

# 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.

## 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](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, June 13 at Gordon M. Anderson Leadership Center, 16717 Ella Blvd.**

The Spring ISD Board of Trustees met at 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 9 at Bammel Middle School to address items on the agenda. President **Dr. Deborah Jensen** called the meeting to order. Spring High School Navy JROTC Cadets **Matt Gibbs, Maxwell Hill** and **Jason Borders** presented the colors and led the pledges 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.

### Points of Pride Awards



Spring Early College Academy Science Olympiad team members are proud to display their Point of Pride awards.

## Board Trustees Recognize 200-plus Students for Outstanding Achievement

More than 200 students districtwide were named Point of Pride award recipients by the Spring ISD Board of Trustees for outstanding achievement at state and national levels.

"This year we are doing something very special," said Board President **Dr. Deborah Jensen**. "We are making this program 100 percent about our students. To help us do this, we have enlisted two talented debate students from Dekaney High School to be our emcees."

Emcees **Trevonte Mitchell**, Dekaney sophomore, and **Tierra Edmonds**, Dekaney junior, began the introductions by explaining that students who receive a Point of Pride award have competed at the highest levels and brought back to Spring ISD a state or national award.

Honorees included 51 Early College Academy students who each have the distinction of graduating from Lone Star College – North Harris with an associate degree while simultaneously completing high school. The college courses are offered free of charge through a partnership between Spring ISD and Lone Star College – North Harris.

In addition, high achievers in the areas of science, history, art, music, speech, drama, debate, dance, JROTC and Skills USA were also recognized for their accomplishments.

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



Trevonte Mitchell, from left, and Tierra Edmonds, Dekaney High School



Myra Davis, Spring Early College Academy



Brandon Peralta, from left, Carl Wunsche Sr. High School, is congratulated by Trustee Jana Gonzales while President Dr. Deborah Jensen looks on.

## Superintendent's Report

Superintendent **Dr. Rodney E. Watson** commented on the excitement of the evening. "It is surely one of the highlights of the year, celebrating all the accomplishments of our students," Watson said. He also recognized the role that teachers play in the students' success through their guidance and support throughout the year.

He went on to report that the Smart Kid Cool Car giveaway on May 7 when **Angela Ace Fontelera Alex**, a Carl Wunsche Sr. High School senior, was announced as the grand prize winner was an excellent event. "We had a really good time on Sunday with the Smart Kid Cool Car campaign coming to an end. It was a blessing for us to have Honda of Spring donate a brand new Honda Civic." [See story and video.](#)

He concluded with a reminder about the upcoming high school graduation ceremonies on June 3 at the Berry Center. "We are looking forward to spending the day together as we celebrate the accomplishments of all our seniors."



Rodney E. Watson

## Trustees Remarks

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



Deborah Jensen



Chris Bell



Rhonda Newhouse



Justine Durant



Donald Davis



Rhonda L. Faust



Jana Gonzales

President **Dr. Deborah Jensen** invited Board Trustees to make remarks.

**Donald Davis** announced that five male students from Spring ISD had received scholarships from Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity at a banquet hosted recently by the organization. After acknowledging the excellent behavior of the young men, he credited Secretary **Rhonda Newhouse**. "I want to recognize Trustee Newhouse for her work with students," Davis said. "Over the past 15 years she has been teaching our young men how to be gentlemen, how to be eloquent and how to behave in a formal setting."

**Deborah Jensen** recognized Superintendent **Dr. Rodney Watson** for being one of 30 people honored recently by the Texas A&M University College of Education and Human Development as an innovative educator in our region. "I was very proud to see him win that award," Jensen said. [See story.](#)

**Rhonda Newhouse** congratulated the 16 Career and Technical Education students that recently received \$1,000 scholarships from the Spring ISD Career and Technology Education Advisory Board. [See story.](#)

## Action Items

### Board Approves Student Affiliation Agreement with University of Houston

The Board approved a student affiliation agreement with the University of Houston that could help the district secure hard-to-fill speech language pathologist positions in the future.

"This agreement will allow us to partner with the University of Houston's acclaimed graduate program in speech language pathology," said **Dr. Lupita Hinojosa**, chief of school leadership and student support services. "Graduate students will come to Spring ISD schools and participate side-by-side with our speech language pathologists and will gain the experience and training that they need in order to serve our students. We hope that by providing them with this positive opportunity and experience with us that they will also choose to remain in the district as full-time employees."

Board President **Dr. Deborah Jensen** and Assistant Secretary **Justine Durant** both commended district leaders for their effort. "I really commend our administration for looking far and wide to find partnerships that can provide services that our students need," Jensen said.

### In other action the Board approved:

- 2017-18 work calendar;
- First reading of Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Local Update 107 - proposed revisions affecting Local Policies: CDC, CJ, DC, DEE, DFAA, DFBA, FEA and FJ;
- First reading of proposed policy revisions to Board Policy DMD Local;
- Second reading of proposed revisions to Board Policies DCB Local and FFA Local;
- 2017-18 Community and Student Engagement Ratings as part of the 2018 state accountability system;
- Contracts with Harris County Department of Education for academic and behavior school; occupational therapy services and physical therapy services;
- Revisions and additions to the 2017-18 Compensation Manual;
- Request for Proposal for the Enterprise Edge Switch Network System; and
- 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.