

Silsbee ISD Board Briefs e-newsletter is provided as a community service to inform the public of actions during the monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Trustees

James de Garavilla
President

Sam Edd Harrell
Vice President

Janis Holt
Secretary

Dana Hancock
Tom Hardy
Sherrie Taylor
Derrell Ferguson

Public Participation is Welcomed

Citizens who want to speak at a Board meeting are asked to register at least 15 minutes prior to the time when the meeting is scheduled to begin.

For more information, go online at www.silsbeeisd.org and click on the Board of Trustees under About Us menu.

Next Board of Trustees meeting
February 13, 2018
7 p.m. Silsbee ISD Administration Building.

The Silsbee Board of Trustees met at 7 p.m. Thursday, January 18 at the Silsbee ISD Administration Building to address items on the agenda. President James de Garavilla called the meeting to order at 7 p.m., and established a quorum with the following Trustees present: Sam Edd Harrell, Janis Holt, Derrell Ferguson, Dana Hancock and Tom Hardy.

Superintendent's Report

Enrollment update is 2,828 students with 95.28 percent attendance.

Superintendent Richard Bain reported on the required Continuing Education for Board of Trustees, which is required by law. All Trustees have surpassed the requirements.

Superintendent Richard Bain also presented a list of Hardin County Appraisal District Board of Directors to the Trustees.



Recognitions

Paula Boothman earns seat as 2018 ATSSB All-State Band member

Band Director Todd Patterson introduced senior clarinet player Paula Boothman, who qualified for the ATSSB All-State Band. In February, Boothman will perform with the ATSSB All-State Band in San Antonio. She will represent the top ½ percent of clarinet players in the state of Texas and ATSSB. According to Patterson, she is the first person in school history to make the All-State Band twice.

"She is a testimony to the leadership that our students are exhibiting," Band Director Todd Patterson said. "I also want to thank you for all that you do, and back us to showcase our student's talents."

School Board Recognition Month Presentations

SHS Senior and UIL State Basketball Choir Ensemble members Chrystlynn Breaux, Dallas Jessie, Averie Hayes, Morgan Shaw, Daniel Whitaker and Courtney Gore opened up the meeting with singing the National Anthem. Choir is under the direction of Katherine McKeehan.

McKeehan told the board that Silsbee HS Choir Ensemble performed at the state basketball game last year, and UIL has invited them once again for the 2018 state basketball tournament in San Antonio.

Silsbee High School Health Science students Autumn Cooley, Savannah Shoulders, Cheyenne Creel, Naja Garrett and Kirsten Zimmerman performed "check-ups" on all the board members. Heather Wiggins is Health Science Instructor at SHS.

Superintendent Richard Bain began by acknowledging School Board Appreciation Month, recognizing the elected officials. "You can imagine the countless hours they spend outside of their homes," Bain said. "They aren't compensated for this. They do this because of the students. That is their number one priority."

"This is a time that we appreciate them, and thank them for the job they do for this district. On behalf of everyone in this district, I salute you and thank you," he added.



"We truly appreciate this, but whether we get recognized or not, we have a heart for the kids and our community," Silsbee ISD Board of Trustees President James de Garavilla said. "I think the bedrock of many communities is their public schools. We're here to help make sure, as a collection of individuals, to have a strong-heart commitment to this mission and this public institution here in Silsbee."

Silsbee Elementary Principal Terry Deaver, and Edwards-Johnson Memorial Silsbee Middle School Principal Sunee Stephens presented the board members with gifts.

Silsbee High School Student Body President Emily Grice greeted the Board of Trustees with a welcome message to them as a part of School Board Appreciation Month.

"We have seen what you did in the past, and we are a part of what you are doing now, and we will look forward to where you will lead us in the future," she said. "As a leader of our students, I look to each of you as role models. We cannot be successful without the support of each of you."

Grice also presented gifts to each Board of Trustees member.

Silsbee High School instructor Katherine McKeehan presented each Board of Trustees members with caricature drawings of each created by Silsbee High School Art Department students.

Silsbee High School CTE instructor Judy Honeycutt presented each Board of Trustees Members with edible arrangements created by Silsbee High School Culinary Arts Department students.

"I've been in Silsbee for 25 years now," Honeycutt said to the Board of Trustees. "There's never been a moment that they have not supported CTE. You come from a great legacy, and I hope it will continue that way."

Silsbee High School Principal Paul Trevino spoke to the Board of Trustees on behalf of the Math Department, which presented the members with gifts.

Silsbee High School Science Department Chair Alan McKinney presented the Board of Trustees with a 1,000 Year Flood pictorial book that will be signed and displayed in the library, dedicated to this 2017-18 School Board of Trustees.

Silsbee High School English Department Chair Evelyn Elliott introduced sophomore English students Jayden Behling (ECHS/AVID), Sara Page (ECHS/AVID), Rhiannon Rollins (Pre-AP), and Dalton Spears (Pre-AP) and Trey Bourgeois (Pre-AP) to read Spoken Word Poetry pieces created and written by each.

Silsbee High School Robotics Instructor Vic Miller presented students junior John Eason and senior Jaiden Johnson, who are the members of Team Gold, a state qualifying team that will attend the state tournament on February 24.

"The kids learn a lot of valuable tech skills," Miller said. "When you are trying to build sophisticated, multi-function machines to go up against some of the best programs in the world, you learn way more than you ever thought you would."

Miller told the Board of Trustees that the robots run off of Math, Physics and Computer Programming, and the creative application there-of. Robotics season is seven months long, and Miller said these students work diligently during this time-period, at times, seven days a week.

"Everything on this robot, we developed," Jaiden Johnson said. "Nothing here came pre-assembled. We thought through it and we fought through it."

AVID Instructor Michael Nelson presented AVID students Raina Harmon and Amber McKinzy from the Early College High School, to read their motivational essays written by each.

"I want to thank you for allowing us to have AVID," Nelson told the Board of Trustees. "It is an unbelievable program. The kids in here are a testament to this amazing program."

"AVID, my coach, my AVID family and my supportive real family inspired me to be great," Harmon said in her essay. "AVID pushed me to want more, and to be more. That motivation is still with me this year, if not stronger."

"I'm only standing in front of you because of AVID," McKinzy said in her essay. "I was your ordinary C average student. AVID became more than just a class, or an elective. AVID became a family. What I can say as an academically changed student, this program is real and this program works. We are the voices and faces of tomorrow. We hold the future in our hands."



Action Items Approved

- Bills Payable Separate Item
- SISD report on the Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST) rating as Superior for 2017-18 based on the 2015-16 school year data. The report was approved.
- \$500 donation from Exxon Mobil to Laura Reeves Primary School for use in Math and Sciences.
- \$500 donation from Biskamp Electric to the SHS Fishing Team.
- 2018 Order of Election of three Board of Trustees Place 3 Dana Hancock, Place 4 Sam Edd Harrell, and Place 5 James de Garavilla, each for three-year terms.
- Joint Election Agreement between Silsbee ISD and City of Silsbee.
- Superintendent Richard Bain's Annual Performance Evaluation
- Superintendent Richard Bain's contract extension through June 30, 2022 and base salary of \$167,340.

Personnel

PROFESSIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- Gretchen Ponder
- Sondra Harrison

TEMPORARY TEACHERS

- Elaine Warden
- Anita Josh
- Joan Johnson
- Norma Roy
- Ragan Henderson
- Helen Larsh

RETIREES

- Mary Vanmeter
- Brenda Henson

RESIGNATIONS

- Michele Hurst



Silsbee Independent School District is an equal opportunity employer. The Board of Trustees and its agents, officers and staff members shall not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, disabling condition, age, color, religion, national origin, military status, or any other legally protected status in making decisions regarding staff members or students.