



Inside Northside

BOARD *Talk*

BOARD *Talk* is published to help keep staff and citizens informed about actions of the Northside Independent School District Board of Trustees.

December 10, 2024

Superintendent's Report

Dr. John Craft reported to the Board:

- **Clinical Teachers Program.** Congratulations to the prospective educators who completed their clinical teaching in the District under the facilitation of staff in the Teaching and Learning Department, many of whom have already been hired in Northside.
- **Literacy Parade.** Nichols ES hosted a successful literacy parade coordinated by Principal Jeff Davenport and Reading Specialist Ruby Cardenas.
- **Harlan Hawk Football.** The Harlan HS Hawk football team made school history by advancing to the Regional Finals.
- **College Board.** Dr. Craft participated in a recent College Board panel of superintendents representing large school districts from across the country.
- **Legislative Advocacy.** Trustees joined Superintendent Craft in advocating to local legislators on behalf of Northside and public education in Texas.
- **Chumbley ES Dedication.** The official dedication event for the District's 83rd elementary school, M'Lissa Chumbley ES, was held last week. There was a great turnout and impressive student performances.
- **Special Performance.** Prior to and at the beginning of the Board meeting, students from the Mustang Choir from Jay High School, under the direction of **Klint Fabian** performed seasonal music for the Board and those in attendance.

Board Members' Report

- **Trustee Bobby Blount** acknowledged **Bernal MS** for hosting a recent Multicultural Night which he attended. Blount recognized efforts by the **Zachry MS** Magnet Cyber Advisory Board to align their course offerings with both elementary and high school classes. He reminded trustees that the Bexar County School Boards Coalition will be hosting a meeting of area school boards in December.
- **Trustee Corinne Saldana** enjoyed visiting **McAndrew ES** and observing their STEM classes in learning about composting, gardening, and planting. She enjoyed the kindergarteners from **Murnin ES** who participated in a Readers Restaurant activity at the district's legislative luncheon. Saldana congratulated the Hawk football team from **Harlan HS** for advancing in the playoffs and she thanked the team's coaches for their hard work. Saldana also attended the Literacy Under the Lights event held at Farris Stadium, attended the Official Dedication of Chumbley ES, and volunteered with the NEF Grant Patrol. Saldana spoke of the importance of continuing to advocate for public education and dialogue with legislators. She thanked the **Jay HS** Mustang Choir for their performance. Saldana, a retired NISD administrator, spoke on a personal note of the concept of family that exists in Northside.
- **Trustee David Salcido** shared condolences to the wife and family of NISD Choir and Elementary Music Supervisor James Hare.
- **Trustee Dr. Homer Guevara** thanked the **Murnin ES** kindergarten class, which read to attendees at a legislative luncheon hosted by the district, and the Stevens HS Culinary students and teachers, who prepared and served a phenomenal lunch at the event.
- **Trustee Dr. Karla Duran** expressed her condolences to the family of Choir and Elementary Music Supervisor James Hare. She also thanked the Fine Arts Dept. and all of the Fine Arts students who are working really hard this holiday season to share their talents with the community. She had an opportunity to attend a production of the Nutcracker – her first – along with several NISD families. She shared her appreciation to Fine Arts Director **Elizabeth Sanchez-Lopez** for the opportunity. Duran thanked the Northside Education Foundation (NEF) for the opportunity to attend and speak on behalf of the Board. She is grateful for the donations and contributions that allow NEF to provide grants

to NISD teachers. Duran acknowledged the Thanksgiving in the Barrios Foundation for helping provide over 600 families with a Thanksgiving meal and recognized the **Marshall HS** Mexican American Studies students and their teacher, **Anthony Gonzales**, along with the **Clark HS** cheer squad, athletes, and coaches who helped with this initiative prior to Thanksgiving. On a personal note, Duran acknowledged Our Lady of Guadalupe's Feast Day celebrated on Dec. 12.

- **Trustee Dr. Carol Harle** praised the participants in the clinical teacher's program, many of whom are UTSA students. Harle informed Trustees that the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) has published an advocacy toolkit, and she attended a Board of Directors event, which afforded an opportunity to collaborate with trustees from across the state who share many of the same priorities as NISD. Harle praised the **Stevens HS** Culinary program for an amazing job with the Legislative Luncheon meal service and the **Murnin ES** kinder students who read to attendees. Harle offered congratulations to Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Curriculum & Instruction **Patti Sanchez** on her retirement.
- **Trustee Karen Freeman** attended the annual NEF Gala and hailed the event, whose proceeds make possible the awarding of NEF grants, a success. She enjoyed visiting the **McAndrew ES** STEM class.

Recognitions

- **CTE Welding Certifications.** CTE students from Clark HS will graduate from St. Philip's College with a Level 1 Welding Certificate after finishing 18 college hours in their Welding Program of study.
- **Presidential Cybersecurity Education Award.** Kathy Green, a Principles of Information Technology teacher at Zachry Magnet School, has been presented the 2024 Presidential Cybersecurity Education Award (PCEA), one of the highest honors bestowed in this area, by the U.S. Secretary of Education.
- **CPS Energy Check Presentation.** CPS Energy representatives presented NISD with a check for \$336,538.45 for participating in the Demand Response program.

Trustees approve adjustments to boundary zones

Trustees heard the School Boundary Advisory Committee (SBAC) report regarding the proposal to provide relief to McDermott and Mead elementary schools and utilize capacity at Thornton, Rhodes, Oak Hills Terrace, Rhodes, Colonies North, and Glenoaks to balance enrollment. The SBAC conducted a series of public hearings and after listening to the public comments and reviewing all relevant data, made a formal recommendation to the Board regarding the attendance zones. The board approved the Committee's recommendation, which will be posted on the campus websites.

2025 Graduation Schedule

Northside will host 13 graduation ceremonies. The schedule, with times and locations, for these events can be found here - <https://www.nisd.net/schools/graduation>

Trustees approve administrative appointments:

- **Cole Bader**, formerly Associate Principal at Raba ES, was appointed the **Principal at Raba Elementary School**.
- **Tammy Reyna**, formerly Associate Principal at Cody ES, was appointed the **Associate Principal at Lieck Elementary School**.
- **Denise Knippa**, formerly Senior Financial Analyst at Beazley Insurance Co., was appointed the **Director of Accounting and Accounts Payable**.

Board approves facilities items:

- Contractor for boiler replacement at Connally Middle School and Carson Elementary School – R.E.C. Industries, Inc.
- Contractor for electrical upgrades at Rudder Middle School – Central Electric Ent. & Co.
- Construction Manager-at-Risk for the Fine Arts Replacement at Clark High School – Bartlett Cocke General Contractors, LLC.
- Schematic design for building upgrades related to classrooms, CTE, and lab spaces at Jay High School/JSEA – Alamo Architects.
- Exterior/interior colors for building replacement at Esparza Elementary School – Kaarlsen Noonan Rittmann Garcia Architecture.
- Change Orders:
 - Boone ES Roof Replacement (\$50,000 credit)

Readings and adoption of policies:

- Second Reading and Adoption of Legal Policies in TASB Update 123

Bids for goods approved

Trustees approved the following bids, awards, and recognition items: roofing repair and replacement—indefinite-quantity contract (IDQ); Hepatitis B Vaccination providers; industrial shop suppliers and materials; software, licenses, subscriptions, related products, and services - Districtwide; building and hardware equipment, supplies, tools, rentals, and services; athletic medical equipment and supplies; office and technology staff augmentation services; and supplies, equipment, and repairs for District warehouses. Trustees also approved the following purchase orders: TPR Education LLC dba The Princeton Review for the purchase of Princeton Review SAT prep classes for all high school juniors for test readiness; and Complete Plumbing and HVAC Services, LLC dba Get Complete Maintenance and Repair for the purchase of plumbing services to assist with Districtwide work orders for plumbing repairs. For more information, contact the Purchasing Department at 210-397-8700.

You may mail correspondence to:

Trustees
c/o NISD
5900 Evers Road
San Antonio, TX 78238

You may email them at info@nisd.net.

For additional information, call 210-397-8770.

Board of Trustees

Bobby Blount, *President, District 4*
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David Salcido, *Secretary, District 1*
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Karla Duran, Ph.D., *Trustee, District 3*
Carol Harle, Ph.D., *Trustee, District 6*
Karen Freeman *Trustee, District 7*

Administration

Superintendent John Craft, Ed.D.
Deputy Superintendent for Administration Ray Galindo
Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction Janis Jordan, Ed.D.
Deputy Superintendent for Business & Finance Rene Barajas, Ph.D.
Assistant Superintendent of Communications Barry Perez

Board meeting information

NISD Trustees meet monthly in regular meetings on the fourth Tuesday of the month. They may also meet in Called Meetings for workshops, retreats, or to handle routine business. Meetings are held at 6 p.m. in the Board Room, 5900 Evers Road, unless otherwise posted. Meetings are open to the public. Agendas are posted on the NISD website, www.nisd.net. Citizens who wish to address the Board must sign up to speak just before the start of the meeting.

Upcoming School Board Meeting(s): *(See posted agendas on the website as dates, locations, and/or times may change.)*

- Jan. 21, 2025, 6 p.m., **NAC, 7001 Culebra Road** (Regular Board Meeting)
- Feb. 11, 2025, 6 p.m., **NAC, 7001 Culebra Road** (Called Board Meeting)
- Feb. 25, 2025, 6 p.m., **NAC, 7001 Culebra Road** (Regular Board Meeting)