



# Board Report HISD



Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees April 10, 2006

## **Recognitions: Bobcat Pride Award**

**Dakota Stark:** Dakota, a fifth grader at Hallsville Middle School, was recognized for being the top speller at the Harrison County Spelling Bee.

**Bobcat Belles and Freda Goerner:** The Bobcat Belles were recognized for winning the 2006 National Drill Team Championship. Freda Goerner was recognized as Director and Mr. Wright complimented her on the many years of excellence in the Bobcat Belle organization. **The Bobcat Belles define Tradition + Pride + Hard Work = Success!**

## **Communication from the Superintendent**

**U.I.L. Academics:** Mr. Wright recognized the High School for finishing District Champion Runner-up (2<sup>nd</sup> Place) in the District 17-4A UIL Academic meet. Hallsville High School lost the district championship in UIL Academics by ½ of a point to Whitehouse. The team scored 371 points, which is the highest point total ever for an academic team at Hallsville High School. For the first time in school history, **Hallsville** beat **Pine Tree** by 93 points! Mr. Wright complimented all UIL Academic participants, event coaches, and Academic Coordinator Jennifer Bailey. This is the first year of the new focus on UIL Academics in the district. The High School improved 191 points in one year! Mr. Wright said, “The day is coming sooner than expected when Hallsville Academic Teams will win the District Championship at every level”!!

**Junior High and High School Choir:** The Junior High Choir won Sweepstakes at the Region XXI UIL Choir Concert and Sight-Reading contest. Mr. Wright complimented all choir members, Director, Rachel Lockard and Assistant Janet White. The High School choirs won three sweepstakes trophies in varsity ladies, varsity tenor bass, and varsity mixed at the Region XXI UIL Choir Concert and Sight-Reading Contest. Mr. Wright complimented all choir members, Director Dawn Dillard and Assistant Janet White.

**May 16<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting / Foundation Donor Reception:** Mr. Wright informed the Board about the special date for the May 16<sup>th</sup> Board meeting to canvass the School Board Election. The Foundation Donor Reception will be May 16<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 p.m., in the High School Foyer.

**Hallsville FFA:** Hallsville FFA members were very successful at Farm City week. The sale totaled \$135,811, with Hallsville projects accounting for more than \$58,000. Three senior FFA members also received scholarships. The results are as follows:

Martex Well Service Scholarship-**Kristen Halbert**  
Harrison County Agri-Business Association Scholarship-**Mandy Wellborn**  
TSTC Ag Mechanics Scholarship-**Josh Latham**  
Grand Champion Steer-**Kristen Halbert**  
Reserve Champion Steer-**Hayden Rushing**  
Grand Champion Goat & Jr. Showmanship-**Brittany Patterson**  
Reserve Champion Goat & Sr. Showmanship-**Brandi Hopkins**  
Grand Champion Pig-**Jake Greer**  
Grand Champion Ag Mechanics-**Josh Latham**  
Reserve Champion Ag Mechanics-**Adam Powell**  
Reserve Champion County-Bred Steer-**Will Ellsworth**  
Reserve Champion Angus Heifer-**Mandy Wellborn**  
Grand Champion AOB Heifer-**Shannon Johnson**

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Hallsville's Livestock Judging Team placed 1st in cattle, 1st in sheep, 4th in swine, and 3rd overall. Mandy Wellborn was 4th high individual. Other team members were Kristen Halbert, Janna Smelley, and Miranda Humphreys. Mr. Wright complimented our FFA members and FFA instructors, (Don Whyte, Mike Whyte, and Jerry Dillard).

**Consent Items:**

Minutes from the March 20, 2006, Board meeting, March, 2006 Financial Report, and personnel were approved.

**Budget Amendments:** Budget Amendments were approved by the Board.

**Polling Locations for the May 13, 2006, Board of Trustee Election:** The Board of Trustees previously approved having the 2006 election at Gold Hall rather than the Elementary 2 campus. When the Harrison County Election Office called to schedule Gold Hall for the Hallsville ISD Board of Trustee Election, it was discovered that the building had already been reserved for another event almost a year in advance. The County Election Office did not feel this was a problem because an election always takes precedence over any scheduled event, however, it was discovered that not all elections take precedence over scheduled events. Since a Board of Trustee election does not take precedence, we are being forced to change the polling location back to the Elementary 2 building for this year's election. We are currently in the process of scheduling Gold Hall well in advance to give us the option of holding the election there in 2007. The Board approved the change in location.

**HISD Job Fair:** Paula Rogers presented information regarding the HISD Job Fair that will be held on April 25th from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. at Hallsville Middle School. Mrs. Rogers explained that there will be representatives from all campuses and departments present to speak with prospective employees. Mrs. Rogers thanked First State Bank of Hallsville and Brookshire's for donating a Notebook Computer to be given away at the event. Mrs. Rogers stated that this "is an exciting opportunity to recruit talented and committed individuals to join the outstanding team at HISD! New programs are important and greatly appreciated but, it is people that make children and schools successful."

**Middle School – PBS Mentor School for Region VII:** Hallsville Middle School Principal, John Wink, and assistant principal, Donna Clark, reported on the Middle School being named as Mentor School for Region VII, for Positive Behavioral Supports. The campus was 1 of 3 campuses from Region VII selected as a mentor school because it has consistently utilized positive support programs such as CHAMPS. The campus has also reduced disciplinary referrals over the past 3 years through its positive approach and rewards programs.

**PET Program Update:** Hallsville Middle School Principal, John Wink, reported on the progress of the PET Program. He updated the Board that the program plans to have a group of approximately 17 students earn their bachelor's degree in education (EC-4) from Texas A&M University-Texarkana by the summer of 2007. Works are currently in place to create an additional cohort of students to earn a degree in education by the summer of 2008. Because of the success of the partnership between HISD and Texas A&M University-Texarkana, the University is soliciting interest in the area about creating a Principal Preparation Program, which would be offered in Hallsville ISD.

**Exemplary Focus:** Each month the Board receives an update of the district’s plan to reach Exemplary status.

- **HISD Athletics** – David Plunk, Athletic Director provided the Board with highlights of the Athletic Department’s program and goals to become “Exemplary”.

General Goals 2006-2007

1. Qualify for playoffs in all major sports
2. Increase student participation in all sports
3. Continue building the Junior Bobcat program
4. Get all high school head coaches teaching in classrooms at the high school
5. 95 % of all athletes will pass all classes
6. 98 % attendance rate for all athletes
7. Coordinate summer camps for all sports to benefit all students and parents
8. Continue to improve the facilities of the athletic department

Facility improvement goals 2006-2007

1. Begin discussion of a new multipurpose gymnasium
2. Install an athletic website to increase communication with parents and community
3. Make improvements to tennis courts with new nets and wind screens

Facility improvements in progress:

1. Adding a roof to the batting cage at the softball complex
2. Remodel coaches’ office at the field house
3. Create a film room/ meeting room in the field house

Facility improvements made within 2005-06

1. Remodeled the weight room with new weight equipment
2. Installed new lockers in the varsity boys’ locker room in the athletic gym
3. Remodeled locker rooms in the varsity boy’s locker room in the athletic gym
4. Installed new scoreboards in the high school and junior high school gyms
5. Resurfaced the high school and junior high school gym floors
6. Remodeled the dressing rooms in the softball field house
7. Constructed a new field house at the baseball complex

**Projected Class Size Ratios (K-4):** Paula Rogers presented current and projected enrollment information for grades PK-4. Grades PK-4 are the grades that have a state mandated 22 to 1 class size ratio. Current enrollment (as of March 29, 2006) in each grade is:

| <b>PK</b> | <b>K</b> | <b>First<br/>Grade</b> | <b>Second<br/>Grade</b> | <b>Third<br/>Grade</b> | <b>Fourth<br/>Grade</b> |
|-----------|----------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 100       | 258      | 271                    | 275                     | 256                    | 269                     |

The following recommendations were made by the administration for the 2006-2007 school year and supported by our Board:

- Pre K: one additional ½ day teacher
- Kindergarten: one additional teacher
- First Grade: one additional teacher
- Second Grade: monitor enrollment to determine the possible need for additional staff
- Third Grade: one additional teacher
- Fourth Grade: monitor the early enrollment to determine the possible need for additional staff

We are appreciative of the Board of Trustees in their support of maintaining class size ratios at the PK-4 grades. These grades are the foundation of a student’s education and it is very important to offer the necessary support to our outstanding PK-4 teachers.

**5<sup>th</sup> Six Weeks Attendance Report:** The Middle School had the highest attendance rate in the district for the second consecutive six weeks. For the first time this year, no records were set on any campus or the district. Mr. Wright said that the late arrival day on February 20th affected our attendance. The district had an 89% attendance rate on this day. The flu bug also hit our district hard during the 5<sup>th</sup> six weeks. Mr. Wright said that several campuses and the district are still on pace to break all time attendance records.

**Attendance Percentage Comparison**

**5<sup>th</sup> Six Weeks**

| <b>Campus</b>       | <b>2006</b> | <b>2005</b> | <b>Record</b> |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| Primary (EC-K)      | 93.8        | 95.0        | 95.7          |
| Elementary (1-2)    | 94.7        | 96.0        | 96.9          |
| Intermediate (3-4)  | 96.4        | 96.6        | 96.7          |
| Middle School (5-6) | 96.5        | 97.0        | 97.0          |
| Jr. High (7-8)      | 96.3        | 96.5        | 96.5          |
| High School (9-12)  | 95.0        | 96.3        | 96.3          |
| <b>District</b>     | <b>95.5</b> | <b>96.2</b> | <b>96.2</b>   |

\* Indicates School Record

**Teamwork Makes The Dream Work!**

**Tradition + Pride + Hard Work = Success**

**Bobcat Pride Begins With You**