

# ON BOARD

September 15, 2008

BY - T H E - M I N U T E S R E P O R T



*Bus mechanic Ramon Ybarra inspects the newest addition to the CISD Bus Fleet.*

*The CISD Board is continuing to interview candidates for the Superintendent's position.*

## **Six new buses approved for delivery**

The first of six new buses rolled into town after the Board gave approval to a lease purchase agreement with Cypress Bank, Federal Savings Bank Monday night. The new 71-passenger buses, the first District buses to be air conditioned, cost approximately \$85,000 each. If all six arrive, they will be put into service officially to transport athletes, band members, cheerleaders and the Tigerettes to the game Friday in Daingerfield. On Monday, they will begin transporting students in the regular morning routes.

## **CMS principal introduces staff, expects great year**

CMS Principal Wes Underwood welcomed the Board to the campus, introduced staff and highlighted programs that will contribute to the campus goal of becoming rated "Exemplary" during his annual campus report to the Board. A Powerpoint presentation, designed by Art Teacher Debora Lytle, featured key campus activities.

A new course called Teen Leadership will help students recognize their own self-worth, present themselves well in public, construct meaningful decision-making processes and build leadership skills for the future, according to Underwood. Service to the community is also experienced in the class.

Additional courses were offered this year to allow eighth graders to earn high school credit. Joining the previous offerings of Algebra I and Spanish, were Business Computer Information Systems, Communications Applications, Health and Physical Education.

Activity funded by the 21st Century Learning Grant continues this year. The after-school program engages students in hands-on learning activities such as robotics, theater, cooking, sewing, tennis, Tae Kwon Do and GPS (global positioning system). Approximately 60 students are involved Monday through Thursday afternoons.

The positive atmosphere at the school has resulted in a 96 percent attendance rate last spring which has increased to above 98 percent currently.

A core group of CMS students joined the Friends for Rachel Club with the hopes that the group can effect the entire student body with a spirit of kindness and compassion.

Everyone on campus knows the Tiger R's, the Tiger Honor Code. Students and staff "walk the talk" by being Respectful, Responsible, Reasonable and Ready.

Underwood explained that through the use of the CHAMPS model and other positive behavior initiatives, discipline problems continue to decline, allowing students to spend more time in the classroom.

# ON BOARD



*ACW progress:  
“on schedule  
and in budget”*

## **ACW building progress continues, says architect**

Nathan Morgan, lead architect for Claycomb Associates Architects, reported to the Board that the ACW building project remained “on schedule and in budget” Monday night.

“With the recent rains, we learned that the storm drains worked well because there was no water in the crawl space,” Morgan stated. Steel is being erected for the three classroom wings which will fan out like fingers from the main structure. The front drive is being poured this week.

### *In the Consent Agenda...the Board approved...*

- Minutes of the regular meeting on August 18 and the special meetings August 25 and 28 and September 2 and 4;
- Financial statement and investment summary for August and budget amendment;
- Revision to CHS Student Handbook allowing students to receive four free tardies with no consequence. On the fifth tardy, students will serve a Friday Night School detention;
- Adoption of Policy DGBA (Local) revising the complaint process by defining to whom complaints should be addressed. Complaints alleging a violation of law or policy by a supervisor may be made to the Superintendent or designee. Complaints alleging a violation of law or policy by the Superintendent may be made directly to the Board or designee.
- Resolution recognizing Hunt County 4-H as an extracurricular activity; and
- Agreement for adjunct faculty status for Hunt County Extension Agents.

### **• • Informational Reports & Board Member Comments • •**

Enrollment is up 54 students from the first day of school. Count now shows 1620 students enrolled. Administrators hope the upward trend continues.

The Board set its next regular meeting for Monday, October 20 at 7 p.m. at AC Williams Elementary, continuing the annual showcase of campuses.

Board member Donna Tavener said she enjoyed the Rachel's Challenge presentation at CHS last week and complimented students and staff for their appearance and behavior. She thanked CHS Principal Virdie Montgomery for bringing such as positive initiative to the campus.

### **New teacher hired for Prekindergarten**

The Board approved hiring Jeanie Putman as a pre-kindergarten teacher. As school approached, CES Principal Bobbie Thurman began a waiting list for pre-kindergarten. As soon as it reached 15, she requested that a fifth pre-kindergarten class be added.

### **MONDAY BOARD MEETINGS**

OCTOBER 20 . . . . ACW  
NOVEMBER 17 . . . . CES  
DECEMBER 15 . . . . CHS  
JANUARY 26 . . . . CMS  
FEBRUARY 16 . . . . CMS  
MARCH 23 . . . . . CMS  
APRIL 20 . . . . . CMS  
MAY 18 . . . . . CMS  
JUNE 15 . . . . . CMS