



Vice President Mike O'Donnell convened the meeting with Peter Baron, Bowie Hogg, Wayne Ogle, Gloria Peña, Sherri Wade and Jerry McCullough present.

Program/Presentation

Martin High School named National GRAMMY Signature School

Martin HS has been selected as the GRAMMY Foundation's 2009 National GRAMMY Signature School. In addition to this prestigious designation, Martin's music program will receive a \$10,000 grant. The Signature Schools program, sponsored by the Gibson Foundation with support from the Ford Motor Company Fund, recognizes and awards outstanding U.S. public high school music programs. Martin's submission included recorded performances by the Wind Symphony, under the direction of Gordon Hart; the Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of Michael Knipe; the Chorale, under the direction of Kay Owens; and the Symphony String and Full orchestras, under the direction of Michael Stringer.

The Grammy Foundation will present a special concert featuring Jazz Band, Chorale, Wind Symphony and Symphony Orchestra with a combined, performance choir/orchestra Randall Bass Gloria, on Tuesday, May 12 at 7 p.m. Tickets go on sale Friday in the Martin choir office.

Pregnancy Education and Parenting (PEP) Program

Tori Sisk, PEP coordinator, presented an overview of the PEP program, currently known as Life Skills for School-Age Parents. The PEP program is a dropout prevention program encouraging school-age parents to complete high school requirements while developing resiliency skills necessary to build healthy young families. The program advocates that school-age pregnant and/or parenting students have resources necessary to focus on completing high school, continuing education and entering the working world, while also maintaining a healthy environment for their young children.

Appointments

The board approved the following:

- Mary Helen Burnett as **Principal at Dunn ES**. Burnett started her teaching career in 1992 as an environment education teacher at Estes Park Center in Colorado. After moving to Arlington, she became the art teacher at Rankin Elementary in 1993. Burnett served as assistant principal of Ashworth Elementary for the 1999-2000 school year. In 2004, she became the assistant principal at Roquemore Elementary. She holds a bachelor's from the University of Georgia and a master's from Texas Woman's University.
- Lesley Bettis as **Principal at Larson ES**. Bettis started her teaching career in 1985 as a fifth-grade teacher in Spring Branch ISD. In 1986, she came to the Arlington ISD as a fourth-grade teacher at South Davis Elementary. She moved to Miller Elementary in 2000 and was named assistant principal at Wimbish Elementary in 2004. Bettis holds a bachelor's from Stephen F. Austin University and a master's from the University of North Texas.

Superintendent's Report

Jerry McCullough gave an update on what the district has been doing regarding H1N1 swine flu. The administration has worked closely with the city's office of emergency management and local health officials to monitor the situation as it pertains to the AISD. While campuses remained open, student travel was limited initially as a precautionary measure. Staff, students and families were updated in several ways, including via e-mails, Web site postings, recorded phone calls and letters to parents. Throughout this constantly changing situation, the administration has worked to determine what was best for both students and staff. Their health and safety is the top priority. McCullough thanked everyone for their patience and calmness during this time.

Vicki Bates, Ellis ES teacher, was named **Tarrant County Teacher of the Year** by the Camp Fire USA First Texas Council at the Celebration of Champions last week. Bates was honored for her work with children in the pre-k program and for creating and co-authoring early childhood curricula and books. She also leads educational workshops at the local, regional and state levels.

Jennifer Terrell, Starrett ES teacher, was a first-prize winner in the **Powerful Difference Award** contest sponsored by the makers of Pine-Sol cleaners and ABC Radio Networks. She was chosen for her many years as an educator and for founding Today's Other Choices, a non-profit organization that provides students with positive role models, tutoring services, college counseling and a place to grow academically and socially.

Lisa Menton, English III Teacher at Lamar High School, is finishing her master's in curriculum and instruction with a triple literacy focus at UTA. She was recently recognized as a **University Scholar** at the President's Convocation for Academic Excellence for being in the top 1 percent of the 2009 graduating class. She has also won several other awards for her work with the reading association and for other academic successes.

The World Affairs Council of DFW recently honored Martin High School Teacher Juli Warner as the **runner-up for the 2009 International Educator of the Year**. The award is given to a local educator who has shown great commitment and dedication to international education.

This week the district celebrates three special groups of employees through **Teacher Appreciation Week**, **Child Nutrition Employee Appreciation Week** and **National Nurse Week**. The district could not meet the needs of the students without the support of these wonderful employees.

Duff Elementary and its PTA will host the first-ever **Duff Derby** this Saturday. Race day activities include a pre-race warm up, door prizes and awards, followed by the Duff Carnival with a bounce house, games and family-friendly activities. Proceeds of the race will go to the Duff Track Fund, which will be used to build a one-eighth mile track on campus. The first race begins at 8 a.m. Anyone interested in participating can register now at The Runner or at 7:30 a.m. Saturday.

McCullough went on to announce that elementary and junior high students who read 100 minutes during Spring Break or successfully participated in a principal-approved reading program will be honored during **Reading Recognition Night** at the Rangers Ballpark next Wednesday, May 13. The Rangers will take on the Mariners beginning at 7:05 p.m. Eligible students were able to order one free ticket to attend. Staff, other students, family and friends can still purchase discounted tickets. The Rangers will donate \$2 from every ticket purchased to the AISD Education Foundation. As a part of this special event to promote reading and literacy, the district will recognize campus Teachers of the Year in the pre-game, on-field recognition; members of the Elementary All-City Choir will perform the national anthem; and McCullough announced that he will throw out the first pitch. Tickets are now on sale for this fun evening.



School Board Members' Report

- The Board members each took time to recognize the nine years of service that Sherri Wade devoted to the AISD as a board trustee. Wade announced earlier this year that she would not seek re-election for her seat on the Board, and this board meeting was her last. She was presented with an engraved clock commemorating her service to the students, staff and families of the AISD. Wade was first elected to the Board in 2000 and served as president from 2005 - 2007.



Action Items

- The Board approved the rescheduling of the June 4, 2009 board meeting to May 28, 2009.
- The Board approved a change to Board Policy FDA (Local) - Interdistrict Transfers. The policy now states that AISD full-time employees will be allowed to transfer their children tuition-free into the AISD from another district (interdistrict transfer) for an \$80 transfer fee, where space is available. No fee waivers will be granted. Non-employee, non-residents are also granted interdistrict transfers for a tuition cost of \$1,898. No waivers will be granted.

Interdistrict transfer requests will be considered on a student-by-student basis, not a family basis. Transfers will be granted one year at a time. Only elementary schools will be available for interdistrict transfers for the 2009-2010 school year. Transfers will be subject to the same revocation standards as AISD-resident transfers. Atherton, Crouch, Johns, Morton, West, Williams and Wood elementaries are closed to transfers due to space.

Interdistrict transfers will be accepted starting May 12 in the student affairs office. All requests will be placed on current campus waiting lists. Priority will be given to AISD tax-payer families first; AISD employees, non-residents second; and non-employee, non-residents third.

- The Board approved the issuance of probationary teacher contracts for the 2009-2010 school year; and two-year term contracts to those teachers who are for the first time eligible to receive a term contract and those whose current two-year term contracts end with the 2008-2009 school year.



Open Forum/Non-Agenda Items

- **Lauri Rule**, TSTA, thanked Sherri Wade for her years of service as a district volunteer and for her service on the AISD Board of Trustees. In addition, TSTA has donated \$100 to the AISD Education Foundation in Wade's honor.
- **Polly Walton**, UEA, wished Wade farewell and expressed her deepest appreciation for all the hard word and hard decisions that Wade has made to benefit the teachers, staff, children and families of the AISD. She went on to tell Wade how much she will be missed.
- **Larry Shaw**, UEA, also thanked Wade and recounted memorable times that they shared during her time as a school board trustee.