



# Board Highlights

Frisco Independent School District

6942 Maple Street Frisco, Texas 75034

Board Members: Richard Beaver - Cindy DePaolantonio - Laura Ellison - Rene Ehmke - Dan Mossakowski - Buddy Minnet - Brenda Polk

## Regular Meeting December 12, 2005

### Pledge

The pledges to the flags were led by Chris Johnson, Centennial High School junior. Chris has been on Dr. Reedy's Student Advisory Council since its inception three years ago.

### Recognitions

Jim Walsh and Nona Matthews of Walsh Anderson law firm presented awards regarding their Holiday Card contest. Each year they put the names of all of the districts with whom they do business in a hat and draw out four district names, which is the number of offices they maintain. Each of those four districts are then contacted to submit art for the cards. Each office then displays the card art from those districts – FISD art was displayed in the Irving office. The employees in that office then vote on the best art and the four pieces are sent to the shareholders who vote on the one for the firm's holiday card. Cindy Bai of Centennial High School was the winner and received an award of \$100. Her teacher Tyrone Davis received a \$300 award for the art department.

FHS student Cecile Brunsvig was also recognized for her artwork being selected for this year's FISD holiday card. The exchange student was a junior art student of Nancy Hardy last year, but has returned to her native country.

Eagle Scout Kellen Peters recognized FISD Assistant Superintendent Doug Zambiasi with an Eagle Scout mentor pin. Mr. Zambiasi assisted Kellen last spring on his community service project. The project that that Kellen participated in was collecting new and gently used backpacks from FISD schools. He collected over 300. In addition Kellen collected school supplies and toiletries to place in the backpacks and then donated them to the Samaritan Inn for students in need. Upon completion of this project Kellen was awarded scouting's highest and most prestigious rank of Eagle Scout. He is a 7th grade student at Roach Middle School.

### Action Items

*Consent Agenda* – These items are considered to be routine by the board and were approved under one motion: tax office reports; budget amendments; payments to vendors, architects, and contractors; TEA calendar waiver request (State law says that if you start school before the week that includes August 21 that you must seek a waiver. In order to do this you must post notice of a hearing of your intended start date and seek input on this desire. FISD

would like to begin school on August 14, which is about the same start date used for the past several years. It allows the first semester to end before the winter break and school to end prior to Memorial Day, while also providing balance in the semesters.); 2006-2007 School Calendar (pending approval of waiver); preferred approved vendor list; continuing temporary middle school transportation for Griffin Middle School for second semester, 2005-2006; Smotherman Road improvements.

### Administrative Guidelines for Out of Region Travel

Dr. Daryl Trent, Band Director at FHS, presented a report on recommendations for updating the current guidelines regarding extracurricular travel. Currently the guidelines place a limit of \$250 on the amount of out-of-pocket expense to students/families regarding a trip. For school to be missed, the trip must have an educational purpose, should include a performance opportunity; no more than two school days can be missed. Some booster club members have felt that this is limiting. Dr. Trent spoke with FISD band personnel, principals and band directors in the area. The sentiment in the district is that the limit on school days missed and requirement of an educational purpose/performance component should remain. An increase of individual contribution to \$300 in one year was felt to be acceptable with a maximum of \$600 for every fourth year. A rollover concept of "banking" funds and then having a \$1,500 expenditure in one year was discussed, but did not move forward. In a district with so much mobility and the opening of new schools it was not felt that this could work. It is important in this district as well to not leave students out of opportunities based on financial difficulties. Booster clubs who work to supplement costs will be asked to not solicit funds from local businesses and one fundraiser each semester can be allowed as opposed to the one per year that is now allowed. Additionally, a chaperone to student ratio of 1 to 15 will be required and the principal has discretion to request that an administrator be present on the trip in an advisory role.

### Career and Technology Education Center

The CTE Center is scheduled to open in 2008 on a site off of Wade Boulevard near the CCCC campus. These programs are offered to juniors and seniors and allow them opportunities to explore multiple career choices while still in high school; opportunities to earn college credit while taking high school classes; opportunities to earn certifications which allow students to either go directly into the work force or to earn money to help pay for college. The plan is to at first offer those courses that are the most costly

to duplicate at the high school campuses. These will most likely include: Culinary Arts/Hospitality – kitchen and possibly a café; Agriculture Science – advanced shop classes, horticulture and vet tech classes; Marketing – school store; Trades and Industry – engineering classes and Cisco; Health Science – duplicate clinics; and a centralized location for certification exams for the CTE courses. Exciting partnership possibilities include: CCCC – location, labs, shared usage of facilities; the Convention Center; Centennial Medical Center; and CCCC's Hospitality Training Center scheduled to open in 2007.

### **Construction Issues**

The Final Guaranteed Maximum Price for Taylor and Corbell Elementary exceeds the initial cost estimate by \$667,630 for the two schools collectively. Approximately \$410,000 of the overage is attributed to the acceleration charges for Taylor Elementary School. This fee is attached to a two-month acceleration to get the school finished by July 1; there have been issues out of the school district's control that have slowed the project. If the weather cooperates, these funds will not have to be used to increase crews, etc., and the district would get the money back. The Board approved the FGMP.

### **Technology**

Earlier this year the Board approved Lonestar Underground as the vendor to provide installation of fiber to our new campuses. They have provided a price of \$240,911 to extend our fiber to Corbell, Fowler, Wakeland, Taylor and Bledsoe. This pricing was prepared with the unit pricing that was accepted as part of the initial contract. The Board approved this install.

The district needs for Cisco networking equipment for the 06-07 school year totals \$475,591.90. This includes \$340,568 for campus equipment, \$43,177 for maintenance and software upgrades for existing equipment, and \$91,907 for security equipment to increase the security of our network from both internal and external threats. Staff recommended Avnet as the supplier of the equipment through the state contract with the Department of Information Resources, which was approved by the Board.

Three vendors supplied the lowest prices of the seven CISV vendors that were requested to bid on FISD software needs at the elementary schools for 2006-2007. Learning Services, CCV Software, and School World were each awarded titles based on low bid.

### **Intradistrict Transfers**

A parent appealed the Administrative Denial of their transfer request to the Board. The FHS junior moved to an apartment outside of the FHS zone in March of last year. Based on the parent's understanding of information, they thought they were still within the FHS boundaries. The family was contacted by school personnel in October to let them know that they lived outside of the FHS boundary. The

parent sought a transfer to stay at FHS until their lease is up at the apartment in March. Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services Doug Zambiasi denied the request based on the guidelines of no high school transfers. The Board allowed the temporary transfer if a letter of intent to terminate lease to the apartment complex was given to Mr. Zambiasi's office, along with a letter of intent to purchase a home within the FHS zone.

### **Public Hearing on Proposed Attendance Zones**

Last month, the Administrative staff presented the preferred plans for the zones for the six new schools. The maps have been available to the campuses and on the website – [www.friscoisd.org](http://www.friscoisd.org) - and information was sent home with students. Input has been taken from about 30 parents and was summarized at the Board meeting. Ten parents spoke during the public hearing.

The opening of Sem and Ogle elementaries will affect Ashley and Isbell Elementary School zones. Because the projected enrollment was missed so much at Ashley Elementary School this year, the internal demographer is checking the number of students per household that is being used in these critical projections for the next two years, particularly in the high growth areas. In formulating these proposed zones, the staff must also look to 2007 to see what other schools will be needed at that time and what could be the potential zone so that student stability can be a top consideration. At least one and maybe two additional elementary schools will be needed in the northeast quadrant of the district in 2007.

With the opening of Taylor Elementary, Anderson and Borchardt zones will be affected. It is believed that these proposed zones work well over time and that four elementary schools should serve that area south of 121 well over time, as well.

Corbell Elementary will relieve Boals and Fisher elementary schools. One or two elementary schools will be needed in 2007 in the northwest quadrant of the district, also, to relieve Boals and possibly Pink. At this time, it seems that one of the needed elementary schools in 2007 will be built in Sunset Pointe, but there is also a site north of Grayhawk. Parents in El Dorado Fairway, an area proposed to attend the new Corbell Elementary School, have had concerns regarding transportation. Staff believes that bussing students to Corbell will be the best solution until something changes with FM 423.

In looking at the high school zones, the staff has been studying this issue since the beginning of school.

Last year, the district proposed initial plans to open Wakeland High School with students living in the Griffin Middle School zone (students north of Main Street and basically west of the railroad tracks). Last year it was also determined that another high school is needed on the east side of the district to alleviate crowding at Centennial High School. Liberty High School cannot be completed to open until 2007, so a temporary site is being utilized to house

students in grades 9-10 for one year in the new Liberty zone. The district had initially proposed opening the temporary site with just 9<sup>th</sup> graders, but the enrollment projections accelerated over the summer. They also initially proposed the Liberty zone with students from the Roach Middle School zone and from south of 121.

As updated enrollment projections have been received, some adjustments of neighborhoods have been necessary in formulating proposed zones. In order to provide balance in high school enrollments, provide long-term stability, and align the enrollments in the best way for the opening of the next two high schools, the district is looking at zoning the Rogers Elementary neighborhoods and the Panther Creek area neighborhoods (Creekside, Panther Creek Estates, Dominion at Panther Creek, Latera) to Wakeland beginning with the 9<sup>th</sup> graders in the 2006-2007 school year. This would place the projected enrollment at Wakeland at 750-800 students and would allow it to stay at a 3A size for two years and at the same time help with the long-term projections at Frisco High and the short-term growth at Liberty High. Liberty High School will be able to be a 3A size school for its first two years as well.

It is important to note as well that transfers between high schools will not be allowed due to rapid growth and UIL eligibility considerations.

High school #5 will probably open in 2009 in the northeast quadrant of the district to give relief to Liberty; #6 will probably open in the northwest quadrant of the district to relieve Wakeland and can possibly wait until 2010 with these potential adjustments. In the past FISD has tried to communicate potential high school plans two school years prior to them opening. In the future, the district will probably get updated numbers in August of the year prior to the high school opening and will then go through the zoning process in August, September and October.

Staff is still taking input concerning these proposals. A final decision will be made in January.

### ***Staff Report Highlights***

**Alternative Education Program** – Based on recommendations on our consultant who completed an AEP audit, we will be moving the middle school AEP program to Acker next year. Acker is where the elementary AEP is housed.

### **Sophomore Finals exemptions**

In looking at ways to motivate 10<sup>th</sup> graders to perform well on the TAKS tests, we will be instituting a program by which if a tenth grader passes TAKS, has at least a 70 average in class, no more than three absences and meets the citizenship requirement, that he/she be exempt from finals in the related core class (i.e. English, Science, Math, Social Studies). Sophomores who earn Commended performance on all four core areas could be exempt from all final exams including elective classes.

### **Next Board Meeting – January 9**

**Board Appreciation Reception 5-6 p.m. prior to meeting**