



Board Highlights

Frisco Independent School District

5515 Ohio Drive • Frisco, Texas 75035

Board Members: John Classe • Bryan Dodson • Renée Ehmke • Debbie Gillespie • John Hoxie • Anne McCausland • Chad Rudy

Regular Board Meeting November 9 – 6:30 p.m., FISD Board Room

Approval of Minutes from October 19 Regular Meeting—*Motion Passed*

WHS student, Ben Hsu led the pledges for the meeting.

Student Recognition for Outstanding Performance

Cross Country

Seventeen cross country student athletes from four high schools who advanced to state competition this past weekend in Round Rock were recognized Monday evening.

The boys cross country team from Wakeland High School made history as the District's first-ever team state champs in boys cross country. The team was led by Cameron King, who finished 12th; Justin King, who finished 16th; Cutter Oglesby who finished 30th; Jacob Hughes, who finished 37th; and Nick Hendrix, who finished 51st. Other team members include Carson Cornett, who placed 63rd and Brady Smith, who placed 120th.

As an individual, Carter Blunt of Independence High School won his third-straight state title with a time of 16:20.46 in the 5K. In the spring, he will attempt to become the first boy in UIL history to win state titles in cross country and the 1,600 and 3,200 in track in three straight seasons. Also competing were Josh Akin of Liberty High School, who raced in at 54th, and teammate Nick Wynne, who placed 104th.

In the girls' division, Liberty's Yuliana Lorenzo and Kendall Rose finished 10th and 13th, respectively, both earning All-State honors. Grace Plain of Independence placed 20th, Alyssa Duhart of Heritage High School, 40th, Sophia Rahimeh of Independence, 47th, Carter Yake of Wakeland, 55th, and Carrie Fish of Liberty, 72nd.

The last time FISD won a team title in cross country was 33 years ago when retired former Superintendent Dr. Rick Reedy was the girls' coach at Frisco High School.

Marching Bands

In addition, student leaders and directors represented marching bands from Wakeland and Centennial high schools for their accomplishments in advancing to the finals in the Texas State Marching Band Contest, placing fifth and ninth, respectively.

Only 31 Class 5A marching bands from across the state qualified to participate in the competition, held November 3 at the Alamodome in San Antonio. After a competitive preliminary round, ten bands were chosen to compete in the finals round.

Previously this season, all eight Frisco ISD high school marching bands earned sweepstakes at the UIL Region 24 Marching Band contest, with all eight ensembles performing at an overall



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Superior quality, the highest level of distinction. Seven of the eight qualified for the UIL Area B marching band contest, with CHS and WHS advancing to state.

The WHS marching band is led by directors Gerry Miller, Adrian Caswell, Ashton Seneca, Jacob Gall, and Matthew Rummel. The CHS marching band is led by directors Andy Rein, Kelly Wykoff, Morgan Sundberg, Chad Wallace and Brian Greenleaf.

National Merit Scholarship Program

Also, thirty Frisco ISD high school seniors were recognized after being named National Merit Semifinalists based on their results on the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®). Ten students who have been named National Hispanic Recognition Scholars were recognized, as well. An additional 101 students were commended for their scores on the PSAT.

All achievements are significant, but Only Semifinalists will advance in the National Merit Scholarship Program competition. Approximately 7,400 National Merit Scholarships worth more than \$32 million will be offered next spring.

To become a Finalist in the competition, the Semifinalist and his or her high school must submit a detailed scholarship application, in which they provide information about the Semifinalist's academic record, participation in school and community activities, demonstrated leadership abilities, employment, and honors and awards received. A Semifinalist must have an outstanding academic record throughout high school, be endorsed and recommended by a high school official, write an essay, and earn SAT® scores that confirm the student's earlier performance on the qualifying test.

In February 2016, Semifinalists will be notified if they have advanced to Finalist standing. All National Merit Scholarship winners will be chosen from this group of Finalists based on their abilities, skills and accomplishments.

Celebration of Learning

Six robotics students from Fowler Middle School then showcased their talents during a Celebration of Learning presentation.

Robotics is an elective course offered to 7th and 8th graders at all FISD middle schools. Robotics is a STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) course that incorporates critical thinking, communication, collaboration and creativity.

Students joined Fowler robotics teacher Caitlin Rutland in discussing a recent class project that allowed them to collaborate to build robots using Lego EV3 Mindstorm. Students then demonstrated how they had programmed their robots to perform a synchronized dance!



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Rezoning Public Hearings

Community members had the opportunity to address trustees regarding the zoning [proposals](#) put forth at the October Board meeting.

Board President Anne McCausland noted that trustees had received every email from parents sent prior to the meeting, as well as received ongoing updates regarding phone calls to District staff.

“The members of this Board are very aware that the figures shown on the proposals represent much more than just numbers – they represent children and their families,” she said. “We know that the parents in attendance tonight to offer public input are not here for yourself but as your child’s advocate.”

She said that trustees continue to ask questions about the proposals and explore viable alternatives and considerations.

“Our job tonight is to listen – listen to you personally and listen to your concerns and suggestions,” she said. “We thank you again for being here and for being advocates for your children. Parent involvement is a key component for our students’ and our District’s success.”

Approximately 10 citizens representing the various zone changes gave public input to The Board of Trustees concerning the zone changes. Additionally, three petitions were presented from the board from the Willow Pond, Aspendale/Cascades and Park Place Estates Communities. Also, Aspendale/Cascades presented two alternative proposals to The Board of Trustees.

A final decision regarding attendance boundaries for the 2016-17 school year is expected at the next regular Board meeting on December 14.

Consent Agenda—*The Board approved the consent agenda.* The consent agenda consists of items that the Board considers routine and approves under one motion. The items approved were: tax office reports; payments to vendors, architects, and contractors; fire suppression contract for food and nutrition building; purchase of school buses and SUVs for 2016-2017 school year; new and newly revised job description/evaluation forms; personnel recommendations; revised shared services arrangement agreement; casting Frisco ISD votes for Central Appraisal District of Collin County Board of Directors; casting Frisco ISD votes for Denton Central Appraisal District Board of Directors—*Motion Passed*

Consider and act on Resolution Concerning Appointment of the Texas Commissioner of Education—Motion Passed

The [resolution](#) urges the Governor to appoint an education commissioner with experience and training in education, who understands the issues facing public education.



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Consider and Act on Elementary Site Contract, Pending—Motion Passed

This is money budgeted and funded from the 2014 Bond Program.

Consider and act on construction manager at risk for HVAC summer projects—*Motion Passed*

The Board approved construction manager at risk for the HVAC summer projects to Lee Lewis Construction.

Consider and Act on 2014-2015 Frisco ISD Financial Audit—Motion Passed

See Presentation in Boardbook

Consider and Act on District Action Plan for 2015-2016 school year.—Motion Passed

The District Action Plan documents continuous improvement efforts of our district. The District Action Plan is developed, reviewed, and revised annually for the purpose of improving the performance of all students. ***See Presentation in Boardbook***

Public Input (Non Zoning Related)

Two citizens spoke about the following topics:

One citizen spoke about the appointment of the Denton County Appraisal District seat, while another spoke to the board about cell phone towers at FISD properties.

Staff Reports

Support Services

Doug Zambiasi updated the Board student transfers. Policy requires FISD to accept student transfer requests for the beginning of second semester, January 19, 2016. We will accept student transfer request January 4 - 15, 2016. Last year Frisco ISD received approximately 40 requests.

Communications and Community Relations

Shana Wortham reminded the Board about the Senior Citizens Luncheon. Frisco ISD is looking forward to the annual luncheon on December 2 at 12:30 p.m. at Staley Middle School. The senior citizens will begin gathering in the library at 12:15 p.m. Staley students will help the seniors to their seats and with their trays and drinks as needed. Staley students will also provide the entertainment. The staff and students are always wonderful hosts.

Student Services

Kenny Chandler provided the following fine arts update:

TEA selects three FISD artists for extended exhibition:

Each year an exhibit of PreK-12th grade artwork from across the state is displayed at the Texas Association of School Administrators and Texas Association of School Boards Fall Conference. FISD had eight artworks in the show from the following students: Hadley Snyder (Bledsoe Elementary), Mason Cope (Corbell Elementary), Dorothy Mantle (Centennial High School), Sloane Moore (Frisco High School.), Anna Kim (Frisco High School), Elizabeth Rips (Rogers Elementary),



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Katie Strand (Wester Middle School) and Shavi Hewage (Lone Star High School). Three of the artworks have been selected by the Texas Education Agency to be display at an extended exhibition:

- Dorothy Mantle, junior at Centennial High, "Trombone Foreshortening"
- Sloane Moore, senior at Frisco High, "Big Top"
- Shavi Hewage, senior at Lone Star High, "Monica"

Students Audition for TMEA Region 24 All-Region Orchestra:

High school students participated in the TMEA Region 24 All-Region Orchestra Auditions on October 17, alongside Carrollton-Farmers Branch, Lewisville and Grapevine-Colleyville ISDs. 114 students from FISD were selected for placement in one of the two All-Region Orchestras. Congratulations to the following students:

- Centennial High School – Pricilla Holt, director: 19 students
- Frisco High School – Julie Daniels, director: 2 student
- Heritage High School – Liz Balkema, director: 9 students
- Independence High School – Lindsey Titus, director: 13 students
- Liberty High School – Julie Blackstock, director: 48 student
- Lone Star High School – Christina Wagner, director: 3 students
- Reedy High School – Aryn Lane, director: 12 students
- Wakeland High School-Liudmilla Duston, director: 8 students

Students audition for TMEA Region 24 All-Region Choir:

More than 600 students auditioned to be a part of one of the All-Region Choirs. FISD schools had an excellent showing with more students making the All-Region Choir than ever before. Many students will move on to the next round of auditions heading toward the highest achievement for a high school vocalist, the Texas All-State Choir. All-Region choirs will perform on November 14, 2015 at Lewisville High School. The free concert begins at 4 p.m.

- Centennial High School - Ben Oehlschlaeger, director: 11 students
- Frisco High School - Tracy Bradstreet, director: 1 student
- Heritage High School - Riley Worthen, director: 2 students
- Independence High School - Rob Draper, director: 2 students
- Liberty High School - Bruce Stevenson, director: 1 student
- Lone Star High School - Glen Miller, director: 2 students
- Reedy High School - Rachel Franklin, director: 7 students



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Region and Area Marching Band Results:

Two of FISD's finest marching bands were recently selected by UIL to compete at the State Marching Contest on November 3, 2015 at the Alamodome, Centennial High School and Wakeland High School. These two programs were chosen for this prestigious honor through a competitive process held every other year across the state of Texas.

Selection for advancement to the state marching contest is a rigorous process that begins at the region level. On October 17, all eight of our high school bands received superior ratings from the UIL judges at the region level contest, held in Carrollton. This allowed all seven of our varsity 5A bands to advance to the area round of competition. The Area B competition originally scheduled for October 24, was rescheduled to Monday, October 26, due to inclement weather and also took place at Standridge Stadium. 26 bands advanced to this round of competition, representing Regions 5, 7, and 24 in a preliminary/finals format contest. Five of our FISD marching bands placed advanced as part of the top ten groups to the finals competition: Centennial, Frisco, Liberty, Lone Star and Wakeland High Schools. Following a rigorous finals competition that evening, two FISD bands were selected among the top five to advance to the state round of competition.

Next Board Meeting: December 14