

ON BOARD

JULY 2021

Hall of Honor inductees announced

Three former students and a former staff member have been selected for induction into the CISD Hall of Honor.

The annual event recognizes outstanding graduates and staff who have made an impact in their communities.

Inductees include Betty Casselberry, former CISD director of finance; Amy Johnson, Class of 1978; Eddie Pannell, Class of 1992; and Jerry Speight, Class of 1958.

The induction ceremony and luncheon will be held on Friday, October 22, at the Central Administration Building.

Tickets for the homecoming-weekend event will be available in mid-September.

Staffing wrapping up for 21-22

A total of 53 new teachers and staff will join the Tiger team for the new school year. Only two instructional positions remain available; however, bus drivers are still needed.

The board of trustees hired Roy Moody, CMS teacher/coach; Rachel Plunk, CMS teacher; Sam Flash, CMS teacher; and Kimberley Lewis, CMS counselor; at its regular monthly meeting on July 20.

Resignations were accepted from Karla Amos, CMS counselor; and Amanda White, CMS teacher.

Joyce Sample, a current CHS teacher, will step into the role of college and career readiness coordinator.

In other action, the Board approved...

- the purchase of two new International buses;
- the Student Code of Conduct; and
- the appraisal calendar and teacher appraisers.

Board approves less frequent appraisals for proficient teachers

Assistant Superintendent Dr. Patricia Tremmel and Director of Human Resources Steve Drummond explained the need to forego the annual formal 45-minute teacher observation for teachers who have been in the district for three years and have demonstrated proficiency on the T-TESS evaluation system.

"This is a tremendous morale booster for our teachers. I can tell how a well teacher is doing throughout the year during my walkthroughs," former CHS principal Drummond said.

The Appraisal Less Frequently Than Annually (ALFTA) plan still requires teachers to set goals, make a professional development plan and conference with administrators at the beginning and end of the year.

Teachers must request to be placed on ALFTA and principals can approve or deny the request. A teacher can be taken off ALFTA and placed back on T-TESS appraisals.

Under the new plan, which was unanimously approved by the Board, ALFTA teachers will be appraised every other year.

Homeschoolers participation considered

The CISD Board heard Superintendent Charlie Alderman explain the recently passed legislation which allows homeschooled students to participate in UIL activities.

Alderman said that many rules were yet to be determined by UIL; however, he did know that no funding would come to the district because of homeschool participants. He suggested the Board wait and see what regulations were imposed before making a decision on allowing homeschooler participation.



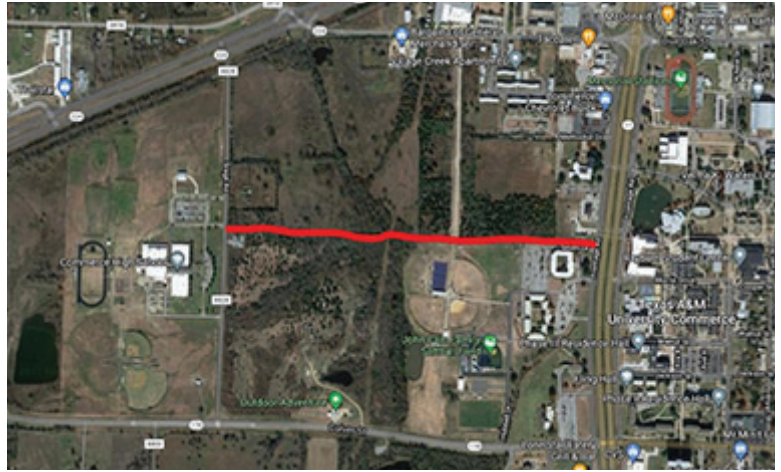
Road construction proposed to ease Sregit Road congestion

City officials are proposing to extend Smith Drive from the Highway 24 frontage road west to Sregit Road as a way to increase traffic flow around CHS.

Superintendent Alderman said with the proposed construction of a new middle school in the area, the roadway would increase safety by having an additional access away from State Highway 24.

The roadway would provide development potential for private landowners and Texas A&M-University-Commerce.

Engineers estimate the cost of the road to be \$2.8 - \$3 million. Alderman said university, city and CISD were working together to consider all options and funding sources.



The proposed roadway extends Smith Drive through university-owned and privately-owned property and provides safer access to Sregit Drive.

Boys & Girls Club offering new program

Jenny Krueger, chief executive officer of the Boys & Girls Club of Northeast Texas, gave a status report activities and participation numbers for the CISD program.

Commerce Elementary School had an average daily attendance (ADA) of 46 during the school year and 31 for the summer activities. A. C. Williams Elementary had 48 students during the school year and 28 during the summer.

Commerce Middle School had 20 students during the school year and 6 throughout the summer. Commerce High School had 10 students during the school year and five participated in the summer.

The focus this summer has been to geared to prevent summer learning loss.

Krueger said a new project director will come on board soon and several new site coordinators will work to increase enrollment.

The B&GC is wrapping up year three of a five-year grant which they hope to continue with CISD.

Krueger also announced that B&GC will run the youth sports leagues for the City of Commerce this fall. Doria Davis is the new healthy lifestyle coordinator who will facilitate the collaboration with the city.

Tax attorney notes steady collections

Tab Beall, an attorney for Perdue Brandon Fielder Collins & Mott LLP, presented the firm's annual delinquent tax report to the Board.

The District's total delinquency through tax year 2020 is \$683,990.07, which was been reduced from the delinquency at July 2013 of \$767,986.97.

He said that there was no significant dollar amount impact on tax collection due to COVID.

His firm is working to collect taxes for all delinquencies especially the number one account whose owners owe \$67,374. The property in question is abandoned and has environmental issues due to asbestos materials.