

ON BOARD

January 2009

BY-THE-MINUTES REPORT



Julia Robinson will become the Director of Curriculum, Special Programs and Grants in June.

Robinson named Curriculum Director

The CISD Board of Trustees named Julia Robinson Director of Curriculum, Special Programs and Grants at its regular Board meeting on January 20. Robinson replaces Danna Myers who resigned to accept a position at the Region 10 Education Service Center.

Robinson will remain principal at A. C. Williams Elementary for the remainder of the spring semester. A search for her replacement will begin later in the spring.

ACW architect says weather, holidays delay progress

Claycomb Associates Architect Nathan Morgan told Board members that even though bad weather and the holidays slowed progress on the new ACW building, workers could catch up and get back on schedule. He said that the remainder of the slab should be poured by the end of this week and the exterior brick work would begin on area A, the large cafeteria/auditorium section. The installation of skylights has begun in the classroom wings and most of the concrete has been poured around the building. Workers will begin roofing soon.

Board approves technology purchases

After a lengthy explanation by Al Shipp, the districts' technology director, Board members voted unanimously to purchase technology for the E-rate project at CES and also approved the purchase of technology for the new ACW school.

As a 90 percent economically disadvantaged school, CES should receive the E-rate funds which will enhance and upgrade technology across the District. If the entire \$733,000 project is funded through E-rate, the district cost would be approximately \$200,000 over three to four years, according to Shipp.



KUDOS! *At left, Senior Taner Burnett was recognized by the CISD Board of Trustees for being named Honorable Mention on the Texas High School Coaches Association Academic All-State Football Team. He is shown with Interim Athletic Director Rick Porter.*

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IN THE *Superintendent's report...*

The Board heard enrollment dropped to 1616, down three students from last month. Nine students left the elementary campuses while the ins and outs of students at the secondary schools left a six-student gain.

Filling is open for the Board of Trustees election from February 9 through March 9 at the Administration Building.

Place 6, currently held by Debbie Aikin, and Place 7, held by Medley Wilson, are up for election.

Cooper said he had been answering questions about UIL district realignment in recent days, most recently at a Lion's Club meeting. Under current rules, the District is only nine students above the cut off for 2A schools. Enrollment in October will determine the District numbers used in the realignment. The enrollment count for the different classes could also be adjusted for the February 2010 realignment, according to Cooper.

BOARD MEETINGS

February 16	Mon.	CMS
March 23	Mon.	CMS
April 20	Mon.	CMS
May 18	Mon.	CMS
June 15	Mon.	CMS



CISD Board of Trustees include (standing left to right) Donna Tavener, Medley Wilson, Ted Oats and Debbie Aikin. Seated are J. Russell Armstrong, Superintendent Blake Cooper, Willie Blow and Bob McLeroy.

Board recognized for service

The seven CISD Board members were sincerely thanked for their dedication and commitment to serving the students of Commerce ISD by Superintendent Blake Cooper at the January Board meeting. Cooper said the Board had been a joy to work with and he is excited about working with them during the years to come.

The Board was treated to a special dinner where they were honored by district administrators.

In the comments from the Board members' portion of the meeting, Russell Armstrong thanked Technology Director Al Shipp for his handling of the technology issues. He commented on Shipp's thoroughness and expertise in getting the most value for district resources.

Member Donna Tavener expressed her appreciation to the teachers and staff who showed their respect to a former student when her mother died last month. Tavener related that the young woman said that "every teacher she had ever had either came to visitation or attended the funeral for my mother." Tavener said the expressions of concern showed the true character of our staff.

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

- Minutes of the regular meeting on December 15, 2008; and the special meeting held on December 23, 2008;
- Financial statement and investment summary for December;
- Membership renewal in the independent retainer program with Walsh, Anderson, Brown, Schulze & Aldridge, P.C., attorneys at law; and
- TASB Policy Update 84 with corrections regarding fiscal year on CE Local and no action on CNA Local.