

# ON BOARD

October 2010

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



## Commended student

Araceli Cabrera-Zepeda was recognized by the Board of Trustees for being named a Commended Student in the 2011 National Merit Scholarship Program. She was presented the award by Superintendent Blake Cooper. Araceli, a senior, is active in the Art Club and is a Spanish club officer. She is a member of NHS and is involved in their service projects as well as Friends of Rachel.



## Public hearing held for FIRST rating

As required by law, the District shared information about its TEA financial accountability rating with the community. Director of Finance John Walker said the district received an “above standard achievement” rating making 65 out of a possible 80 points. Items contributing to deductions were a low student/teacher ratio at 6.23-to- 1 and a high debt-per-student ratio at \$1122/student.

## Thurman showcases a typical CES day

Beginning with a safe arrival at school and ending when the last child is loaded on a bus, Commerce Elementary School Principal Bobbie Thurman showed Board members what a typical day at her school is like.

In addition to trips to music class, the computer lab and the library, students are being introduced to an age appropriate keyboarding program. Each student was allowed to pick a book to take home in the Reading Is Fundamental program (RIF). Students will have two more opportunities to get a free book this year.

Over 40 CES students benefit from the Backpack Program which provides food for children every weekend. Students take a backpack filled with food from the North Texas Food Band on Friday and return the backpack on Monday to be filled again for the next weekend. Community member Bob Mills and a group of volunteers help stock the backpacks weekly.

A total of 74 CISD elementary students receive aid through the program.

Thurman introduced her staff and proudly said she was privileged to work with the “best instructional staff in the State of Texas.”



## Maintenance workers recognized for service

By using CISD personnel to renovate the old ACW building the District was able to save approximately \$200,000. Superintendent Cooper recognized the maintenance crew for their hard work that resulted in the successful upgrade to the new administration building. Pictured are back row left to right: Chris Hale, Joe Reynolds, Ingrid Jones and Brent Hearn. Front row: Erskine Melton, Carl Lamm, Edward Fluellen and Jayson Campbell. Not shown is Billy Neal.

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## BOARD MEETINGS

6:15 • 3315 Washington  
2010

Monday . . . November 15

Thursday . . December 16

2011

Tuesday . . . . . January 18

Monday . . . . . February 21

Thursday . . . . . March 24

Monday . . . . . April 18

Monday . . . . . May 16

Monday . . . . . June 20

Monday . . . . . July 18

## Parent urges Board to demand action on funding

Karen Maxwell, a parent of a middle school student, encouraged the Board to demand action on school funding from elected officials.

“School funding must be overhauled,” she said. “Letters of petition must be on the desk of every state legislator,” she added.

## In other action...

### Baseball and softball scoreboards

The Board approved a resolution to lease/purchase baseball and softball scoreboards for the CHS athletic fields from Cypress Bank. An additional installation charge of \$1200 will be added to the \$45,000 cost. Revenue from advertising sales is expected to cover the majority of the cost.

### Policies BE and DEE local approved

The Board also approved changes to BE local which sets a new time and location for Board meetings. With the recent move to the renovated ACW building, Board members now have their own Board Room for meetings. Meetings will be held there the third Monday of each month at 6:15 p.m. unless there is a specific time and location change, which will be noted on the notice.

DEE local allows the District to pay a per diem amount for meal purchases for district travel paid with local funds; however, receipts are required for funds spent with state or federal grants.

## Superintendent's Report...

### Enrollment down

Superintendent Cooper reported the district was down 15 students from September's count. The largest drop was at CES, down 10 students.

### Hall of Honor celebration remembered

Cooper thanked staff for the work involved in hosting the Hall of Honor induction luncheon and ceremony October 2. High school students welcomed guests as they arrived and also served them during lunch.

Cooper said he looked forward to continuing the Hall of Honor recognitions in the coming years.