** who won first or second place at the Texas Thespian Festival. Students receiving these awards qualified for the national competition in June 2015.

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

- CFISD has earned a **5-star rating for academic and financial performance** from the office of Susan Combs, Texas Comptroller, for the **fifth consecutive year**. CFISD was **one of only 46 districts** to win this award and only **one of four** to achieve five stars for **all five years** of the Financial Allocation Study for Texas (FAST) program;
- Watkins Middle School has been selected as a National Demonstration Site for Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID), a fourth- through 12<sup>th</sup>-grade system that has turned underperforming students into confident, college-going scholars. AVID is a nonprofit organization dedicated to closing the achievement gap by preparing students for college and other postsecondary opportunities.
- the **Cy-Fair, Cypress Woods and Cypress Ranch** won their Region III-6A bi-district games. Cypress Ranch won its Division I Region III-6A semifinal and Division I Region III-6A final games, continued its winning streak at the state semifinal game and advanced to the state championship game at AT&T Stadium in Arlington; and

- the **Cypress Ranch** volleyball team completed its season as District 17-6A co-champion, bi-district champion, regional quarterfinal champion, regional semifinal champion and regional finalist. The team lost a hard-fought match, 3-2, in the Region III-6A final.

### **BOND UPDATE**

The administration provided an oral report on the proposed master project schedule for projects included in the 2014 Bond Program and remaining new schools to be constructed from the 2007 Bond Program.

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

- Berry Center Bulk Freezer Addition.

### **SUPERINTENDENT’S BRIEFING**

The **Windfern High School** fall graduation was held on Friday, Dec. 19 at 7 p.m. at the Berry Center. The Windfern graduating class included 65 students. Dr. Henry commended these students, their parents and the Windfern staff for this great accomplishment.

All schools and the Instructional Support Center will be closed Dec. 22 – Jan. 2 for the holidays, and all support facilities will be closed Dec. 24-25 and 31 and Jan. 1. Classes will resume on Tuesday, Jan. 6. A student and staff holiday honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. will be held on Monday, Jan. 19. Emergencies during the holidays can be reported to the CFISD Police Department at 281-897-4337.

Residents are asked to remember that with the upcoming New Year’s holiday, Texas law prohibits the discharge of fireworks on school district property. The CFISD Police Department will patrol the district’s premises during the holiday season. Citizens who observe fireworks violations are requested to contact the district’s police dispatcher at 281-897-4337.

Cypress Lakes High School will host the 7th Annual Catch the Dream event on Jan. 31 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. This community event is for both parents and students focusing on college or career readiness and will include a mini college fair and recruiters from all branches of the military.

### **AGENDA ITEMS**

In other action, the Board approved:

- awarding bids and contracts and/or authorizing purchase orders for the following:
  - Art and Miscellaneous School Supplies;
  - Audio Visual, Theatrical Equipment and Supplies;
  - Berry Center Stage Lighting;
  - Central Packaging (Food Service);
  - Cleaning Supplies for Food Service;
  - Dean Middle School Replacement Furniture;

- Family and Consumer Science Equipment and Supplies;
- Grounds Equipment Repair Parts;
- Health Science Equipment and Supplies;
- Landscape Maintenance Services;
- Metal Fabrication and Repair Service;
- Musical Instrument Repair, Service, Parts and Supplies;
- Network/Internet Point of Presence and Data Center Colocation;
- Office Supplies;
- Paper for Food Service;
- Smallwares for Food Service; and
- Tires.
- the District Improvement Plan for the 2014-2015 school year;
- the attached list of students for Off-Campus Physical Education, Category I, for the 2014-2015 school year (spring);
- on second reading additions, revisions or deletions to district policies:
  - CRD (LOCAL) Insurance and Annuities Management: Health and Life Insurance (Revise);
- tax refunds of \$500 or greater for Cypress-Fairbanks ISD;
- a resolution to freeze the existing non-TRS Pension Plan as of Dec. 31, 2014 to allow the district to negotiate with and select the administrator of the Non-TRS Pension Plan;
- a resolution to create a FICA Alternative Plan through an interlocal agreement with the Region 10 Education Service Center effective Jan. 1, 2015;
- the granting of a temporary construction easement to West Harris County Regional Water Authority 33 for the installation of a waterline along Tuckerton and Greenhouse Road adjacent to Anthony Middle School and authorized the superintendent or designee to negotiate the final terms and execute all related documents; and
- on first reading additions, revisions or deletions to district policies:
  - FDA (LOCAL) – ADMISSIONS: Interdistrict Transfers (Revise)
  - FEA (LOCAL) – ATTENDANCE: Compulsory Attendance (Revise)
  - FFF (LOCAL) – STUDENT WELFARE: Student Safety (Delete)
  - FL (LOCAL) – STUDENT RECORDS (Revise).