

ON BOARD

April 2009

BY - THE - MINUTES REPORT



Superintendent Blake Cooper presented Debbie Aikin a crystal vase in recognition of her 15 years of service on the CISD Board of Trustees.

Aikin recognized for 15 years on Board

After 15 years on the CISD Board of Trustees, serving in every official post at one time, Debbie Aikin has decided not to seek re-election.

She was presented an engraved crystal vase in recognition of her service by Superintendent Blake Cooper. Her husband, Bobby, was on hand to mention that she had attended CISD board meetings ten years prior to her election to the Board.

Aikin said it had been an honor serving with other members of the Board. "Education is very important to me. My support and love for the District will continue," Aikin said.

During Aikin's tenure she approved proposals for bond elections to build two schools — Commerce High School and the new A. C. Williams Elementary buildings. Always a champion for individual rights, she carefully considered all proposals especially standardized dress, drug testing and the addition of a school resource officer.

Board President Willie Blow said that Aikin was a mentor for him. Bob McLeroy said, "Debbie, we will miss you."

The Board will conduct an election for two places open on the Board. In Place 6, incumbent Medley Wilson is opposed by Hector Arce. In Place 7, Randy Starks, Emma Martin and Elva Resendez are running.

Board visits A. C. Williams Elementary construction site



In a special meeting prior to the regular meeting, Board members toured the new A. C. Williams Elementary School. Architect Nathan Morgan noted that progress was on schedule and workers were beginning interior finishes. Cabinetry was being placed in some classrooms. Skylights illuminated the hallways as the visitors strolled through the structure.

Board members J. Russell Armstrong, Donna Tavener, Debbie Aikin, Ted Oats and Bob McLeroy toured the construction site with Claycomb Associates Architect Nathan Morgan.

*Board Election
May 9
Commerce City Hall
7 a.m. to 7 p.m.*

*Early voting begins
April 27 through May 5
8:15 a.m. – 4:45 p.m.*

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*Extended hours 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.
April 29 and 30, City Hall*



**Exemplary
Expectations**

ON BOARD

IN THE **Superintendent's report...**

Superintendent Cooper thanked the Commerce Schools Educational Enrichment Foundation for their support of the district. The annual Boots n BBQ fundraiser had a great turnout. "We appreciate the support the Foundation has given us throughout the years," Cooper said.

He also thanked staff and students for their presentations.

Cooper reported that enrollment continued to remain steady with the final count the same as last year at this time. The count was 1602. Fluctuations continue at each campus. For example, CES gained five students, ACW gained three, CMS gained five students and CHS lost three from last month's count.

The Board set Monday, May 18 for a special budget study session at 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. for the next regular meeting. The Board will meet at noon May 12 in the Superintendent's office to canvass the votes from the trustee election

BOARD MEETINGS

May 18	Mon.	CMS
June 15	Mon.	CMS

New CHS parking rules in effect Fall '09

The Board unanimously passed new CHS parking rules and regulations which will take effect when the new school year begins.

Commerce ISD Police Chief Joe Venable said that he currently had no way to enforce parking and traffic violations around the campus. He proposed writing citations for these offices with fines as follows: first violation, written warning; second violation, \$5 fine; third violation, \$10 fine and all subsequent violations \$15.

A brochure has been produced to explain the new rules to students.

Weight room purchase considered

The Board unanimously authorized the District to seek bids to purchase weight room equipment for CHS. Athletic Director Scott Wells said the weight room needed some upgraded and replacement equipment. Estimated cost of all the equipment is \$64,000. Administrators will go back to the Board with the bids in May for purchase consideration.

In the Consent Agenda...the Board approved...

- minutes of the regular meeting on March 23, 2009;
- financial statement and investment summary for March 2009;
- revisions to include John Walker as authorized representatives for investments; and
- acceptance of high bid on resale properties by Hunt County Tax Office.

Other action by the Board

Five board members voted against adding Attorney Jay Youngblood as additional counsel citing the need for more information before they could approve the proposal. The District currently uses the services of Walsh, Anderson, Brown, Aldridge & Gallegos, P.C.

The Board approved the resignation of Cameron Grubert from Tri County Special Education Coop; Nicole Timmons and Toni Hamlin, CMS; Jeanie Putman, CES; Susan Erwin, Barbara Kilgore and Ricky Porter, CHS.

The Board voted to extend the contract of Dana Rogers as a teacher through the next school year. They also hired Kyle Abshire, Wesley Cooper and John Griggs as CHS teachers/coaches; Sarah Heatherly, CMS teacher/coach; and Cameron Grubert, CES teacher.

Laura English received a contract extension as the new director of Tri County Coop. Dian Underwood will become the coordinator there.

Citizen comments...

A parent spoke against the District's sex offender policy saying it violated his right to attend his child's athletic events.

Board comments...

J. Russell Armstrong asked that only routine items be placed on the consent agenda in the future.

Donna Tavener asked Superintendent Cooper to make sure the sex offender policy is in compliance with the law.