

## **Board Highlights • February 2015**

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### **RECOGNITIONS**

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

- **Miles Simms**, Cypress Ranch High School junior student, for his Kicks 4 Kidz shoe drive conducted at the Cypress Hoops Invitational basketball tournament in December. The shoe drive allowed tournament guests to donate like-new or gently used sneakers to earn free tournament admission. Simms' grassroots effort resulted in more than 20 pair of shoes that were then distributed to children in nonprofit Cy-Hope's "Hope Centers" who were lacking adequate footwear.

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

- the CFISD Technology Services leadership team, which recently received the 2014-2015 team award from the Texas K-12 Chief Technology Officer (CTO) Council at the Texas Computer Education Association Conference. As part of a national association with the Consortium of School Networking, this is one of the highest honors that can be awarded to a technology team at the state and national levels in K-12. The team award recognizes an exceptional district team for its transformative impact on education technology and its work to improve student learning, opportunities, and access to technology. Those receiving the award include: Frankie Jackson, Chief Technology Officer; Paula Ross, Director, Infrastructure, Communications and Networks; Jennifer Miller, Performance Excellence Manager; Jay Johnson, Director, Technology Support Services; John Crumbley, Director, Information Services and Applications; Oscar Villar, Senior Wide Area Networking Specialist; and Larry Barrios, Manager, Device Imaging and Integration. The CFISD Technology Services team has been selected as an Honorable Mention for Consortium of School Networking's 2015 Team Achievement Award. This award recognizes a team in a school district, or consortium of school districts, for its outstanding achievements using technology to improve student learning, and its commitment to building strong infrastructure within the district. The award will be presented in March in Atlanta;
- three CFISD educators were recognized by the Ivy League Educational & Charities Foundation (ILECF). Cypress Springs teacher Sean Benton Sr. was recognized for his 20-

plus years in education. He has helped almost 500 students regain credits to put them on the path to graduate. Cypress Springs principal Travis Fanning was recognized for his 15-year education career, in which he uses servant leadership to allow his school to flourish academically. Cypress Lakes teacher Brian K. Roberson II was recognized for being a student-centered leader, including leading an after-school mentoring program for at-risk males. Brian also was recently awarded the Alpha Man of the Year award by the Zeta Psi Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity;

- CFISD students who raised more than \$860,000, up over \$60,000 from last year, during the CFISD Livestock Show and Sale, held Feb. 5-7 at the CFISD Exhibit Center. The community once again displayed an overwhelming amount of generosity and support in the live auction, freezer sale and via additional monetary contributions to students. The live auction alone was up over \$10,000 from last year. The high seller was the Grand Champion Steer, raised by Cypress Woods student, Dylan Jebousek and purchased by Crane Rental Division for \$55,000;
- winners at the district Science Olympiad tournament, held in January. Langham Creek won first place, with Cypress Falls second and Cypress Ranch third. Each high school will have a team advance to regionals in April;
- Langham Creek High School head baseball coach Armando Sedeño, who received the 2015 Ray Knoblauch Coaching Award by the Houston Area Baseball Coaches Association (HABCA). This award is given to one high school baseball coach who has devoted his life to the development of baseball programs in the Houston area. HABCA also named three area students to the All-Greater Houston Preseason High School Baseball Team;
- Cypress Ridge wrestlers who placed first in the Texas High School Wrestling Coaches Association Girls State Duals Championship. This is the second year in a row the Cypress Ridge team has taken first place. The Cypress Ridge girls took first place in district followed by Cy Falls in second and Jersey Village in third. The Cypress Lakes boys won district with Cypress Ridge second and Cypress Ranch third;
- the Cypress Ranch boys' and girls' swim teams, for winning the District 17-6A Swimming and Diving Championships. The Cypress Creek boys placed second and the Cypress Woods placed third. The Cypress Woods girls placed second and the Cy-Fair girls came in third. Cypress Woods went on to be the first girls' team to win a regional championship since 2008. Cypress Ranch placed third; and
- the Cypress Woods girls' basketball team, for winning the District 17-6A title, with Cy-Fair coming in second and Cypress Falls in third. Four CFISD teams will compete at the UIL Region III bi-district playoffs Feb. 16-17.

## **BOND UPDATE**

The Board adopted an order authorizing the issuance of Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District Unlimited Tax Refunding Bonds, Series 2015; levying a tax and providing for the security and payment thereof; providing for the award of the sale thereof in accordance with specified parameters; authorizing the execution and delivery of a purchase contract, a paying agent/registrar and agreement and an escrow agreement relating to such bonds; approving the preparation of an official statement; and enacting other provisions relating thereto.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S BRIEFING**

The **PTO Presidents Council Fundraising Vendor Fair** provides an opportunity for booster clubs, sports associations, school supply and school spirit chairpersons to preview fundraising options with CFISD-approved fundraising vendors. The Fair was held at the Berry Center on Tuesday, Feb. 17 from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

February is Black History month, and Dr. Henry recognized and acknowledged the contributions of Black Americans to our country. Curriculum activities and some cultural arts programs will focus on the influence of Black history and its impact on the diversity of our community, nation and world.

Dr. Henry congratulated high school students who have been identified as **National Merit Scholars**. One-hundred fifty students and their family members were invited to attend a special-called meeting on Feb. 2 to be recognized for their achievement of academic excellence. The National Merit ceremony will be rebroadcast throughout February and March on Cy-Fair TV Comcast Channel 16. The entire program is available on the district website at [www.cfisd.net](http://www.cfisd.net).

### **AGENDA ITEMS**

In other action, the Board approved:

- awarding bids and contracts and/or authorizing purchase orders as recommended in the posted agenda item:
  - Athletic and Physical Education Equipment and Supplies;
  - Fire Extinguisher and Safety Products, Inspection and Maintenance;
  - Floor Care Machine Replacement Parts;
  - Instructional Materials and Supplies;
  - Scientific Supplies and Instructional Materials; and
  - Special Education Supplies and Equipment;
- external auditors Hereford, Lynch, Sellars and Kirkham, P.C., to perform the annual audit of the district's financial statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015;
- the budget amendments for the period of October 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014;
- on second reading additions, revisions or deletions to district policies:
  - DCB (LOCAL) Employment Practices: Term Contracts (Revise);
  - DCC (LOCAL) Employment Practices: Continuing Contracts (Revise);
  - DCD (LOCAL) Employment Practices: At-Will Employment (Revise);
  - DCE (LOCAL) Employment Practices: Other Types of Contracts (Revise);
  - GKB (LOCAL) Community Relations: Advertising and Fund Raising in the Schools (Revise); and
- the tax refunds of \$500 or greater for Cypress-Fairbanks ISD.