

ON BOARD

BY - THE - MINUTES REPORT

OCTOBER 2016

District of Innovation status to be explored

The CISD Board of Trustees took the first step in applying to the Texas Education Agency to become a District of Innovation (DOI).

By passing a resolution in favor of DOI, the Board will next have a public hearing on the matter. From there, the Board will appoint a committee

to develop a plan that includes a comprehensive education program with innovations and a list of Education Code provisions to be exempt.

The plan would be posted for 30 days and then sent to the Commissioner of Education where no approval is required.

Superintendent Charlie Alderman explained that DOI status would allow the district to have some of the freedoms

associated with charter schools such as changing the school calendar or leeway with teacher certifications. Relaxing the teacher certification requirement would offer the district opportunities to employ industry professionals for career & technology courses such as HVAC for a small part of the day.

“DOI gives us more options to provide for our students,” Alderman said.

In a video explaining DOI, Dr. Lizzy Asbury, director of Administrative Services for the Region 10 Education Service Center, said that there are no real negatives to obtaining DOI status. She said it offers the district flexibility to exercise local control.

Dr. LaVelle Hendricks said it was important that the district take time to plan for the effective use of the allowances DOI status offered.

Other Board action included:

- approval of School Health Advisory Council members Kathy Myers, Alison Walker, Joe Venable, Chris Ritchie, Courtney Mills, Vickie McMurray, Patty Wilson, Sarah Staton and Amber;
- approval of FFA (Local) policy, a student wellness policy; and
- granted easement to Oncor Electric for property on County Road 4308.



The newly formed CHS Choir performed the national anthem at the October Board of Trustees meeting.

National Principals' Month recognized

The Board honored principals and assistant principals during a dinner prior to the meeting in recognition of their dedication to the students of CISD.

Administrators include Steve Drummond and Felisha Jones, CHS; Dr. Shenequa Miller and Christy Hansen, CMS; Tina Bronson, ACW; and Diane Stegall and Wanda Beane, CES.



Organizers of Operation Blue & Gold: A Day of Service, a community service project, were honored by the CISD Board of Trustees Monday night.

Domonique Smith and Danielle Davis of Leadership Engagement & Development at Texas A&M University-Commerce organized over 200 university students to complete projects throughout the city and district.

Smith and Davis are shown with Superintendent Charlie Alderman.

ON BOARD

Superintendent's report...

- Enrollment is 1606, up three students from this time last year.
- Alderman said the Board was invited to participate in a city meeting at 6:30 p.m., Monday, October 24 at City Hall. Council members, board members and university representatives will discuss ways to strengthen Commerce as a learning community.
- TASB Board training is scheduled for November 3 at TAMU-C.
- EdCamPalooza, a technology training event for educators, will be held November 3 at CHS.
- The Winter Arts Festival will be held December 8 at CHS. Vendors may sell goods beginning at 5 p.m. The program begins at 6:30 with performances by the CHS, CMS and ACW choirs, CHS Theater Department and CHS band.
- The next regular Board meeting was set for Thursday, November 17, 2016, with executive session at 6 p.m. and the regular meeting at 7 p.m.

BOARD MEETINGS

7:00 • 3315 Washington

Thursday. . . Nov. 17

Thursday. . . Dec. 15

A letter from the Superintendent...

Commerce ISD has an amazing opportunity to impact our students now and in the years to come. Three initiatives are combining to offer resources, flexibility, innovative practices and a plan for success. This combination of collaboration and opportunity is unprecedented in the history of the district. Because of the commitment from TAMU-Commerce to help, the possibilities of the District of Innovation designation and the creation of a new vision and goals for Commerce ISD, we are seeking your input to help determine our needs and then set a course of action.

As a part of this effort, Commerce ISD is conducting a survey to gather data that will be used to complete our strategic planning process. Based on the information received from students, parents, community and staff members, we will work to get the community involved in determining the direction for Commerce ISD. We invite you to complete a survey found on our website www.commerceisd.org

In addition to the surveys, Commerce ISD will be holding meetings throughout the community. You are invited to attend one or all of the meetings listed below.

November 7, 2016 from 6:00-7:00 pm
Mt. Moriah Baptist Church
202 Champion Lane, Commerce

November 9, 2016 from 6:00-7:00
First United Methodist Church-Commerce
1709 State Hwy 50, Commerce

November 14, 2016 from 6:00-7:00
TAMU-Commerce
Sam Rayburn Student Center, Legacy Room A

November 15, 2016 from 6:00-7:00
First Baptist Church-Commerce
1401 Washington Street, Commerce

Please help us give the best possible to our students.

Thank you,

Charlie Alderman
Superintendent, Commerce ISD

