

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.

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Winford Adams Jr.

Chris Bell

Deborah Jensen, Ph.D.

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

The Spring ISD Board of Trustees met at 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 14 at Gordon M. Anderson Leadership Center to address items on the agenda. President **Rhonda Newhouse** called the meeting to order. Spring High School JROTC Cadets **Emily Brower, Julia Brower, Solomon Foster-Smith, Walker Blakley, Ian Schmidt** and **McKenzie Abbott** 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

An Nguyen, from left, shakes hands with Superintendent Dr. Rodney Watson after shaking hands with Board Trustees who are waiting on more students to cross the stage and accept their congratulations.



Smith Elementary student Daira Aguirra, from left, accepts congratulations and a handshake from Trustees Deborah Jensen and Winford Adams Jr.



Emcees, from left, Kaylan Forest and Nolan Okabayashi announce the award winners.

More than 75 Students Recognized for Earning Top Honors at State- and National-Level

More than 75 students districtwide were named Point of Pride award recipients by the Spring ISD Board of Trustees for outstanding achievement at state and national competitions.

Emcees **Nolan Okabayashi** and **Kaylan Forest** Spring High School seniors, began the introductions by explaining that students who receive a Point of Pride award have not only qualified to compete at the state and national levels, but earned a first, second or third place.

"It is an honor to be here sharing this evening with the many, many talented students of Spring ISD. We both are excited to be here tonight as we acknowledge fellow students for their state and national accomplishments," said Forest.

High achievers in the areas of academics, robotics, science, history, art, speech, drama, dance, color guard, swimming, JROTC and Skills USA were recognized for their accomplishments.

It is important to note that Point of Pride awards are presented throughout the school year for state and national top three placements. The large number of students recognized at the May board meeting is relative to the increased number of high-level competitions as the school year comes to a close.

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

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent **Dr. Rodney Watson** reported on a number of end-of-year events including ranging from the third annual Smart Kid Cool Car event in collaboration with Honda of Spring and culminating with graduation ceremonies.

"On May 19, one lucky senior will walk away from the third annual Smart Kid Cool Car event with a brand new car provided by Honda of Spring," Watson said. This event is an opportunity to award the students' hard work because the students are only eligible to participate if they have maintained a 2.5 GPA, passed all the state required end of course exams, had a 95 percent attendance rate and accumulated 25 hours of volunteer service in the Spring community.

"If you're available, please make sure you join us on Sunday at 1 p.m. at Honda of Spring. We are really looking forward to this event," Watson said.

Watson gave a shout out to the Performing and Visual Arts Department's Greatest Show, which is scheduled for 6 p.m. Monday, May 20 and Tuesday, May 21 at Spring Baptist Church, 633 E Louetta Rd. The arts integration event will feature both middle and high school students and is free to the public.

He also reported on the success of the district's first young men's summit that was recently held in conjunction with Aldine ISD, focusing on building community and developing leadership skills. Nearly 200 young men, representing the two districts were in attendance. [See story.](#)

In conclusion, he talked about graduation ceremonies for the district's five high schools. Notably, this will be the first graduating class for Carl Wunsche Sr. High School since it opened as a career academy in 2006.

"That's an exciting milestone for Wunsche and for the district and we know the entire school is anxiously awaiting the big day," he said.

In another change this year, he said the district will be hosting two days of graduations — June 1 and June 2. Spring Early College Academy will have their graduation ceremony on Saturday, June 1 at 4 p.m. on the campus of Lone Star College-North Harris. All of the other graduations will be held Sunday, June 2 at the Berry Center.

"This will be a wonderful opportunity for us to congratulate our students as well as spend the entire day together," Watson said. [See story.](#)



Rodney E. Watson

Trustees Remarks

At each 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



Winford Adams Jr.



Jana Gonzales

President **Rhonda Newhouse** invited the trustees to make remarks.

Winford Adams Jr. said he was also privileged to attend the young men's summit that Superintendent Watson mentioned earlier. "It was very inspirational to see young men from across our district and across Aldine to come out and fellowship and receive inspirational words," he said. In addition, Adams attended the Lone Star College-North Harris graduation for Spring Early College Academy seniors who earned their associate degrees. "I just wanted to comment that those are things we are doing that are really good," Adams said.

Rhonda Newhouse thanked Trustees **Dr. Deborah Jensen** and **Winford Adams Jr.**, on behalf of herself and the rest of the board, for their long-term commitment to tutoring students in Spring ISD schools. "We are very proud of them. We've heard the many stories they have told us about their experiences and we just don't know of any other board, in talking around the state that goes into schools and spend weeks, days tutoring for months, a semester, **Dr. Deborah Jensen** responded, "It has been a wonderful experience. I am so impressed with the teachers and administrators at Dekaney High School, and I just love working with those kids."

Jensen went on to comment about attending the end-of-year banquet for the Carl Wunsche Sr. High School Criminal Justice Pathway and how impressed she was by the incredible, thriving program, including high achieving students and an established parent booster club.

Action Items

Board Approves Boundary Adjustment for Bailey and Dueitt Middle Schools

At the Board Work Session on May 9, the Board voted to rezone a small area that is currently located in the Dueitt boundary into the attendance zone for nearby Bailey Middle School. This change will go into effect for the 2019-20 school year for 139 students.

Adjusting the boundary allows the district to deal with overcrowding at Dueitt Middle School, which is currently operating over its building capacity, and make better use of Bailey Middle School, which has room to grow.

Students who will be in eighth grade next year at Dueitt Middle School have the option of staying at Dueitt and receiving district bus transportation.

More information is available at www.springisd.org/attendanceboundaries.

In other action the Board approved:

- 2019-20 Texas Education Agency Annual Allotment and Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills certification;
- Interlocal agreement with Harris County Public Health - Strategic National Stockpile;
- Interlocal and Security Bid Package D2, 5th Garanteed Maximum Price in the amount of \$2,719,044;
- Dekaney High School Ninth Grade Center Bid Package C, 3rd Guaranteed Maximum Price in the amount of \$2,386,099;
- Spring High School Ninth Grade Center Bid Package C2, 3rd Guaranteed Maximum Price in the amount of \$6,628,029;
- Springwood Village Middle School Change Order #1 acceleration costs in the amount of \$1,092,000;
- Spring ISD Stadium Change Order #1 - Construction of Cypress Heights Drive and Signage for Naming Rights in the amount of \$378,000;
- 2019-20 Work Calendar;
- 2019-20 Compensy Plan;
- Renewal of Community Youth Services (CYS) contract for seven social workers;
- Amendment of the Evaluation Capacity Grant valued at \$30,000 for special education assessments;
- Memorandum of Understanding with AVANCE - Houston Inc. to provide early childhood services for teen parents at Dekaney High School;
- Affiliation agreement with Launch CDC, Inc.;
- Project Lead the Way grant for engineering programs at Roberson, Dekaney and Spring High Schools valued at \$50,000;
- Interlocal Agreement with Harris County Department of Education for educational services, including substance abuse support at Fortis Academy;
- Extended bank depository services with BBVA Compass for an additional two-year term;
- List of investment brokers/dealers used by the district; 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.