

Waco Independent School District
Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda Item

Date: September 29, 2022

Contact Person: Alice Jauregui

RE: Special Recognitions

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Background Information:

Pledge Leaders

Each month, one campus selects two students to lead the Pledge of Allegiance at the regular business meeting of the Waco ISD Board of Trustees. For the month of September, Jesus De La Fuente and Steve Owens from Indian Spring/Carver were selected for this honor.

Advanced Placement Scholars

Students receive the designation of Advanced Placement (AP) Scholar through hard work and high academic achievement in AP courses and exams. There are three designations: AP Scholar, AP Scholar with Honors, and AP Scholar with Distinction. AP Exams are scored on a one to five scale, and scores of three or better earn the student college credit for the course at most universities across the United States.

The award of AP Scholar is awarded to students who receive scores of three or higher on three or more AP exams. Waco ISD has a total of 32 students who have earned one or more of these awards.

AP Scholars for University High School (UHS) and Waco High School (WHS) are as follows:

Miriam Hinojosa, UHS senior
Andres Luevano, UHS junior
Karen Salazar, UHS senior
Jennifer Zuniga, UHS graduate
Cheryl Fast, WHS 2022 graduate
Noah Monreal, WHS 2022 graduate
Hudson Rice, WHS senior
Kohen Scott, WHS junior
Elisha Sriram, WHS 2022 graduate

Layla Lopez, UHS 2022 graduate
German Ruiz, UHS senior
Elizabeth Sanchez, UHS 2022 graduate
Samuel Everett, WHS junior
Noah Garner, WHS 2022 graduate
Viviana Ramirez, WHS 2022 graduate
Danielle Sanders, WHS senior
Elanah Sriram, WHS senior
Noah Sutton, WHS 2022 graduate

AP Scholar with honor is awarded to students who receive an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP exams taken, and scores of three or higher on four or more of these exams.

James Burnias, WHS senior
Alicia Ramirez, WHS 2022 graduate

Libby Hack, WHS senior
Daniel Swenke, WHS 2022 graduate

AP Scholar with Distinction is awarded to students who receive an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP exams taken, and scores of three or higher on five or more of these exams.

Marisella Suarez, UHS 2022 graduate
Calla Carlson, WHS 2022 graduate
Lily Coffman, WHS 2022 graduate
Zander Lim, WHS 2022 graduate
Tahlia Tran, WHS 2022 graduate

Bailee Barton, WHS 2022 graduate
Kayla Cho, WHS senior
Helen Goodman, WHS senior
Sarah Schlappe, WHS senior
Abigail Zimmerman, WHS 2022 graduate

College Board National African American and Hispanic Recognition Awards

In August 2022, the College Board is awarding 62,000 students from across the country with academic honors from College Board National Recognition Programs for excelling in their classrooms and on College Board assessments. More than 180,000 students from all 50 states were eligible to apply for the College Board National Recognition Programs, which grant students with academic honors. Colleges and scholarship programs identify students awarded National African American, Hispanic, Indigenous and/or Rural/Small Town Recognition through College Board's Student Search Service.

Three Waco ISD students are being recognized for the National African American Recognition Award (NAARA) and seven students are recipients of the National Hispanic Recognition Award (NHRA). Seven of the 10 students are also Superintendent Scholars.

The University High School recipients are as follows:

NAARA- Archie Hatten

NHRA- Karla Suarez and Vania Gonzalez

The Waco High School award recipients are:

NAARA- Deborah Hammond and Tionni Sheppard

NHRA- Brandon Vega, James Burnias, Julio Ortega, Piper Woodward, and William Barbee

Texas Art Education Association District of Distinction

Waco ISD has successfully submitted all required materials with fidelity and will be named a Texas Art Education Association (TAEA) District of Distinction. Over 1,200 districts were eligible to apply for this Texas Art Education Association Visual Arts Award and just 59 districts will receive this outstanding honor for the 2021-2022 academic year. This distinction places the Waco ISD Visual Art programming in the top 5% in Texas. The district is one of only 16 school districts to receive this honor for four consecutive years, each year that the distinction has been available.

Community Partner Award

Each month, Waco ISD recognizes a community partner making a difference for students with the Waco ISD Award for Outstanding Community Partners. The recognition celebrates the theme for the 2022-2023 school year “Lead from the Heart” and acknowledges the impact that our community partners make in the lives of our students and staff.

In September, the district is recognizing AbbVie. AbbVie is a biopharmaceutical company with the culture of a biotech. They embrace the responsibility of making a remarkable impact on people's lives. AbbVie is driven by their compassion for people, commitment to innovation and inclusion, service to the community, and uncompromising integrity at the heart of everything we do.

As part of their service to the community, AbbVie recently gifted 150 school supply boxes to Waco ISD first-year teachers at the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year. They also donated additional supplies for students.

Fiscal Implications:

None

Administration Recommendations:

For discussion only