

# SPRINGBOARD

A Publication of the Spring ISD Board of Trustees

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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](http://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](http://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, Oct. 13 at Gordon M. Anderson Leadership Center, 16717 Ella Blvd.**

The Spring ISD Board of Trustees met at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 8 at the Gordon M. Anderson Leadership Center to address items on the agenda. Vice President Justine Durant called the meeting to order and Westfield High School Army JROTC cadets led the pledges of allegiance.

## Superintendent's Report

Superintendent **Dr. Rodney Watson** reported that "great things are happening in our schools now in the third week." Families continue to register, which is not unusual following the Labor Day weekend.

He announced that September kicks off Attendance Awareness Month. "We are going to continue working with our schools and our families, pushing attendance and letting our parents and our community know how important it is for our children to be in school every day and on time," Watson said.

He reported the district is taking a proactive approach by calling families of students who have chronic absences. Additionally, he reminded the audience that the second annual graduation walk will be this Saturday, Sept. 12. School employees and community members will be walking the neighborhoods, knocking on doors of students who did not return to school and inviting them to come back.



**Rodney E. Watson, Ph.D.**

## Action Items

### *Optional Flexible School Day*

During a public hearing, **Dr. Lupita Hinojosa**, chief academics officer, and **Dr. Rebecca Long**, program director, presented information on the district's Optional Flexible School Day program called Achieving Success Academic Program.

ASAP is designed to focus on students that are at risk of dropping out of school, have already dropped out of school or who will be denied credit as a result of poor attendance. It was initiated in Spring ISD last school year, operating from October through July in portable buildings located behind Dekaney High School. Classes were available from 3:30 to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday providing opportunities for students who need flexible scheduling due to work and family obligations. Transportation from the district's high schools and supper were provided to students enrolled in the program.

The program's first year was highly successful. Hinojosa reported that last year ASAP served 101 students who accumulated 231 credits. Of that number, 34 students graduated as a result of the program.

The board approved renewing and expanding the program for the 2015-16 school year to accommodate 275 students. Additionally, the program's hours will be extended to operate from 7 to 11:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 4 to 8:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday. The district will continue to provide transportation and meals.

### *In Other Action the Board Approved:*

- Second reading of board policy DEC local regarding compensation benefits leaves and absences;
- Second reading of revisions to board policy DIA local regarding freedom from discrimination, harassment and retaliation;
- Second reading of proposed revisions to board policy FB local;
- Second reading of proposed revisions to board policy FFH local;
- First reading of TASB Local Update 102 proposed revisions to local board policies: CDA, DBB, DEA, DEAA, DEAB, DFFA, DHE, FNC and FO;
- Memorandum of Understanding with the Harris County Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program;
- Memorandum of Agreement with the Crime Stoppers Safe School Program;
- Participation in the National Joint Powers Alliance Cooperative Purchasing Program;
- Taxpayer refunds; and
- Request for Proposals for athletic equipment and supplies for track, baseball and softball.



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.