

ON BOARD

BY-THE-MINUTES REPORT

February 2013

Trustees call election, approve policies

During its regular February meeting, the CISD Board of Trustees took action on several routine items. Included in the list of approved items are:

- contract with Hunt County Elections Administrator to conduct joint election with City of Commerce, North Hunt SUD and the Hunt Memorial Hospital District;
- resolution and order of election calling for school board trustee election for Places 1, 2, 3 and 7 on May 11;
- naming early voting clerks including Marty Cunningham, Becky Patillo, Dianne Roberts, Bonnie Hunter and Ludonna Smithers;
- resolution designating March 4-8 as Texas Public Schools Week in Commerce ISD;
- retainer agreement with Walsh, Anderson for legal counsel;
- resolution suspending portions of EIA(LOCAL) regarding calculating the EOC score as 15 percent of a student's final grade;
- TASB Update 96 including leave changes resulting from court challenges, instructional materials selection committee, and allowing superintendent to set an alternate time for attendance accounting; and
- providing three local leave days for the 2013-2014 school year for all employees.



CMS Band Director Elizabeth Bialecki shows the uniform design proposed by CHS Band Director Dave Polk for next year's Sound of Pride Marching Band. Replacing the nine-year-old wool uniforms, the new uniforms are wash and wear with modern styling. Board members asked administrators to include consideration of the purchase in subsequent budget study sessions.



THE SWEET SOUND OF SUCCESS. CHS seniors William Bowes and John Naizer (center with certificates) were recognized by the CISD Board of Trustees for being named to the ATSSB All-State Symphonic Band. William was named first chair baritone saxophone and John was fourth chair for the tuba. William's parents Bill and Toy Bowes (left) and John's parents Gil and Tammy Naizer (right) proudly supported their sons along with Dave Polk, director of bands, and Elizabeth Bialecki, middle school director.



Superintendent's report...

Superintendent Blake Cooper reported enrollment was down 16 students from last month.

He said that four candidates had filed for the May 11 trustee election. Filing for Place 1 is Kathleen Hooten. Gabe Wittkopf and Etta Herring have filed for reelection to their board seats. Karen Maxwell has filed for Place 3.

Mr. Cooper explained additional dual credit offerings for next year's juniors and seniors would add up to at least 30 semester hours and possibly 38, if science is offered. In addition to these hours, he said Paris Junior College would collaborate with us on electrical and welding courses that would result in industry certifications. An online course on automated machinery will also be offered. The current health science program would continue and can lead to advanced nurses aide certification. Campbell, Cumby, Fannindel, Wolfe City and Celeste are working with the District to make these courses more accessible to high school students.

Hall of Honor nominations will soon be open for next year's induction ceremonies. More alumni will be contacted this year to encourage more nominations.

Drug testing company rep outlines procedures

Mr. Cooper asked a drug testing company representative to speak to the Board about random drug testing of students involved in extracurricular activities in grades 7–12. Ron Bolton from Forward Edge said his company has been conducting random drug testing of students since 1998 and currently serve 80 districts.

He said students learn to stay clean if they want to participate in sports and campus clubs or park on campus.

He explained that about 10 percent of the students in the program are tested each month. He said it gives students an out because "they can say no and blame it on the school."

Mr. Bolton said districts determine what consequences are set for students testing positive for drugs or alcohol. For a first offense, students are typically out of the activity for six weeks. For a second occurrence, students are usually prohibited from being involved for one year.

"We want to give students an excuse to say no. We don't want it to be a gotcha-type program," Mr. Cooper said.

Mr. Cooper asked board members to consider making the program available for the 2013-2014 school year.

BOARD MEETINGS

7:00 • 3315 Washington

Thursday March 21

Monday April 15

Monday May 20

Monday June 17