



Board Report HISD



Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees- September 12, 2005

Recognitions: Bobcat Pride Award

Joe Newhouse: Joe is the Supervisor of Housekeeping at HISD. He has been an employee of HISD and driven a school bus for thirty years. Mr. Wright said, “Joe Newhouse is a perfect example of “**What’s Right With Hallsville I.S.D.**”

Communication from the Superintendent:

Mr. Wright gave an Exemplary Plan update to the Board of Trustees. Mr. Wright complimented all Principals, Directors, Instructional Support Staff, Campus Teachers and Staff Members for the outstanding work this summer with the Campus TAKS Improvement Plans and Student Data Disaggregation (Excel) documents. He said the first two years of the five year exemplary goal will take a unified commitment from all staff members to plan and make preparations for student success. A focused awareness, high expectations, and hard work are critical during the early years of the “Exemplary Plan”. Mr. Wright told board members that acceptable is no longer acceptable, beginning with year one of the exemplary goal.

Mr. Wright also thanked Rusty Clark for the Primary quilt display in the Central Office. The “Primary quilt” is a perfect example of **Bobcat Pride**. A special thank you goes out to Anne Cox and Kim Doron for applying their creativity and expertise to the project. Also, a big thanks to Janis Fritz, Kim Wiedeman, Cathy Jones, Pat Hall, Paula Linton, and Lori Alford for taking photos at their grade levels.

Consent Items:

Minutes from the August 9, 2005, regular board meeting, August 30, 2005 special board meeting, August 2005 Financial Report, were approved.

Investment Policy Annual Review: It is a requirement that the Board review the Investment Policy on an annual basis and make any changes as necessary. Local policy CDA was reviewed, but no changes made at this time.

2005-2006 Assessment Calendar: Each year a calendar of all assessments to be given in the District is distributed so that all campuses will know what and when they must test. This allows teachers to be prepared and prevents conflicts from occurring. The Board approved the calendar.

Fuel Bids for the 2005-2006 School Year: From the thirteen proposals sent to vendors, Velvin Oil had the best value and will be the fuel vendor for Hallsville I.S.D. for the period of October 15, 2005, to October 15, 2006.

Bus Bids for the 2005-2006 School Year: The Board approved the purchase of two buses from Longhorn Bus Sales (1) 53 passenger special needs bus and (1) 53 passenger activity bus. This recommendation was based on past performance and best value for the District.

Accept Donation of Audio/Visual Equipment: Eastman Chemical Company/Texas Division is donating several items of audio/visual equipment. The Board was pleased to accept the donations.

Consent Items Cont'd

Curriculum Update: Neta Craig reviewed the new HISD lesson plan books with the Board. The books are the culmination of the work done during the school year and during one full week in June by the Curriculum Vertical Alignment Team (CVAT). At the beginning of school, every core content teacher in grades K-12 received a lesson plan book which contains the curriculum to be taught in each nine-week period. The curriculum to be taught is aligned and correlated to the TEKS and TAKS.

Exemplary TAKS Improvement Plan – High School: Neta Craig and Brian Morris presented the High School TAKS Improvement Plan to the Board. Mrs. Craig explained the types of assistance the Curriculum Department is supplying the High School, such as assistance in mentoring students, assuring appropriate staff development, and assisting in student assessment. Dr. Morris stated that the High School TAKS Improvement Plan contains sections on campus improvement strategies, assessment, support programs, and strategies by department. He reviewed the goals developed by Math, Science, Social Studies, and English/Language Arts teachers for all TAKS objectives in which students performed below 80%. The Fine Arts Department developed goals to integrate the TAKS objectives into fine arts classes. Dr. Morris is confident that with this plan, the High School will be exemplary within 5 years.

Visitors Bleacher Expansion at Bobcat Stadium: The Board approved the expansion of 8 rows to the visitors bleacher section at Bobcat Stadium. This expansion will provide 1,050 additional seats. This agenda item was approved last year in the Capital Improvement Plan and will carry over in the new budget year. This project, although included in last year's budget, could not be completed until January of this current year.

The expansion was recommended because fans were turned away last year at the Kilgore and Marshall games. The visitor section can not accommodate large crowds. Also, by increasing the seating capacity, Hallsville I.S.D. will be able to host larger classification playoff games that will bring additional revenue into the District.

Drug Testing Procedures: David Plunk, Jeff Davis, and Connie Hagan, a representative of Drug and Alcohol Testing of East Texas, presented a report to the Board on drug testing procedures. Hallsville I.S.D. has made a big commitment to drug testing. All extra-curricular student participants, grades 7-12 will be drug tested during the 2005-2006 school year. Approximately 1200 students – 300 in grades 7-8 and 900 in grades 9-12 - will be tested this year. Connie Hagen stated that Hallsville I.S.D. is the model for all East Texas schools in the area of drug testing, and is to be commended for its initiative against drug use.

Teamwork Makes The Dream Work!

Bobcat Pride Begins With You

Tradition + Pride + Hard Work = Success