

ON BOARD

BY-THE-MINUTES REPORT

FEBRUARY 2016



Senior Michael Elwell was recognized by the Board for making the ATSSB All-State Band for the second consecutive year. Michael has been accepted to the Regents' Scholars Program at Texas A&M University-Commerce. His scholarship is equivalent to 70 percent of tuition, fees, room and board for four years. He is shown above with Superintendent Blake Cooper.

Board calls election for May 7

Three incumbents have filed for reelection to their places on the CISD Board of Trustees. Kathleen Hooten, Michael Beane and Gabe Wittkopf will continue in their spots if they remain unopposed. Filing deadline is February 19.



16-17 calendar, salary increases approved

Approving several distinct changes from prior years, the CISD Board of Trustees unanimously approved the 2016-2017 school year which ends the first semester before Christmas and the school year before Memorial Day.

The change was possible, according to Assistant Superintendent Charlie Alderman, because the Texas legislature gave local school districts more control on setting their own calendars by requiring 75,600 instructional minutes instead of 180 instructional days.

Alderman said by increasing the time students attend daily will reduce the number of days students are required to attend by nine. Teachers and staff remain on a 187-day schedule.

The new calendar includes four early release days--one at the end of each semester and one in September and October for staff development and parent/teacher conferences. Those early release days are scheduled on Tuesdays.

The grading period will also be changed from a six-week assessment to a nine-week time frame. Educators believe this will reduce the amount of time spent testing.

Input was sought from staff, parents and the community regarding the new schedule. The District Improvement Council also met to discuss, offer suggestions and approve the final product. *See last page for calendar.*

Salary increase story on page 3.



CHS ag students made their presence known at the Fort Worth Stock Show recently. Dustin Rex (front row left) brought home a blue ribbon in class for his smoker trailer. Marcus Rogers (center) was first in class with his Maine heifer and Holten Pemberton (right) was first in class with his Brangus heifer. Ag teachers are Tommy Marshall and Dustee Daughterty.

ON BOARD

Superintendent's report...

- Enrollment is 1616, down five students from last month. Mr. Cooper said that enrollment typically drops during this time of year; however, enrollment remains 116 students more than February 2014.
- Filing for the board of trustees began January 20. Places held by Kathleen Hooten, Gabe Wittkopf and LaVelle Hendricks are up for election. Filing continues through February 19 at the CISD Administration Building. The election will be held May 7 at Commerce City Hall.

In other action...

- The Board accepted the resignation of Cathy Beane, who is retiring after 33 years with the District at the end of the school year. For the last 17 years she has been the counselor at CMS
- The next regular Board meeting was set for Thursday, March 24, 2016, with executive session at 6 p.m. and the regular meeting at 7 p.m.

BOARD MEETINGS

7:00 • 3315 Washington

2016

Thursday March 24
Monday April 18
Monday May 16
Monday June 20

Business partners recognized in 'Back the Orange and Black' Campaign

CISD is fortunate to have so much support from our business and university community. From sponsorships of activities, food donations, volunteers, partnership initiatives, Commerce ISD students benefit from many people who want to help.

The Board of Trustees will begin honoring entities that contribute to the success of our endeavors.

This month's honorees included Dixie Stachiowiak, Dixie Turman State Farm Insurance; and Ken Moyer, Lone Star Grill & Eatery.

Stachiowiak has been a long-time supporter and benefactor of the district, contributing to many activities and initiating others such as the Ropes Course for sixth-grade students.

Moyer has provided vouchers for meals and contributed food for activities across the district.

Business partners receive a "We Back the Orange and Black" decal for their place of business and they will be listed on the Texas Association of School Boards website.



Dixie Stachiowiak of Dixie Turman State Farm Insurance with Superintendent Blake Cooper

Cecily Huggins of Lone Star Grill & Eatery with Mr. Cooper

ON BOARD

Commerce ISD

2016-17

Proposed Pay Structures New Hire Guide for Teachers and Librarians

Years of Experience	New Hire Salary
0	\$39,000
1	39,200
2	39,400
3	40,411
4	40,817
5	41,545
6	42,169
7	42,377
8	42,585
9	42,897
10	43,209
11	43,425
12	43,641
13	43,877
14	44,621
15	45,453
16	46,285
17	47,117
18	47,949
19	48,781
20+	49,530

General Master's Degree stipend: \$1,000

Salaries listed above are based on 10-month employment.

Teacher starting salary set at \$39K

The Board approved the Texas Association of School Boards proposed pay system review which sets beginning teachers salary at \$39,000. Current beginning teacher salary is \$36,800.

Superintendent Blake Cooper said this was needed to remain competitive with area districts and retain and attract teachers.

Administrative/Professional, nonexempt positions such as clerical/technical/paraprofessional and auxiliary personnel positions were analyzed as well. Employees in these groups will receive at least a two percent of midpoint raise for the next school year. Beginning bus driver hourly wage will increase from \$11 to \$13.84.

Mr. Cooper said no employee salary would be decreased.

The cost of the salary increases will be \$415,000.

Capital projects approved

The Board approved improvements and repairs to all building roofs across the district and repair of the CHS track during its February meeting.

Superintendent Blake Cooper was pleased that because of increased enrollment, the district was finally able to tackle projects that had been delayed due to a lack of funds.

Roofing projects will be coordinated with the retrofitting of HVAC systems this spring and summer.

The lighting retrofit project has increased the amount of light and reduced the cost of energy at every building.

The condition of the CHS track will see a marked improvement with either a repair/overlay project or a total remove/replace option.

"With the new lighting and an improved surface, we will again welcome our community to a safe environment as a walking track and for student competition," Cooper said.

COMMERCE ISD 2016-17

7/25 Online registration opens
 8/8-9 New teacher days
 8/9-17 Staff development
 8/18-19 Teacher Workdays
 8/22 First day of class
 9/5 Holiday
 9/27 Early Release
 10/10 Staff Development Day
 10/14 End of 1st reporting period
 10/17 Beginning of 2nd reporting period
 10/25 Early release—report card pickup
 11/21-23 Teacher exchange days
 Student holiday
 11/24-25 Holiday
 12/16 Early release
 12/16 End of 2nd reporting period
 12/19-30 Holiday
 1/2 Staff development
 1/3 Beginning of 3rd reporting period
 1/16 Holiday
 2/20 Student holiday/staff development
 3/10 End of 3rd reporting period
 3/13-17 Spring Break
 3/20 Beginning of 4th reporting period
 4/14 Holiday
 4/17 Bad weather make-up day
 5/24 Early Release
 5/24 End of 4th reporting period
 5/25 Bad weather make-up day
 5/26 Staff development
 5/29 Holiday

- No Classes Held—Holiday
- NT New Teacher Day
- Student Holidays:
- P Staff Development
- W Teacher Workday
- X Teacher Exchange Day
- [Reporting Period Begins
-] Reporting Period Ends
- Bad Weather Day
- Early Release
- CISD offices closed

Students 171 days
 Teachers 187 days

2016 FALL SEMESTER

78 Instructional Days

JULY 2016

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

AUGUST 2016

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	NT	NT	P	P	P	13
14	P	P	P	W	W	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

SEPTEMBER 2016

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

OCTOBER 2016

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	P	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

NOVEMBER 2016

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	X	X	X	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

DECEMBER 2016

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

2017 SPRING SEMESTER

93 Instructional Days

JANUARY 2017

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
1	P	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

FEBRUARY 2017

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	P	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

MARCH 2017

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

APRIL 2017

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	❄️	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

MAY 2017

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	❄️	P	27
28	29	30	31			

JUNE 2017

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	