

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 once approved by the Board.

Trustees

Deborah Jensen, Ph.D.
President

Chris Bell
Vice President

Rhonda Newhouse, M.Ed.
Secretary

Justine Durant
Assistant Secretary

Donald Davis

Rhonda L. Faust, J.D.

Jana Gonzales

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, Sept. 12 at Gordon M. Anderson Leadership Center, 16717 Ella Blvd.



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.

The Spring ISD Board of Trustees met at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 8 at the Gordon M. Anderson Leadership Center to address items on the agenda. President **Dr. Deborah Jensen** called the meeting to order. Boy Scout Troop 355 posted the colors and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Recognitions

Since January 1984, the Board has recognized students and staff for major accomplishments beyond the District with Points of Pride awards. ABCD awards are presented to individuals or groups that go Above and Beyond the Call of Duty.

ABCD Awards



Reagan Moscon, center, joins Board trustees and friends in the horseshoe for a congratulatory photo.



Volunteer Moscon Recognized for Empowering Parents with ESL Classes

The Board presented an ABCD award to **Reagan Moscon**, who has been a longtime district supporter and most recently involved in bringing quality ESL classes to Spring ISD families via her work as a member of the local Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Thanks to the resources, expertise and commitment of both Moscon and her church, the district has been able to empower parents to become more involved in their children's learning by removing the language barrier.

In addition to sponsoring and supporting the district's ESL program, Moscon has also served in other areas, including on the School Health Advisory Council, the Advisory Committee on Education and the 2016 Bond committee.

Executive Director of Family and Community Engagement **Leticia Grounds** lauded Moscon for doing work that can change the trajectory of the entire family. **Tranita Carroll**, parent engagement coordinator, provided statistics that over the past three years, 287 parents have taken part in the program, with 192 graduating.

Point of Pride Award



Gabe Musella is surrounded by Board trustees, family members and school administrators as they gather for a celebratory photo in the horseshoe.



Musella Receives Prestigious Meritorious Achievement Award

The Board presented a Point of Pride Award to Spring High School Band Director **Gabe Musella** for his outstanding contributions to music education in the district. Musella's work was recently recognized with the 2017 Meritorious Achievement Award from the Texas Bandmasters Association during the organization's annual convention and clinic in San Antonio in July.

A 30-year veteran of the classroom who earned both his bachelor's and master's degrees at Texas Tech University – in music composition and conducting, respectively – Musella joined the district's performing and visual arts faculty in 2000, having previously taught in the Lubbock-Cooper, Canyon, and Lubbock ISDs.

He has led ensembles to UIL Sweepstakes recognitions, the finals of the Texas Music Educators Association Honor Band Competition, and to invitation performances at the Midwest Clinic and the Music for All Nations Concert Festival. He remains active as a clinician and composer, with published works for band, orchestra, percussion ensemble and chamber groups that have been heard in Texas concert halls and around the country, as well as internationally.

Among those at the board meeting to congratulate Musella was Dr. **Joe Clark**, Spring ISD director of performing and visual arts, who called the band director a "leading role model" in the district. Clark also read a statement from **Lauren Moore**, one of Musella's former students who now works in operations at the Houston Symphony. "There was never a lack of enthusiasm or caring," she said, noting that with Musella's guidance and support, "I felt like there was nothing I couldn't do."

In accepting the award, Musella credited co-workers, administrators and students for their support. "These are all wonderful people who have made working at Spring an amazing thing." [See Musella story.](#)

Trustees Remarks

At each regular board meeting, during Opening Remarks each board member is given the opportunity to share information with those present.



Board President **Dr. Deborah Jensen** invited trustees to make remarks after thanking Boy Scout Troop 355 for posting the colors at the meeting. Jensen began by thanking Trustee **Chris Bell** for coming up with the idea to have the scouts at the meeting.

Her comments were followed by Trustee **Donald Davis**, who discussed the benefit of opening up school facilities to be rented and used by the public. He also shared a video from the Texas Association of School Boards about the importance of advocating for students to address challenges, including legislative issues.

Trustee **Chris Bell**, a former Boy Scout, also thanked Troop 355 for opening the meeting and mentioned his family includes a long list of Scouts. He stressed the importance of civics and civility at all levels of government and praised the Scouts for their contributions.

Trustee **Rhonda Newhouse** thanked Troop 355 and said she hoped to see the Scouts achieve their Eagle Award, the highest scout honor. She also congratulated the Family and Community Engagement department for their work in organizing Spring's New Student Registration and Family Resource Expo on Saturday, Aug. 5. The annual event registered nearly 1,500 students, which represents a 32 percent increase from last year. [See Expo story.](#)

Action Items

Board Approves Agreement with Angelo State University for Field Placement

The agreement allows students from Angelo State University to participate in supervised field experiences at Spring ISD in order to earn required hours toward the completion of their graduate degree and principal certification program.

In other action the Board approved:

- Authorized investment brokers and dealers;
- Trustee election of order notice for positions four and five;
- First reading of Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) proposed revisions to local Board Policy EH – curriculum design, EHDB – alternative methods for earning credit and EL – campus Board Policy;
- First reading of proposed revisions to local Board Policy CV – facilities construction, CCA – local revenue resources, EF – instructional resources, EFAA, instructional materials selection and adoption, EG – curriculum development and EIF – academic achievement; graduation;
- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Children's Assessment Center and Spring ISD Police Department;
- Third-consecutive MOU between Avance-Houston, Inc. and Spring ISD to provide comprehensive services to four-year-old Head Start students at Lewis Elementary School;
- Request for Proposals regarding Career and Technical Education products and services, fire extinguishers, HVAC filters, parts and supplies, Special Education equipment and educational technology products and services; and
- Taxpayer refunds.