

ON BOARD

November 2012

BY - T H E - M I N U T E S R E P O R T

Superintendent's report...

Superintendent Blake Cooper reported enrollment for November at 1587, the fourth consecutive month of increases, up 70 from the first day of school. The District remains down from the 1605 count last November.

Mr. Cooper reported that all teachers were highly qualified to teach their assignments as required by NCLB.

He shared information about the Community Schools Transformation Alliance formed by area superintendents as a networking group to work for school improvement. The Alliance will host a meeting on December 3 at the Terrell Performing Arts Center to inform attendees about the state of education in Texas.

The Winter Arts Festival will be held to showcase the talents of students in visual and performing arts. The event will be held at 5:30 p.m., December 13 at Commerce High School.

The next regular scheduled meeting will be held Monday, December 17, in the CISD Board Room.



Board conducts routine business

Agenda items for the Regular November Board meeting included proposals that are addressed annually such as the financial audit, waiver on state testing days and approval of district and campus improvement plans.

The financial audit was conducted by Rutherford, Taylor and Company PC, Auditors, of Greenville. Robert Lake, a partner in the firm, presented an unqualified opinion, with no findings, the best report possible. He stated that the district was able to add \$300,000 to its fund balance last year. Superintendent Blake Cooper said the fund balance needed to be built back up after the last two years.

Administrators asked the Board to approve a waiver for the next three school years that would allow schools to have a modified schedule on state assessment days. Students not being tested would have a late arrival time to avoid scheduling and staffing conflicts. The waiver was approved.

Julia Robinson, Director of Curriculum, Special Programs and Grants, presented the District Improvement Plan which was approved by the District Improvement Council. She stated the document contained all of the requirements set by the state and it was constantly used as a guide throughout the year. Evaluation of progress would be ongoing.

Lay explains bucket filling in campus report

Commerce Elementary School Principal Jeanne Lay presented her annual campus report to the Board by recognizing her staff as dedicated and hardworking. She said she made sure the staff knew not to work at the school past 8 p.m. so they could spend time with their families. She presented a video with children explaining what it meant to be "bucket fillers," the campus focus for character building this year.

The Commerce Schools Educational Enrichment Foundation awarded over \$29,000 in grants for this school year. Pictured are Foundation Board members (front row left to right) Jerry Keeble, Dr. Jack Pirkey, Loretta Kibler, June Dunn and Janet Peek. CISD teachers receiving funding for projects include Tina Bronson, Pam Dickson, Karen Davis Heather Kilgore, Rebekah Jacobson and Julie McLeroy. Third row: Meagan Hubbert, Dee Dee Harris, Melissa Towne, Lauren Veraska, Rhonda Overman, Misti Gardner and Diana Pemberton. Fourth row Sondra Feduccia, Dave Polk, Keiondra Simpson, Wendy Bridges, Lonnie Plunkett, Pamela Potts and Mahra Sanders.

