

# CRISTOVAL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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*The School of Choice*

## Board Report for July 14, 2015

### Summer Activities

- Posting and interviewing candidates for employment
  - All custodial positions have been filled. July will be the last full month of using the outside cleaning firm fulltime. To supplement being understaffed, tentatively, the cleaning firm will be used during holiday breaks when and some during the summer to assist with summer cleaning. This will aid in the upkeep and appearance of facilities.
  - Mrs. Cindy Jackson has brought a wealth of knowledge and experience to our district. She is transitioning well into her new position at the central office. She has a PEIMS training that she will attend later in the summer. Mrs. Hoffman said that she is always a telephone call away to help trouble shoot any problem that we may have.
  - All teaching vacancies to this point except one are proposed to be filled at the July 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. Overall, there is a noticeably smaller pool of teacher applicants now compared to previous years in almost every field.
- Budgeting
  - We have been in the process of collecting information to project revenue and expenses in the budget. Pam West from Region 15 came onsite to assist in this process.

- At this point, projected property values are still not certified. In addition, the proposed amendment to raise the state mandated homestead exemption will reduce that amount in property taxes collected. Lastly, it appears that there is a caveat in the law created by the 84<sup>th</sup> Legislature that put drastic stipulations on the Local Optional Homestead Exemption. All of this will be covered in future budget workshops.
- Capital Improvement Projects and Future Proposed Projects
  - All in all, the track renovation project is progressing well. Asphaltting may start as early as July 21.
  - It is apparent why we have had so much difficulty with the grass sod on our game field. From the open trenches along the track, one can see how there is very little topsoil. Most grasses that are good for game fields require deeper soil and not primarily clay. In addition, underneath the soil are caliche, limestone strata and solid rock formations at very shallow depths. This has a great effect on how the water drains through and stays underneath the surface of the sod.
  - Mr. Campbell and I have been collecting information and assessing scenarios for future projects.
  - Future projects still on the table are improving security features on both campuses, adding two classrooms at the high school, expanding the ag. shop., and addressing miscellaneous maintenance needs.
  - Mr. Campbell will be present at the July 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- Summer training
  - I will be attending the TASA state executive planning meeting on July 15-17 and represent Region 15.
  - Then I will attend the annual Seminar on School Finance and Legal Issues hosted by Eichelbaum Wardell, P.C. and the Equity Center on July 23-24.

- Future Tentative Board Meetings
  - July 22 (Budget)
  - August 19 (Regular- this may have to be adjusted to Meet the Teacher at the Elementary is on the same night)
  - August 26 (Budget)
  - ? – Fund Raising Meeting (I am meeting with Mrs. Sikes on July 21<sup>st</sup>, we would like to schedule a board meeting sometime after this meeting.)