



Boardroom Notes

October 2, 2008

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

Program/Presentation

Ditto Elementary, Exemplary School

Interim Superintendent Jerry McCullough introduced Julie Harcrow, principal of Ditto ES, and presented her a plaque to be hung in the building in honor of being named an Exemplary School. Harcrow went on to introduce the teachers and staff of Ditto, who were presented certificates for their achievement.

Public Hearing

Schools First - State Financial Accountability Rating

Cindy Powell reported that the AISD has once again received a superior achievement rating through the Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas, indicating that the district has been a responsible steward of its resources. The board thanked everyone involved in achieving this honor and recognized the prudent and forward-thinking leadership that makes such an achievement possible.

Appointments

The board approved the following:

- **Marilyn Evans** as assistant superintendent of personnel. Evans started her teaching career in the Dallas ISD at Maple Lawn Elementary in 1988 and came to the AISD in 1989 as a team leader at Starrett Elementary. In 1992, she moved to Williams Elementary as an assistant principal, and then in 1993 she was named an assistant principal for the Montgomery County Public Schools in Rockville, Md. She returned to the AISD in 1995 as the science curriculum coordinator and became principal of Crouch Elementary in 1996. Evans was promoted to director of elementary personnel in 1998 and executive director of elementary curriculum and instruction in 2000. She holds a bachelor's degree from Stanford University and a master's degree from the University of North Texas.

Evans has numerous professional affiliations and honors. While at Starrett Elementary, she served as second vice president and parliamentarian for the PTA. During her tenure at Williams Elementary, she was awarded a PTA Honorary Life Membership. Evans served as corresponding secretary and vice president for membership for the Association of Texas Professional Educators and was also named Elementary Teacher of the Year by ATPE in 1992. She is a long-time member of the International Reading Association, Texas Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association, Phi Delta Kappa and the Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development. In 2006, she completed the Texas Leadership Cooperative through the Region XI Education Service Center.

Evans is actively involved in community and civic activities, including the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Arlington Alumnae Chapter, the Arlington Childcare Council and The Links, Incorporated Mid-Cities Texas Chapter.

Superintendent's Report

Razzle Dazzle Reading Day, held Saturday at Burgin Elementary, was a Title I sponsored family event to support literacy in children ages 3 to third grade. A total of 329 parents and 622 children attended the event, which featured story-time stations, literacy games for books, parent information, a free book center, professional storytellers and snakes from WildLife on the Move. The campuses that participated include Burgin, Farrell, Knox, Rankin, Remyse, Short, South Davis and Webb elementaries. Thank you to Library Services, Title I Family Involvement, Title I Family Literacy, ESL/Bilingual, more than 80 volunteers and Sheila Madden and Charlotte Carter from Burgin for making this successful event possible.

On Tuesday, Ferguson JH students took part in the kick-off of the **What Moves U? Challenge**, a six-week program launched by the American Heart Association, the Dallas Cowboys and the National Football League. The program is designed to help schools create an active and healthy lifestyle for students. There was a pep rally with speakers including Dallas Cowboys players and Mayor Cluck, and Dallas Cowboys mascot Rowdy and the Ferguson band entertained the crowd. The Cowboys players also worked with small groups of students to demonstrate some of the activity components of the program.

OfficeMax surprised Daree Yancey, Carter JH, with more than \$1,300 in classroom supplies and Lisa Beal, Webb ES, with more than \$1,100 in classroom supplies yesterday as part of their **A Day Made Better** events. OfficeMax partners with Adopt-A-Classroom to identify schools and teachers across the country for their dedication and innovative approaches to education. Nearly 1,300 teachers nationwide were selected for the honor. Congratulations Daree and Lisa!

As many of you know, the **Arlington Council of PTAs** has a **Clothing Room** at Knox ES. They stock school supplies and gently used clothing and shoes for students from kindergarten through 12th grade. If you would like to make a donation or know of a family in need, please contact your local PTA. Thank you to the Council of PTAs for providing this service for AISD students!

David Whaley, Lamar HS, attended the 2008 **Congressional Student Leadership Conference on Engineering and Robotics** at Johns Hopkins University over the summer. The Conference is a college-accredited invitational leadership program for

academically talented and promising young leaders. Students competed in a series of difficult engineering challenges during the 10-day program. Congratulations David!

McCullough invited **Leslee Erickson** and Sandra Knox from Nichols JH to the podium for a special recognition. Erickson is the nurse at Nichols, and at Lamar's football game in Irving on September 19, she was the first responder when the grandfather of one of the Lamar running backs collapsed. She assessed the situation and initiated CPR until the paramedics could arrive. McCullough thanked Erickson for her tremendous service that night! Her actions saved a life and made a difference in the lives of many. McCullough and President Ash presented Erickson with a token of thanks.

School Board Member's Report

Jim Ash appointed Gloria Peña, Wayne Ogle and Mike O'Donnell to the oil and gas special fund committee, with Peña chairing the committee. The committee will study and evaluate options and opportunities for funds received from oil and gas revenue, and how best to use them. The committee will bring back recommendations to the board by the spring for discussion and possible action. In addition, the committee will research to determine what other districts are doing with their oil and gas revenue.

Action Items

- **Renewal of contract with the Arlington Chamber of Commerce** - Wes Jury, president of the Arlington Chamber of Commerce, made a presentation to the board and provided information regarding the most recent contract with the board. Board members asked various questions and took no action on the contract.

Discussion Items

- **District2District.org Relief Effort** - Bowie Hogg shared with the board an update on the District2District initiative. Several districts have logged on to the AISD-designed Web site to offer assistance to school districts that have been affected by Hurricane Ike. The AISD has taken the lead and is reaching out to the Pasadena ISD to provide needed support in Hurricane Ike relief efforts. With more than 60 damaged campuses and an insurance estimate that will cause them to reach the \$5 million maximum deductible, the PISD has considerable needs. PISD compiled a list of needs that will help their community recover from this natural disaster, and the AISD has implemented a plan for the entire Arlington community to get involved with this relief effort. Hogg asked the community to contact the Public Information Office, 682-867-7342, for information on how to assist.