



# BOARD REPORT

## *BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING* October 7, 2019

The Brownwood ISD (BISD) Board of Trustees met for a regular session meeting on Monday, October 7, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. The session was called to order by Board President, Michael Cloy. Father Francis Njoku from St. Mary's Catholic Church, gave the invocation. Northwest Elementary students, Caroline Griffin, Brinlee Northcutt, and McClayne Murray led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **INSTRUCTIONAL FOCUS**

Brownwood ISD Deputy Superintendent, Liesa Land presented the Instructional Focus update. Land provided information regarding the DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) assessment for K-6<sup>th</sup> grade. The beginning-of-year results showed most students falling into tier one, the appropriate range for their grade-level. Intervention specialists, tutors, and teacher-leaders are prepared on each campus to help any students that fall into tier two or three, where results show additional instruction might be needed. The DIBELS assessment system continues to provide helpful information for teachers as they focus on effective data-driven instruction.

### **RECOGNITIONS**

The following groups and individuals were recognized by BISD and were presented with certificates highlighting their achievements.



#### **BISD Spotlight Teachers and Staff:**

The Brownwood ISD Spotlight recognizes members of the BISD faculty and staff who go the extra mile to ensure excellence in education for all our students. Spotlight recipients are chosen from peer nominations. October 2019 honorees were Brownwood High School (BHS) Science Teacher and Coach, Derrick Stacks and East Elementary Teacher's Aide, Laura Lopez. Pictured (top) are BISD Trustee, Codie Smith, Spotlight honoree, Derrick Stacks, and BHS Principal, Mitch Moore. Pictured (bottom) are BISD Trustee, Codie Smith, Spotlight honoree, Laura Lopez, and East Elementary Principal, Dee Dee Wright.

### **Brownwood Rotary Club**

Brownwood Rotary Club was recognized for their annual contributions to area students including scholarships to seniors, sponsoring students to RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Award) Sr. Leadership Camp, and for providing dictionaries to every third-grade student in the county for the last 11 years. East Elementary third-grade students Jackson Clark, Cameron Duncan, Christopher Evans, Jaxon Mouser, Aiden Wells, and Ella Krischke wrote thank-you notes and presented them to Brownwood Rotary Secretary, Dr. Jack Marx and Treasurer, Mike Blagg. Pictured below are BISD Trustee, Dr. Lisa Fowler along with Dr. Jack Marx, Mike Blagg, and the East Elementary third-grade students.



### **Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students) Program**

Representatives for the Watch D.O.G.S. program on each elementary campus were recognized for participating in this initiative which provides positive male role models to enhance school security and reduce bullying. Pictured are BISD Trustee, Diane Thompson along with Woodland Heights Elementary Principal, Jeanette Lancaster, Watch D.O.G.S. representatives, John Barnum and Daniel Wells, and East Elementary Principal, Dee Dee Wright.



## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

BISD Superintendent, Dr. Joe Young provided a budget report and welcomed Ms. Jane Penn who was recently selected to serve as the Interim Special Populations Director for BISD. Dr. Young noted that Ms. Penn brings with her over 20 years of experience as a Special Education Director and her knowledge in the field will be an asset for training and growing the department as it continues to provide the appropriate services for students.

## **DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS**

### **CONSIDER APPROVAL OF TARGETED IMPROVEMENT PLANS**

Due to East Elementary being an improvement-required comprehensive re-identified campus and Northwest Elementary being an improvement required comprehensive progress campus, campus leadership teams were developed and each wrote targeted improvement plans to show gaps, root causes, goals, strategies and activities. Trustee Codie Smith motioned that the targeted improvement plans be approved as presented, and Trustee Diane Thompson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

**Nursing Report:** The report contained current information regarding the number of student visits to the nurse, medication administered, special procedures and the percentage of students returned to class on each campus. BISD Director of Nurses, Helen Lacy, provided updates regarding the implementation of new bleeding control stations and kits, new eye screening capabilities, and upcoming staff and student trainings.

**Student Health Advisory Council (SHAC):** Meeting dates for SHAC were provided along with updated areas of discussion including community services, nutrition, school safety, and membership. As required, a yearly review of the wellness policy was completed and passed through the committee.

**English as a Second Language (ESL) Program:** Dr. Young provided an ESL program overview. The program provides appropriate planned instruction to identified students that are linguistically and culturally diverse. BISD currently has ESL students that speak Spanish, Albanian, Vietnamese, Cambodian, Nepali, Tagalog, Filipino, Bengali, Chinese (2 regions) and English. BISD now employs a total of 48 ESL certified teachers. Director of Special Programs, Heidi Gardner, noted the purchase of fifty-three licenses for an award-winning language and literacy software program called Imagine Learning. The software features interactive content, including activities, videos, songs, and games to engage students one-on-one.

**Mental Health Progress Report:** Dr. Young introduced Mental Health Specialist, Danielle Howard to provide an update regarding the district's mental health initiative. Ms. Howard noted the completed trainings in Behavioral RTI (Response to Intervention) and Trauma-Informed Care as well as the upcoming trainings scheduled for staff. A referral process for each campus has been identified and a tiered system has been developed to evaluate progress. In addition, Ms. Howard has written and submitted a grant to the Chan Zuckerberg foundation, requesting \$620,700 over the course of 2 years.

**Quarterly Investment Report:** A Quarterly Investment Summary and Tax Assessor-Collector's Report for August 2019 were provided to the board for review.

**House Bill 3 Update:** Dr. Young highlighted a few of the changes that House Bill 3 has made to how school districts are funded, specifically noting a large increase in the number of categories students may now fall into. The new categories create a much more complex calculation when determining district funding. Dr. Young indicated that, currently, the change has increased funding by around \$12,000 compared to what was budgeted, but the district will be keeping a close eye on the data due to the potential impact it may have on future funding.

### **ANNOUNCE BOARD MEMBER CONTINUING EDUCATION HOURS**

Board President, Michael Cloy reported that all BISD Board of Trustees members exceeded the yearly required continuing education hours for 2019.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

The following items were listed for consideration on the Consent Agenda.

1. SHAC Appointments for 2019-2020
2. Approval of budgeted purchases over \$50,000
3. Appointment of members to Brown County Appraisal District Board of Directors
4. Fundraisers
5. Minutes of September 9, 2019 Board Meeting

Trustee Diane Thompson moved that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented, with Trustee Dr. Lisa Fowler seconding the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

No executive session was held during the meeting.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The following announcements were made for upcoming events:

- Pink-Out game vs. Gatesville - October 11, 2019
- Site-Based Decision Making Committee meeting - October 17, 2019, 4:00 p.m.
- 4th Annual Lions Pride Gala - October 19, 2019
- Region 15 Superintendent Conference - October 21-23, 2019
- Next regular meeting - November 11, 2019

*The meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.*