

Minutes of Regular Meeting

The Board of Trustees Brownwood Independent School District

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Brownwood Independent School District was held Monday, December 13, 2021 beginning at 6:30 PM at the Central Administration Office located at 2707 Southside Drive. The meeting was called to order by Board President, Michael Cloy. Pastor Ernest Kirk from Mt. Zion Baptist Church gave the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by East Elementary students Sawyer Fields, Emery Anderson, Grace Diaz, and Haven Carrasco.

PRESENT:

Mr. Michael Cloy, President
Mr. Roderick Jones, Sr., Vice President
Mrs. Diane Thompson, Secretary
Mr. Codie Smith, Member
Mr. Tim Jacobs, Member
Mr. Eric Evans, Member
Mrs. Amary Doremus, Member

OTHERS PRESENT:

Dr. Joe Young, Superintendent
Mrs. Liesa Land, Deputy Superintendent
Mr. Mitch Moore, Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Charlie Musgrove, Director of Community Relations
Mrs. Karen Dempsey, Exec. Asst. to the Superintendent

Others Present:

BISD Staff: Lindsay Smith, Jeanette Lancaster, Stacy Loftin, Kassie Russell, Andy Gill, Dee Dee Wright, Christi Burks, Sandra Richardson, and numerous BISD teachers, staff, students, and parents.

BISD Deputy Superintendent, Liesa Land, provided an update regarding Texas Reading Academy requirements which began in 2019 with the 86th Legislature and House Bill 3. After being delayed a year by COVID, the updated requirement states all kindergarten through third-grade teachers and principals must attend a "teacher literacy achievement academy" by the end of the 2022 - 2023 school year. Land noted that BISD has an in-house trainer, which has helped the process by eliminating the need to send staff elsewhere for training. BISD Director of Elementary Curriculum, Jenny Swanzy, leads the district's Reading Academy training. Land added that the program is very time consuming and Swanzy has done a fantastic job. In January 2021, the first group of 19 BISD staff completed the academy. The state-required 11-month course includes the following 12 modules: Introduction/Overview, Science of Teaching Reading, Establishing a Literacy Community, Using Data to Inform Instruction, Tiered Levels of Support, Oral Language and Vocabulary, Pre-Reading Skills, Decoding/Encoding & Word Study, Reading Fluency, Reading Comprehension, Written Composition, and Putting It All Together. Locally, the Reading Academy has been expanded through fifth grade and the second group is set to begin January 10, 2022, with 80 BISD staff members.

BISD recognized the following groups and individuals and presented them 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. December 2021 honorees were Coggin Intermediate School ELAR teacher Melissa Martin and Woodland Heights Elementary Life Academics aide Kacy Cotton.
- **BISD Holiday Card Design Winners:** East Elementary third-grade student Aliviah Lavon Rice and BHS senior Erika Martinez, were recognized for their holiday card contest designs. Their artwork was

selected as the winning entries (one elementary and one secondary) to be featured on 2021 Brownwood ISD Holiday Greeting Cards.

- **BHS Lady Lions Volleyball Team:** The BHS Volleyball team was recognized for their season accomplishments as Bi-District Winners and Area Qualifiers as well as many individual honors. In attendance to accept their certificates were Olivia Fowler, Kassidy Wooten, and Kylie Wooten, along with Head Coach Allison Smith.
- **BMS Teachers – Strengthening Academic Achievement:** Four Brownwood Middle School (BMS) teachers were recognized for exemplary service in strengthening student academic achievement in their areas of instruction. They were Amber Villalpando, Teresa Brandstetter, Glenda Uecker, and Ashley Gomez.
- **BISD Staff – Completion of Texas Reading Academy:** Nineteen BISD Staff have completed the 11-month Texas Reading Academy training: Bucky Bates, Jeanette Lancaster, Allison Northcutt, Kristi Owen, Dee Dee Wright, Christi Burks, Kelsie Eldred, Mary Murray, Kali McLaughlin, Sara Bernal, Rebecca Mouser, Erin Pennington, Regan Williams, Staci Cadena, Stephanie Morton, Brec Espinoza, Kisha Hope, Jennifer Mares, and Lauren Mays.

Dr. Young gave the Superintendent's Report and provided information on the following topics:

- Project Neighborhood task force meetings are continuing along with community engagement to identify logistical issues and work through specific areas of concern as the plan that aligns early education through fifth grade into neighborhood schools takes shape. Mapping software has recently been completed that will allow analysis of attendance boundary changes with projections of how any changes would affect BISD schools moving forward. BHS Theatre's production of Mary Poppins completed its run, and with several Christmas programs also slated for the week, Dr. Young touted the excellence of Fine Arts programs throughout the district.
- Budget reports
- Elementary and middle school recently competed in UIL Academics. Results have been released and will be published soon. Dr. Young noted that the students represented BISD very well.
- The Site-Based Decision-Making Committee will review calendar options for the next school year at a meeting on December 16. Next year the calendar will go back to a requirement of 180 school days instead of the current 75,600 minutes. This change is due to the addition of a new summer enrichment program set to begin in 2023.

FIRST REPORT PUBLIC HEARING

The state's school financial accountability rating system, known as the Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST), ensures that Texas public schools are held accountable for the quality of their financial management practices. The board moved into the public hearing on the First Report at 7:07 p.m.

Mitch Moore, BISD Assistant Superintendent of Business and Finance, reported that BISD received a Meets Standard Achievement Rating on the 2020-2021 First Report. This rating is based on school year 2019-2020 data. The district score was 79 out of a possible 100.

With no additional public comments or discussion, the meeting returned to regular session at 7:10 p.m.

The following Departmental Reports were presented:

Career and Technical Education (CTE) Report: BISD's Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs continue to expand in the number of programs and certifications offered and in the number of students in the classes. Currently, there are 853 students enrolled in the CTE courses at BHS. Some advanced CTE courses offered include Graphic Design 2, Audio Video Production 2, Business Information Management, and Pathophysiology. During the 2020-2021 school year, six BHS students achieved their FAA Commercial Remote Pilot's license through a new drone certification program. This school year there are seventeen students that are eligible for examination and certification. This program is a partnership with Ranger College and the Brownwood MDD. The BHS CTE program also encourages and supports participation in Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSO's) in all program areas such as FFA, SkillsUSA, HOSA, TAFE, and FCCLA. Students in these organizations at BHS continue to win awards at competitions and show the strength of the BHS CTE program. To showcase student's success to local industries and the community, the Brownwood Industry Trade Show (BITS) is scheduled to be held in February 2022.

Facilities Report: A report was provided listing the facility projects and upgrades initiated and completed by the BISD Maintenance Department. The list included a wide range of work, from the installation of commercial handwashing stations and new plumbing for the greenhouse at BHS to painting and gym improvement projects throughout the district. The report detailed work completed at all BISD campuses including Gordon Wood Stadium and Central Support Center.

BISD has been approached by several citizens requesting improvements be made to select facilities in our district. After approval was granted at last month's Board meeting, a local community group is working with the district and Claycomb Associates to provide professional services including master planning, site analysis, facility condition study, and cost estimates for areas and facilities that may need improvement. Claycomb Associates provides these services at no cost to the community. A presentation was made indicating areas identified at Gordon Wood Stadium, the baseball and softball fields, and other athletic facilities at BHS that are in need of improvement to meet accessibility and UIL standards.

A first reading of TASB-initiated Policy Update 118 was conducted. This update included TASB localized policy manual updates and revisions. Noted changes included a requirement that school counselors work on counseling duties for 80% of their time, accelerated learning committees replacing the Student Success Initiative (SSI), additions to excused absences, and other verbiage changes. The update was presented as a first reading only, with no action on the item scheduled until January.

Next, the board considered accepting the resignation of board member Tim Jacobs (Place 7). After 12 years of service, Mr. Jacobs is stepping down from BISD's Board of Trustees for position 7. Trustee Jacobs has served on the Board since July of 2009. Board members and BISD administrators expressed their thanks to Trustee Jacobs for his many years of service and let him know that he will be missed. Trustee Eric Evans made a motion to approve the resignation of Mr. Tim Jacobs from the BISD Board of Trustees effective December 31, 2021. Trustee Codie Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The items on the consent agenda included the following:

- Minutes from November 8, 2021 Board Meeting

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

The board moved into executive session at 7:41 p.m. to discuss personnel matters and the Superintendent Evaluation review. They returned to open session at 9:27 p.m. No additional action was taken.

The meeting adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

Michael Cloy
President

Diane Thompson
Secretary