

ON BOARD

BY - THE - MINUTES REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2022



Senior Ni named Commended Student in national program

Senior Wenyan Ni (shown above with her mother) has been named a Commended Student in the 2023 National Merit Scholarship Program. She was awarded the National Rural and Small Town Award as well as being recognized for Outstanding Performance on the Preliminary SAT/ National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test in 2021.

BOARD MEETINGS

7:00 · 3315 Washington

Mon 10/17

Thurs 11/17



Enrollment up 68 students

Superintendent Charlie Alderman reported that enrollment was up 68 students from this time last year. CES and CHS showed the most growth with 28 and 24 students, respectively.

Alderman stated that attendance was also up this year which is important because funding is based on Average Daily Attendance (ADA).

Drug testing policy revised to reduce time lost

Director of Human Resources Steve Drummond proposed that the drug testing policy for CMS and CHS students participating in extracurricular activities be modified to reduce the number of students tested from everyone to a smaller random sampling at the beginning of the year. About 20 students would be selected randomly four times a year as a deterrent for drug use, he said. Under the prior program, testing of 300 CHS students could take up to two days which related to lost instructional time. The Board unanimously approved the proposal.

ESSER funds approved for technology upgrades, 200 Chromebooks

Director of Technology Al Shipp explained that additional Chromebooks were required to ensure all students had access. Since students may no longer use their personal devices because of limited District oversight and increased enrollment, an additional 200 Chromebooks are needed at a cost of \$54,000 of federal ESSER funds.

Shipp also presented a plan for a network upgrade to maintain the technology infrastructure. The state now mandates that all STAAR and end-of-course testing be administered online and the upgraded switches, hubs and cabling are needed to carry all the testing data. Erate should fund approximately 80 percent of the upgrades. The Board approved the use of \$100,000 in ESSER funds to complete the upgrades.



Community member speaks out

Dr. Henry Ross, an instructor at Texas A&M University-Commerce, urged CISD Board members to not place a ban on books.

He said parents should direct what their children read and they have the right to dictate which books their students read.

ON BOARD



Starks resigns from Board

Board Vice President Randy Starks resigned from the Board of Trustees at Monday's meeting.

Starks was elected to the Board in 2009 and has been a steadfast proponent for what's best for our students.

Under current law, current trustees must appoint a new member to fill the position and an election will be held in May to elect someone to complete the unfulfilled term of one year.

OTHER ACTION...

The Board approved:

- acceptance of the resignation of Lisa Page, CMS special education teacher;
- employment of Heather Aiken, fifth-grade science teacher and Ashleigh Hoelscher, sixth-grade ELAR teacher;
- security updates to improve CHS exterior door locks and interior door bells at CES with \$69,000 from fund balance;
- using \$81,881 from fund balance for mechanical HVAC repairs and maintenance at CHS, a 23-year-old structure;
- acceptance of a bid of \$8,000 for removal of the current ag barn to make way for construction of the new middle school, Ag project animals will be housed off campus until the new ag building is completed.
- a new 18-member School Health Advisory Committee (SHAC) was approved with at least 51 percent of members parents of students in the District.

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS...

- Superintendent Alderman proposed wording for signs to be placed on each campus about security. After discussion, the Board agreed that the words "CISD staff is trained to protect this campus," was approved and signs will be erected soon.

Inclusion and partnerships stressed by A&M-C representative

The inaugural Vice President for Inclusion Dr. Cephas Archie expressed the university's desire to partner with the city and CISD to build a collaborative foundation or inclusive excellence.

He is working on a memorandum of understanding which will devise a road map for how we can work together to ensure the safety of our students and community.

