

SPRINGBOARD

A Publication of the Spring ISD Board of Trustees

Vol. 24 No. 10 / May 2015

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.

Trustees

Rhonda L. Faust
President
Justine Durant
Vice President
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Jana Gonzales
Assistant Secretary
Chris Bell
Deborah Jensen
Rhonda Newhouse

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 9 at Gordon M. Anderson Leadership Center, 16717 Ella Blvd.

The Spring ISD Board of Trustees met at 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 12 at Bammel Middle School to address items on the agenda. President **Rhonda Faust** called the meeting to order; and Spring High School Navy JROTC Cadets Capt. **My Do** Capt. **Ashley Murphy**, Chief Petty Officer **Courtney Lundquist**, Cmdr. **Joseph Helton** and Sr. Chief **Louis Andrade** 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.



Kevin Gordon received not one, not two, but three Points of Pride awards for state and national achievement in the field of forensics.

Students shake hands with Superintendent **Rodney Watson** and board trustees as they cross the stage during the Points of Pride recognition portion of the meeting.

Board Trustees Recognize 80-plus Students for Outstanding Achievement

More than 80 students districtwide were awarded Points of Pride by the Spring ISD Board of Trustees for outstanding achievement. **Tiffany Davila-Dunne**, chief communications officer, introduced the honorees as "talented and smart students who have achieved great things."

That number included 28 inaugural graduates of the Early College Academy at Southridge who each have the distinction of graduating from Lone Star College - North Harris with a full associate degree while simultaneously graduating from high school. The college courses are offered free of charge through a partnership between Spring ISD and Lone Star College - North Harris.

"What a great opportunity to be able to graduate with your associate degree. Having been on the board when this came about, it is nice to see. We appreciate you and applaud you all for your hard work and dedication," said Trustee **Jana Gonzales**.

See a [Photo Gallery](#) of student honorees and an alphabetical list of [Award Recipients](#).

Presentation

Education Foundation Presents \$69,285 Check for Innovative Projects



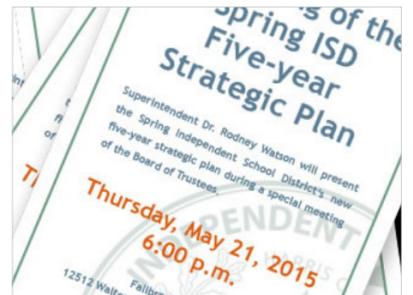
Board Trustees officially accept a "big check" worth \$69,285 from representatives of the Spring ISD Education Foundation board of directors. The donation funds 14 grants awarded to teachers and principals for innovative projects. Learn more about the grants at [Grant Express](#).

Superintendent's Report



Dr. Rodney E. Watson

Superintendent **Rodney Watson** extended a personal invitation to members of the audience to attend the unveiling of the district's strategic five-year plan at 6 p.m. Thursday, May 21 at Fallbrook Church, 12512 Walters Rd., Houston, Texas. [See article.](#)



Action Items

Board Approves Implementation of Senate Bill 149

Trustees approved immediate implementation of Senate Bill 149 that was signed into law by Gov. Abbott on Monday, May 11. The district has a detailed plan and timeline in place to accommodate SB 149. Letters have been sent to parents of students who did not meet the passing standard on one or two end-of-course exams informing them that there will be an Individual Graduation Committee meeting at their child's school to determine further steps needed for their student to graduate. The meetings will be held May 20-25 and parents and students will be notified by May 28 whether their student will be awarded a diploma based on the findings of the committee.

Contract with Camelot Education to Provide DAEP Services Approved

The Spring ISD Board of Trustees approved an agreement between the district and Camelot Education to serve as the provider for the district's Disciplinary Alternative Education Program.

Beginning this fall, Camelot will provide services for a high school (grades 9-12) and middle school (grades 6-8) accelerated program that serves students with behavioral issues and are not succeeding academically in a traditional school setting. The program will be housed and operated by the district, beginning in the 2015-16 school year.

Camelot Education is a national leader in working with school districts to provide alternative education programs designed for students who have been unable to succeed in the traditional classroom setting.

The district currently operates a DAEP program for elementary students at Burchett Elementary.

Board Accepts Grants from AASA and ExxonMobil

The board approved acceptance of two grants, one from the American Association of School Administrators for \$197,750 and one from ExxonMobil for \$15,000. All grants valued at \$10,000 or more must be approved by the Board in accordance with policy.

The AASA grant will be used to expand the school breakfast program at 10 Spring ISD schools: Beneke, Burchett, Cooper, Reynolds, Smith and Thompson elementary schools; and Dekaney, Spring, Westfield and Carl Wunsch Sr. high schools. A breakfast-in-the-classroom model will be initiated at the elementary schools while a "grab-and-go" model will be launched at the high schools. The purpose of the Expand the School Breakfast program is to provide districts with the funding needed to build gold-standard school breakfast models nationwide that ensure all students are taking full advantage of school breakfast.

The ExxonMobil grant will be used to strengthen and improve the district's science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) programs. By partnering schools, universities, industry and government in support of STEM education, communities are empowered to prepare minority youth for careers in the STEM fields. ExxonMobil's support directly aids several district initiatives, including robotics programs and the Summer Institute for Teachers.

In Other Action the Board Approved:

- First review and adoption of proposed revisions to Board Policy FMH local re: student activities;
- Memorandum of Understanding with the Children's Assessment Center;
- Interlocal agreement with the City of Houston to use its Public Safety Radio System;
- Second review and discussion of proposed revisions to Board Policy FNF local re: student rights and responsibilities during interrogation and searches;
- First review and adoption of proposed revisions to Board Policy DED local re: compensation and benefits - vacations and holidays;
- Request for 2015-16 districtwide school waivers;
- 2015-16 work calendar;
- Resolution extending depository contract with BBVA Compass bank;
- Property insurance renewal with Brady, Chapman and Holland Inc.;
- Interlocal agreement renewal with Harris County Public Health and Environmental Services to make facilities available for mass immunizations or treatments by HCPHES and district schools;
- Roof replacements at Reynolds and Winship elementary schools;
- The list of qualified brokers/dealers that are authorized to engage in investment transactions with the district;
- Invitation for bid #14-032 for football, volleyball and cross country equipment and supplies;
- Request for Proposals #15-001 for custodial supplies; 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.