



President Mike O'Donnell convened the meeting with Jim Ash, Peter Baron, Bowie Hogg, Gloria Peña, Dr. Aaron D. Reich and Jerry McCullough present.

Program/Presentation

- **Ditto Elementary, Exemplary School** - Superintendent Jerry McCullough introduced Julie Harcrow, principal of Ditto Elementary, 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 with a certificate for their achievement.
- **Before- and After-School Care, United Way Arlington** - Cynthia Jensen, regional director of United Way - Arlington, presented the Board information on the successful before- and after-school care program in the AISD. Girls Inc., YMCA, Boys and Girls Club, and the city of Arlington parks and recreation department facilitate the programs at 34 elementary schools, serving more than 2,700 students in 2008-2009. Jensen also shared information regarding the off-campus programs.

Superintendent's Report

McCullough announced that ACT results from the 2008-2009 school year have been released, and the AISD made gains in all five areas – English, math, reading, science and composite scores.

McCullough joined some of the Ashworth Elementary staff in San Antonio on Nov. 9 at the Texas Business and Education Coalition's 10th Annual Honor Roll Awards Reception and Dinner. The 2009 Honor Roll recognizes 254 of the most outstanding public schools in Texas. TBEC identifies schools for this honor by analyzing three years of performance data for every public school in Texas.

Crouch Elementary art teacher Lin Miller received the Judy Glaze Scholarship Award to attend the Texas Art Educators Association Conference. Noemi Ogle, who is on the scholarship committee of the Arlington Arts League, presented the award.

The Optimist Club of Arlington recently named Johns Elementary fifth-grade team leader and language arts teacher Melissa Briscoe their 2009 Elementary Teacher of the Year. Briscoe was honored at the Optimist Youth Appreciation Banquet last week.

Lamar and Martin high schools recently received the 2009 College Readiness Award from the Texas ACT Council. The award is in recognition of a significant increase in the ACT composite score over the past five years while also increasing the number of students taking the ACT Assessment. Less than 5 percent of the high schools in Texas were able to accomplish this feat.

McCullough also announced this week's football playoff games. Arlington will play Odessa at 7:30 p.m. Friday in Odessa Ratliff Stadium. Bowie will play El Paso Montwood at 1 p.m. Saturday in Ratliff Stadium. Martin will play Odessa Permian at 1 p.m. Saturday in Abilene Shotwell Stadium.

This year 10 orchestra students from Arlington, Lamar and Martin high schools have been selected to the All-State Orchestra. McCullough congratulated all the students; Orchestra Directors Linda Keefer, Pat Leaverton and Michael Stringer; and Director of Fine Arts Bill Huff for helping these students achieve this honor.

Last week the AISD celebrated School Psychology Awareness Week. School psychologists help students succeed emotionally, socially and academically. They collaborate with staff, parents and other professionals to create safe, healthy and supportive learning environments for all students that strengthen connections between home and school. McCullough thanked our school psychologists for everything they do to help AISD students achieve academic and personal success.

McCullough announced that he has met with all 74 principals individually on two occasions this year to discuss campus goals and benchmark results. He has enjoyed these opportunities to work with the principals on the specific needs of their campus and feels that it is a great way to continue the improvements made last year.

Amy Casas was announced as the new director of public information. Casas started her career in 1999 as a public relations associate with Boeing-Corinth, Co. In 2000, she moved to the Irving ISD and served as the communications specialist. She was named the public information specialist for the city of Denton in 2001. Casas moved to Illinois in 2004 and was the marketing specialist for BroMenn Healthcare. She comes to the AISD from the city of Fort Worth, where she has served as communications officer since 2005. Casas holds a bachelor's and a master's from the University of North Texas. She has won two TAMI Awards from the Texas Association of Municipal Information Officers and a Water Mark Award from the Texas American Water Works Association.



Action Items

The board approved the following:

- **Approval of an order authorizing the issuance of Unlimited Tax School Building Bonds, Series 2009 Qualified School Construction Bonds (Tax Credit Bonds); appointing a representative of the district and delegating to the representative certain matters with respect to the sale of the bonds; establishing parameters for the approval of such delegated matters; approving the form of a Tax Credit Separation Agreement and Paying Agent/Registrar Agreement; ordering the levy of an annual ad valorem tax for the payment of the bonds; and enacting other provisions relating to the issuance and sale of the bonds** - The Board approved an order to issue the Tax Credit Bonds and appointed Superintendent McCullough as the pricing officer with the power to effect the sale and terms of the bonds.



Discussion Items

- **Personnel Staffing Update** - Assistant Superintendent of Personnel Marilyn Evans presented the annual update from the personnel department. The district is in 100 percent compliance with the No Child Left Behind requirement for highly qualified teachers. The AISD also meets NCLB requirements for staff development opportunities and highly qualified paraprofessionals at Title I campuses. Evans also presented information regarding the district's recruiting efforts. The personnel department has attended job fairs at colleges and universities throughout Texas and surrounding states. They have also contracted with minorityrecruitionline.com and hbcu-careers.net for minority recruiting opportunities. Evans also presented an update on workforce diversity efforts. The numbers of minority employees in both campus administration and teaching have increased from the 2008-2009 school year.

- **School Calendar for 2010-2011** - Assistant Superintendent of Administration Jimmy Walker presented the recommendations of the calendar committee. The committee consisted of 32 members representing parents, students, principals, employee organizations, the community at large and district administrators. The recommended draft calendar has school starting Aug. 23, 2010 and ending June 2, 2011. Winter break would be Dec. 20 – 31, 2010, and spring break would be March 14 – 18, 2011. New to the calendar for 2010-2011 is the addition of a César Chávez holiday on March 28, which would take the place of the May holiday that has been on the calendar in the past.



Open Forum/Non-Agenda Items

- **Polly Walton**, UEA, addressed the Board regarding paperwork reduction. She noted that board policy DLB (Legal) states that the Board shall limit redundant requests for information and the number and length of written reports that classroom teachers are required to prepare. She encouraged the Board to examine the paperwork required of teachers.

- **Dennis Killy** spoke to the Board about the 2009-2010 budget status. He asked the Board to address the status of the current year's operating and maintenance budget in a future meeting.