



Board Meeting

H I G H L I G H T S

Board Meeting A held on February 8, 2021 via Zoom webinar

Recognitions

- ❖ The Board recognized the Student Calendar Artwork Contest Winners. Each year, the SAISD Fine Arts Department showcases student artwork through the SAISD Calendar Art Contest. The contest is in its 3rd year and was organized by Fine Arts Coordinator Dianne Marks. The contest was introduced in September and was open to high school art students. This school year over 60 entries were submitted and 13 individuals had their artwork selected for the yearly calendar. The contest winners are as follows:

Mikan Sohocki, Burbank High School
Art Teacher: Paige Gandara-Valderas

Jessica Reyes, Brackenridge High School
Art Teacher: Liz Hanovice

Peh Meh, Sam Houston High School
Art Teacher: Mandy Goynes

Liliana Tovar, Young Women's Leadership Academy
Art Teacher: Laura Schultz

Gabryanna Vargas, Cooper Academy at Navarro
Art Teacher: Jolene Navarro

Mia Moreno, Young Women's Leadership Academy
Art Teacher: Laura Schultz

Elysa Escobedo, Thomas Jefferson High School
Art Teacher: Amber Smith

Karely Trevino, Travis Early College High School
Teacher: Kristina Williams-Berrier

Andrea Arriaga, Luther Burbank High School
Art Teacher: Paige Gandara-Valderas

Marlina Anguinaga, Edison High School
Art Teacher: Dezarre` Boone

Mia Garza, Thomas Jefferson High School
Art Teacher: Amber Smith

Gabriella Toscano, CAST Med High School
Art Teacher: Linda Marsh

Sarah Espinoza, Lanier High School
Art Teacher: Eduardo Romero

- ❖ Trustees recognized the JROTC cadets and teachers for their achievements during the JROTC Program for Accreditation (JPA). All high school JROTC programs in U.S. Army Cadet Command must adhere to the “Cognia” Performance Standard. The JPA is used to evaluate schools, students, and teachers, as defined by public law, contracts, and the U.S. Army and U.S. Army Cadet Command Regulations and policies, to ensure compliance with program criteria. School district students and teachers receive a JPA visit at least once every three years. The SAISD accreditation process was conducted in December 2020. This process evaluated the continuous improvement plans and presentation, service-learning project and presentation, student portfolios, teacher portfolios, and annual unit reports. All seven SAISD schools received accreditation and all received an “A” rating, which is Honor Unit with Distinction (HUD). The HUD status allows all SAISD JROTC students to wear a gold star above their uniform name plate. The schools’ JROTC Battalions scores ranged from 95-100 with a median score of 97.27. The SAISD Office of the Department of JROTC was also accredited with a perfect 100 score.

- ❖ The Board recognized the Jefferson High School Counseling department as recipients of the Counselors Reinforcing Excellence in Texas (CREST) award. CREST is a state award sponsored by the Texas School Counselor Association (TSCA) and is awarded to exemplary school counseling programs. CREST award winners must demonstrate evidence of effective school counseling program design, effective program implementation, and emphasize a commitment to obtaining results that boost achievement and wellness for all students. The Jefferson High School counseling team plans together with the use of data and progress monitoring. There is evidence of classroom guidance lessons, college and career readiness activities, and attention on social, emotional and academic development. They engage their students, staff, and community. These practices demonstrate the effectiveness of their school counseling program, as reflected in the Texas Education Agency’s (TEA) Texas Model for Comprehensive School Counseling Programs.

The Jefferson High School Leadership Counseling Department:

Principal: Ralf Halderman

Lead Counselor: Esperanza “Hope” Garza

High School Counselors: Rita Beck, Erin Dickson, Juli Gonzalez and Priscilla Vomero

Resolution in Recognition of “Love the Bus Month” Approved

The Board approved the Resolution in Recognition of “Love the Bus Month” in SAISD. February is national “Love the Bus” month. SAISD has celebrated this recognition for the past four years by highlighting the important role that Bus Drivers play in educating our students and safely transporting them. Since COVID hit in March 2020, SAISD Bus Drivers also began transporting food, technology, and academic materials to District students in the community.

Response to Ongoing COVID-19 and Associated Expenditures Update

Trustees received an update on SAISD’s Response to the Ongoing COVID-19 Crisis and associated expenditures. A report was presented by Pedro Martinez (Superintendent of Schools) and Theresa Urrabazo (Executive Director of Accountability, Research, Evaluation and Testing). Also presenting were representatives from Community Labs - Sal Webber and Kathrine Slagle. Community Labs is a District partner for COVID-19 testing. Key points presented included tests to diagnose COVID-19, cumulative COVID tests administered, weekly COVID positivity rates, and next steps.

SAISD Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) Programs Presentation

The Board received a presentation on the SAISD Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) Programs. San Antonio ISD will have five P-TECH programs starting in the 2021-2022 school year. The P-TECH model represents the best of what public-private partnerships can look like, with students taking high school and college coursework simultaneously and engaging in industry-guided workforce development. P-TECH is a public education reform model focused on college attainment and career readiness. P-TECH schools span grades 9-14 and enable students to earn both a high school diploma and an industry certification and two-year postsecondary degree, at no cost.

Order Calling an Election for Trustees from Single-Member Districts (SMDs) One, Three, Four, and Seven

The Board approved an Order calling for an election for the purpose of electing Trustees for the San Antonio Independent School District. Election Day is Saturday, May 1, 2021. SAISD Trustees are elected by Single-Member Districts (SMDs), through staggered terms, every two years. The May 1, 2021 election and Board Policy BBB (LOCAL) require election for Trustees from SMDs One, Three, Four, and Seven. The election must be held jointly with the City of San Antonio elections, pursuant to Section 11.0581 of the Texas Education Code.

Joint Election Agreement with Bexar County Elections Administrator and other Government Entities for General Elections to be Held May 1, 2021 Approved

Trustees approved the proposed Joint Election Agreement. Under Section 11.0581 of the Texas Election Code, an Election of Trustees of an independent school district held on the same date as the election of members of a municipality located in the school district must be held as a Joint Election under Chapter 271 of the Texas Election Code. As in past years, the District will conduct its election of Trustees with the election of members of City Council as well as the election of members and measures of other governmental entities conducting their elections on the same date. Parties to a Joint Election are required to enter into a Joint Election Agreement which will allow voters to be served by common polling places. All of the participating entities share in the cost of election services that will be performed by the Bexar County Elections Administrator.

Local Innovation Plan and Renewal of District of Innovation Designation Approved

The Board approved the Local Innovation Plan and the renewal of the District of Innovation Designation. In 2015, the 84th session of the Texas Legislature passed HB 1842 which allows districts to pursue a designation as a District of Innovation. The designation, which is good for a period of five years, frees school districts from certain state-level regulations to deliver instructional and support services in novel ways that will improve student achievement outcomes. In 2016, SAISD adopted a Local Innovation Plan and became one of the state's first Districts of Innovation. SAISD chose to pursue this designation to inspire innovative practices and increase autonomy at the campus level. Going forward, the renewal of existing exemptions will be used to sustain and scale conditions for innovation and continuous improvement to accelerate student achievement. As part of the renewal process, the District has reviewed and revised the Local Innovation Plan and posted it to the District's website for 30 days. Staff met with the District Leadership Team (DLT) on December 17th to discuss the renewal process and the proposed revisions. The DLT held a public meeting on January 21st and voted to approve the Local Innovation Plan.

Items Approved

- ❖ Purchase and installation of an annual subscription for Large Enterprise Cloud Document Management and Workflow Automation Software and Services. The DocuWare Content services platform will bring SAISD a secure easy solution to manage all District documented content.
- ❖ Quarterly Investment Report for the Period of July 2020 to September 2020.
- ❖ Monthly Budget Reports and Amendments for February 2021.
- ❖ General Contractor for 2021 Chiller Replacements at Six Campuses. The schools include Briscoe ES, De Zavala ES, Maverick ES, Crockett Academy, Green Academy and Harris MS

Contracts Approved

- ❖ Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) between SAISD and Alamo Colleges District to support all the SAISD Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) programs as an institution of higher education partners.
- ❖ Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between SAISD and the U.S. Department of Education Impact Aid Program to participate in the electronic data collection pilot program.
- ❖ Memorandum of Understanding between SAISD and the San Antonio Police Department (SAPD) to continue the “Handle With Care” partnership.
- ❖ Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between SAISD and the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) to support the Cultivating Learning in Middle School and Beyond (CLIMB) program.

Board Policy Approved

Trustees approved the District’s Investment Policy and Strategies CDA (LOCAL) and CDA (LEGAL). The Public Funds Investment Act (PFIA) requires that “the governing body of an investing entity shall review its investment policy and investment strategies not less than annually. The governing body shall adopt a written instrument by rule, order, ordinance, or resolution stating that it has reviewed the investment policy and investment strategies and that the written instrument so adopted shall record any changes made to either the investment policy or investment strategies. (TGC 2256.005).” No changes to the policies were proposed. This item was submitted to meet the requirements of PFIA.

Board of Education

**Patti Radle, President; Arthur V. Valdez, Vice President;
Debra A. Guerrero, Secretary; Ed Garza, Member; Steve Lecholop, Member;
Christina Martinez, Member; Alicia M. Perry, Member;
Pedro Martinez, Superintendent**

www.saisd.net