

The **Springboard** e-newsletter is provided as a community service to inform the public of actions during the monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees. The official minutes from the meeting will be posted online at www.springisd.org once approved by the Board.

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Public Participation is Welcomed

Citizens who want to speak at a Board meeting are asked to register at least 15 minutes prior to the time when the meeting is scheduled to begin.

For more information, go online at www.springisd.org and click on the Public Participation at Board Meetings link under General Info.

The next regular Board meeting will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 30 at Gordon M. Anderson Leadership Center, 16717 Ella Blvd.

The Spring ISD Board of Trustees met at 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 9 at the Gordon M. Anderson Leadership Center to address items on the agenda. President **Rhonda L. Faust** called the meeting to order and led the pledges of allegiance.

Recognitions

Points of Pride

Featured here are recipients of Spring ISD Points of Pride awards presented by the Board of Trustees to honorees for receiving state or national recognition.



Board members and the superintendent pause for a photo following the Points of Pride recognition of Supply Chain Services' state award.

Supply Chain Services Receives TASBO Purchasing Award of Merit

The Spring ISD Supply Chain Services Department has received the Texas Association of School Business Officials (TASBO) Purchasing Award of Merit for the sixth consecutive year, including an additional Merit of Recognized Status for significantly exceeding the minimum requirements.

The award is presented to Texas school districts and education service centers that demonstrate commitment to following professional standards in the purchase of goods and services.

The board recognized **Phillip Ellison**, executive director of supply chain services, and his team for continuing to achieve statewide recognition in this area.



Phillip Ellison, executive director of supply chain services, from left, accepts congratulations from Spring ISD Board President **Rhonda L. Faust**.

Superintendent's Report

After commending students and staff for a great school year, Superintendent **Dr. Rodney Watson** reported on numerous activities occurring across the district during summer break, including summer school and programs.

"Although the school year is over, the work doesn't stop," said Watson. "We will spend the summer training school staff on various details of the strategic plan including our new literacy initiative and character education program."

Additionally, the summer months will be used to upgrade facilities, clean and organize classrooms and renovate and repair schools.

He reminded the audience that the district is operating on a four-day work week this summer. Campuses are open until 5:30 p.m. and all administration buildings are open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

Watson concluded with an announcement about the district's new summer reading program – Slide into Summer Reading – which was developed with incentives and other motivators for keeping students reading during summer break. [Summer Reading website](#).



Dr. Rodney E. Watson

President's Remarks

President Rhonda Faust thanked members of the community who attended the launch of the district strategic plan, Every Child 2020, and invited the public to go the district website to download and review a copy of the plan. "It is a student-centered plan that speaks to the key focus areas that the board charged Dr. Watson to address," Faust said.

"Along those same lines, on June 5, the district announced both the repurposing and the purchase of facilities to drive student-centered objectives in the district's strategic plan. Most notably, the efficient repurposing of the district's existing support services building will serve our students as an alternative school that will house a program to build capacity in students with conduct or behavioral challenges. I think I speak on behalf of the board when I say we are all very excited for the alternative school to become a reality," Faust said.

President Faust also congratulated the 2015 graduates and their families and thanked district staff for making graduation day uniquely special for each class.



Rhonda L. Faust

Action Items

Board Approves Pay Raises for Teachers, Bus Drivers and Crossing Guards While Budget Discussions Continue Through June 30

The Spring Independent School District Board of Trustees unanimously approved salary increases for teaching staff, crossing guards and bus drivers, along with an increased medical contribution for some employees at tonight's monthly board meeting. Trustees also approved the district's recommendation to increase the bilingual educator stipend.

"Our staff – especially our teachers, bus drivers and crossing guards – interacts with our students every single day. The work these staff members do is important and I want to ensure that they are compensated at a level that is appropriate," said Superintendent Rodney E. Watson. "There is still work to be done, especially in the area of compensation and benefits, so that we are more competitive with neighboring school districts and businesses, but this is great step in the right direction."

The following salary increases were approved:

- A salary increase for first-year teachers, bringing their starting salary up to \$51,500 from \$48,500, which represents a 6.2 percent increase in starting teacher pay;
- A \$3,260 raise for all current teachers, which on average represents a 6 percent increase;
- A salary increase for bus drivers, bringing their hourly pay up from \$13.80 to \$15.05, which represents a 9 percent increase;
- A \$1.25 raise for all current bus drivers, which on average represents a 7.5 percent increase;
- An increase to the medical contribution for our lowest-paid employees – an additional \$75 per month for employees whose salaries are below \$25,000 and an additional \$50 per month for those who range from \$25,000 to \$49,999;
- A salary increase for crossing guards, bringing their hourly pay up from \$10.00 to \$12.00, which represents a 20 percent increase; and
- An increase of \$200 to the district's bilingual educator stipend, bringing it up to \$4,200 – a highly competitive stipend for the Houston market.

The new salary for bus drivers and crossing guards will take effect for the 2015-16 fiscal year. A proposed 2 percent salary increase for non-teaching staff will go to a vote on June 30 and if approved, will also take effect when the 2015-16 fiscal year begins.

The district's final budget will not be presented to the board for approval until June 30, 2015.

Clark Primary and Clark Intermediate Will Function Under Separate Leadership Teams with a Focus on Collaboration

The board approved uncoupling Clark Primary, a prekindergarten through second-grade campus, and Clark Intermediate, a third- through fifth-grade campus, to allow each school to provide a more structured learning environment under its own leadership team. This decision will allow each school to focus on their student population while still making time for the two school staffs to collaborate. Clark Primary is the feeder school for Clark Intermediate, and the two buildings are located across the street from each other at 12625 River Laurel and 1825 Rushworth, respectively.

In Other Action the Board Approved:

- First reading of EIA local re: grading and progress reports to parents;
- First reading of EIC local re: class ranking;
- First reading of EIE local re: retention and promotion;
- Application of low-attendance-day waivers for the 2014-15 school year;
- Application for a missed-instructional-day waiver for May 26 when the district was closed due to flooding in the area;
- Purchase of a combination walk-in freezer and cooler for Jenkins Elementary School;
- Requests for proposals for retail electric supply services, basketball equipment and supplies and construction manager at-risk services; and
- Ratification of taxpayer refunds.



Spring Independent School District is an equal opportunity employer. The Board of Trustees and its agents, officers and staff members shall not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, disabling condition, age, color, religion, national origin, military status, or any other legally protected status in making decisions regarding staff members or students.