

**WICHITA FALLS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
WFISD ADMINISTRATION BUILDING – BOARD ROOM  
REGULAR SESSION MEETING DECEMBER 16, 2024**

***CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING STATEMENT:***

The Board of Trustees of the Wichita Falls Independent School District met in a work session meeting on the above date. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mr. Mark Lukert, board president.

Board members present: Mr. Mark Lukert, Ms. Katherine McGregor, Mr. Jim Johnson, Ms. Sandy Camp, Ms. Diann Scroggins and Mr. John Barnard. Mr. Lukert noted that a quorum was present and the meeting had been duly called and notice of the meeting had been posted for the time and manner required by law.

Staff members present: Dr. Donny Lee, Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Dayna Hardaway, Executive Director of Human Resources, Ms. Leah Horton, Chief Financial Officer, Ms. Vanessa Dishman, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, Ms. Keli Sims, Administrative Assistant, HR, Ms. Ashley Thomas, Communications Officer, Mr. Scot Hafley, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, Ms. Debbie Dipprey, Executive Director of School Administration, Ms. Alefia Paris-Toulon, Executive Director of Special Programs, Mr. John Strenski, Emergency Management Coordinator, Ms. Tabitha Eastman, Director of Social & Emotional Learning, Ms. Synquis Lewis, Booker T Washington Elementary Principal, Mr. Grant Freeman, Director of Athletics, Chief Anthony Smith, WFISD Police Chief, Mr. Larry Menefee, Director of Student Services, SGM Salvador Montez, Memorial ROTC, Mr. Lawrence Johnson, Legacy Athletic Coordinator and Head Football Coach, Ms. Kelli Barnett, Memorial Volleyball Coach, Ms. Stephanie Dorsey, Legacy Volleyball Coach, Ms. Jennifer Parker, Barwise Teacher, Ms. Liana Plummer, Booker T Washington Teacher, Ms. Stacey Wood, Director of Nursing and Ms. Daphne Tucker, Nurse Manager.

Also present: Mr. Joel Jimenez, DAV, Mr. Mike Battaglini, Wichita Falls City Council Member & DAV, Mr. Steve Wood, Bundy, Young, Simms & Potter and media

***PRESENTATION OF COLORS:***

Memorial High School JROTC

***INVOCATION:***

Ms. Sandy Camp gave the invocation.

***PRESENTATIONS:***

**PRESENTATION OF FLAGS**

Representatives from the local Disabled American Veteran Chapter 41 presented the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees with two American flags in honor of American Veterans. These flags are to be hung in the Legacy and Memorial high school gyms.

**LEGACY HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC ALL-STATE FOOTBALL**

The Academic All-State Teams recognize senior high school athletes, trainers and managers who excel in the following categories: GPA, class rank and ACT/SAT score. The students below are being recognized as a team member based on their scores in these categories. We applaud them for their commitment and dedication to perform with the highest of excellence academically and on the field.

Jimmell McFalls  
Brady Parker

Coach: Lawrence Johnson

**LEGACY HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC ALL-STATE VOLLEYBALL**

The following student athletes from Legacy High School received Texas High School Coaches Association (THSCA) and Texas Girls Coaches Association (TGCA) Academic All-State honors for volleyball:

Lauren Carter - 2nd Team (THSCA)  
Kenedee Pennington - Honorable Mention (THSCA)

Coach: Stephanie Dorsey

## **MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC ALL-STATE VOLLEYBALL**

The following student athletes from Memorial High School received Texas High School Coaches Association (THSCA) Academic All-State honors for volleyball:

Emily Blake  
Madison Bobbitt  
Ashley Hughes  
Regan Post

Coach: Kelli Barnett

## **BOOKER T WASHINGTON STAFF & NURSE RECOGNITION**

Two Booker T. Washington staff members and a WFISD nursing supervisor for their heroic actions and quick thinking that helped save a student's life last month.

On November 11, as Ms. Plummer's class prepared to transition to their next lesson, a student briefly mentioned to her that they weren't feeling well. When asked what was wrong, the child simply responded, "my heart." Ms. Plummer immediately noticed the student's pale appearance and recognized the seriousness of the situation. Without hesitation, she seated the child and activated the classroom emergency button to summon help.

Booker T. Washington principal, Synquis Lewis, received the emergency call and rushed to the second-floor classroom. Upon arrival, she found the student conscious but unwell and began escorting the child to the nurse's office. While walking, Ms. Lewis noticed the student leaning heavily into her, when the child suddenly lost consciousness. Acting swiftly, Ms. Lewis carried the student to the stairwell, where she met the nurse, Daphne Tucker.

Nurse Tucker, a district nursing supervisor who was covering the campus clinic that day, immediately began assessing the student. When it became clear that the child's vitals were rapidly declining, she utilized the AED and initiated CPR. Her expert care revived the student, who regained consciousness before EMS arrived to transport them to the hospital.

It is important to note that Nurse Tucker, who was not the regular nurse at Booker T. Washington Elementary, had no prior medical history for this student. Despite this, the seamless teamwork between Ms. Plummer, Ms. Lewis, and Nurse Tucker proved critical. Medical professionals later determined that the student suffered from a rare condition that caused a sudden cardiac arrest. Without their swift intervention, the outcome could have been far worse.

WFISD recognizes Ms. Plummer, Ms. Lewis, and Nurse Tucker for their exceptional dedication, courage, and professionalism. Their actions exemplify the very best of our school community, and their heroic efforts ensured the safety and well-being of a student in crisis.

### ***PUBLIC COMMENT:***

None

### ***REPORTS OR SPECIAL DISCUSSION ITEMS:***

#### **WFISD POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE**

Chief Smith gave an in-depth update regarding how the WFISD Police Department is insuring the safety and wellbeing of students and staff by; Intruder Detection Audits, District Vulnerability Assessment (TEA Audit), Emergency Operations Plan, Staff Training, WFISD Police Officers on Campuses, Safety & Security, Community Policing and the Safety & Security Committee. House Bill 3 had mandates that were unfunded from the state of Texas:

- Intruder detection audits
- Active shooter response training
- Armed Officer requirement
- Possible Failure Consequences = Assignment of Conservator for the District Due to Noncompliance with Safety & Security req.
- Building Standards
- District Property: Access to first responders -Emergency Response Map and Walk-through
- Facilities Standards Review
- Facilities: Safety and Security Requirements for
- Multi-hazard Emergency Operations Plans (numerous)

- School Safety Meetings
- Threat Assessment Teams: Behavior Reporting Procedure

The aforementioned was accomplished by assistance from; WFISD Board of Trustees, District Leadership. WFISD partners, all staff members and \$2,062,000 in grants all unfunded mandates were completed with no cost to the district.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

Dr. Donny Lee, Superintendent of Schools, gave his monthly update:

- Enrollment: 12,598; ADA 94.09%
- Classroom Visits: Board members welcome
  - Sheppard
  - Milam
  - Burgess
  - Cunningham
  - Scotland Park
  - Barwise
- 89<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session
  - January 14<sup>th</sup>-June 2<sup>nd</sup>
    - Bettencourt's Sensible 4:
      - SB568 Dramatically improve SpEd in Texas and start a service intensity-based formula for SPED funding
      - SB569 Enable school districts to offer virtual and more options to family & student demand for approaches that fit learners' unique needs
      - SB570 Empower schools to address truancy issues civilly again
      - SB571 Expand the safety mechanisms in place through the Do-Not-Hire registry to include contractors who would be physically present at an instructional facility.
- Reviewed WFISD Strategic Balanced Score Card 2024-2028
- Middle School STAAR results reviewed
  - Results reflect a need for High-Quality Instructional Materials (HQIM) at the Middle School level
  - Explanation of TEA allotment for materials and the process at the Local level
- Bluebonnet Learning More In-Depth Overview
- Texas Partnerships (SB 1882) as it relates to Booker T Washington
  - 1882 partnerships around the state
  - What it would mean for a campus; partnership with charter school operating under WFISD
    - No decisions to be made by WFISD
  - Third Future: possible charter to partnership and results of other districts that have partnered with them
  - Next Steps
    - Zoom Meeting with Third Future 12/17
    - Eastside Community Meeting(s)
    - TALA Cohort & Campus visit(s)
- MSU Residency Program
  - Planning stages
    - Attract & keep teacher once they graduate
- Playgrounds
  - Sheppard completed
  - All others planned on being completed by end of January
- McNiel Elementary
  - Coming up
- Team of 8 Photo on 1/7

## **CONSENT AGENDA:**

### **Minutes from November Meetings**

Ms. Katherine McGregor, seconded by Mr. Jim Johnson, motioned that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees approve the above items placed on the Consent Agenda at the December 10, 2024 meeting.

Carried unanimously by a vote of 6 – 0

***FINANCIAL SERVICES:***

**PURCHASE OF RIDER MIDDLE SCHOOL REFRESH CONTRACTOR**

Ms. Sandy Camp, seconded by Ms. Diann Scroggins, motioned that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees award construction services for the Rider Middle School Refresh to Gary Baker Construction in the amount of \$2,375,901.00 as submitted by Leah Horton, Chief Financial Officer, and as recommended by Dr. Donny Lee, Superintendent of Schools.

Carried unanimously by a vote of 6 – 0

***SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION:***

***TEXAS CHILD HEALTH ACCESS THROUGH TELEMEDICINE (TCHAT) PRESENTATION***

Ms. Tabitha Eastman, Director of Social & Emotional Learning, presented information regarding the TCHAT program and requested approval of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between WFISD and Texas Tech University Health Services Center to facilitate the operation of the program. TCHAT provides telemedicine or telehealth programs to districts to help identify & assess the behavioral health needs of children & adolescents and provide access to Mental Health Services.

Mr. Jim Johnson, seconded by Mr. John Barnard, moved the Wichita Falls Independent Schools District Board of Trustees approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between WFISD and Texas Tech University Health Services Center to facilitate the operation of the Texas Child Health Access Through Telemedicine Program submitted by Tabitha Eastman, Director of Social & Emotional Learning, and as recommended by Dr. Donny Lee, Superintendent of Schools

Carried unanimously by a vote of 6 – 0

***DISTRICT OPERATIONS:***

***CLOSURE AND CONSOLIDATION OF CAMPUS***

Mr. Jim Johnson, seconded by Ms. Diann Scroggins, moved that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees approve the closure of McNiel Middle school and opening of Rider Middle School per policy CT local as submitted by Scot Hafley, Assistant Superintendent, and as recommended by Dr. Donny Lee, Superintendent of Schools.

Carried unanimously by a vote of 6 – 0

***FDB LOCAL DISCUSSION AND REVIEW***

Mr. Scot Hafley presented more information regarding the transfer policy as requested by the Board of Trustees at the December 10, 2024 meeting.

***HUMAN RESOURCES:***

**TEACHER APPLICANT POOL**

Ms Sandy Camp, seconded by Ms Diann Scroggins, moved that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees approve the proposed applicant pool as submitted by Dayna Hardaway, Executive Director of Human Resources, and as recommended by Dr. Donny Lee, Superintendent of Schools.

Carried unanimously by a vote of 6 – 0

**RECESS:**

Mr. Mark Lukert, board president, recessed to go into closed session at 8:08pm.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

1. Personnel Matters Including the Appointment, Evaluation, Reassignment, Duties, Discipline, Dismissal and/or Compensation of Individual District Employees (Pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.074)

2. Consultation with the District's Attorney concerning student transfers (Pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.071)

**ADJOURNMENT:**

With no other action to take, Mr. Mark Lukert, board president, adjourned the meeting from Closed Session at 9:00 pm.

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President, Board of Trustees

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Secretary, Board of Trustees