

Crowley ISD Board of Trustees

Unofficial Summary of Actions

February 23, 2017



PUBLIC HEARING

The District is required to conduct a public hearing related to the **Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR)**. The 2015-16 report contains results for the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) and End of Course (EOC) exams for the previous year. In addition, data related to District Attendance, Postsecondary Readiness and Student, Staff and Program information for the District Profile is included. View the full [TAPR report](#).

BOARD CELEBRATIONS

Board Secretary Gary Grassia noted the successes of various high school students in UIL competitions.

Board Vice President Ryan Ray received a scholarship from the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) to travel to Washington D.C. to attend the National Association of School Boards Advocacy Institute. While there, he met with Texas senators and others to discuss education issues.

Board Member Lyndsaie Benton noted how NBC 5 highlighted the North Crowley High School special needs dance that the Teen Leadership class organizes and that is coordinated by Laneece Yarbough-Anderson. “I’ve been several times, and it’s amazing,” she said. “It’s great that was celebrated on the news like that.”

Board Member Mia Hall praised Mary Harris Intermediate School Principal Lakisha Thomas and the scholars of the Young Woman’s Leadership Academy at Mary Harris Intermediate, where Ms. Hall had the opportunity to speak earlier this month.

REPORT ITEMS

Campuses across Crowley ISD are celebrating **Black History Month** with interactive lessons and activities including performances, art contests, hallway displays and class presentations on African Americans who have made an impact in their fields. [Watch a video](#) about how one teacher brought history to life for her students.

Crowley ISD’s **District Court Mock Trial Team will advance to the national competition** in Chicago this summer after earning one of the two top spots at the state competition in Austin. Students from the Bill R. Johnson Career and Technology Education (CTE) Center competed against about 40 other District Court Mock Trial teams from across the state at the YMCA Texas Youth in Government State Conference in January. District Court Team Members include: Attorney Toiya Smith, Attorney Christina Gonzales, Witness Amaya Ronczyk, Witness Everett Chace, Witness Tionne Wilson and Bailiff Ty’Reke Goodman-Harris. The National Judicial Competition is July 31–Aug. 4.

The district’s County Court Mock Trial Team also was chosen as the top team in County Court from among about 30 teams across the state. Students from that team were named as the top Prosecuting Attorneys in the

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County Court competition. County Court Team Members include: Attorney Robert Gortney, Attorney Mynista Burnett, Witness Daisy Gomez, Witness Meredith Jones, Witness Ana Guadian and Judge Angelica Melendez. Markeith West serves as the CTE law enforcement department chairman.



(Attorney Matthew Jackson, Ana Guadian, Robert Gortney, Amaya Ronczyk, Markeith West, Everett Chace, Christina Gonzales, Ty'Reke Goodman-Harris and Toiya Smith.)

Students and educators at the Bill R. Johnson CTE Center join others across the nation during the month of February to celebrate **national Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month**. CTE Month provides CTE programs, like those offered in Crowley ISD, an opportunity to demonstrate how CTE educates students to be college and career-ready and prepares them for high-wage, high-demand career fields. Catch a glimpse of what happens at Crowley ISD's CTE Center and how the various career paths work together in this [video](#).

Mekhi Blake, a senior at North Crowley High School, **qualified to perform this month in the Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA) All-State Choir**. All-State is one of the highest honors a Texas music student can receive. Students are selected through an audition process that begins with over 15,000 students from around the state vying for this honor. All-State Choir students participated in three days of rehearsals directed by nationally recognized conductors during the annual state TMEA Clinic/Convention. Ange Goins is the director of the NCHS choir.

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(Mekhi Blake and Ange Goins)

The **Heartbeat Team Award** winner for February (Laneece Yarbough-Anderson, North Crowley High School teacher) was introduced to the Board. [Watch to learn](#) more about Yarbough-Anderson and why she's the heartbeat of Crowley ISD.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approved the **Jan. 26, 2017 Regular Board Meeting Minutes and the Feb. 2, 2017 Called Board Meeting Minutes and the Feb. 9, 2017 Called Board Meeting Minutes.**

Approved the **January 2017 Financial Statements.**

Approved the **Employment of Personnel**, which includes seven employees.

Approved **Out-of-State Travel** for five CISD administrators to travel to Louisiana for the Total School Transformation Conference in March and for Pamela Berry, the director of School Administration, to travel to California to co-present with InfoSnap at the National Conference on Magnet Schools in April. InfoSnap is the platform that is currently used for the district's Programs of Choice application process.

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BOARD ACTIONS

Approved **Budget Amendments** to send Megan Dixon, Inspire Academy dean, to a conference.

Approved **the opening of an Employee Child Care Center at Jackie Carden Elementary School** in August 2017. The total initial start-up costs are estimated at \$598,494, which includes facility renovations and classroom furniture and equipment funded from capital bond dollars, as well as \$6,879 from general fund. First-year expenses are estimated at \$388,449 and estimated revenue is projected to be \$464,453.

The mission of the Crowley ISD Child Care Center will be to provide high quality child care for employees of the district to attract employees and lessen turnover and absenteeism. By providing a child care program for employees, the district will strive to assist employees in building strong families and a stable workforce.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Dr. Dan Powell is taking a medical leave of absence beginning Feb. 24 and resigning as superintendent as part of an agreement reached with the Board of Trustees. During his report, Dr. Powell discussed his departure from Crowley ISD after serving seven years as superintendent. He said serving as the superintendent in CISD has been a wonderful opportunity for him.

“I want to express how profoundly proud and blessed I have been to be able to be superintendent of this school district,” Dr. Powell said. “I’m so proud of the many, many things that this group in this room and your colleagues in the 23 schools and the other facilities across the district have achieved.”

Dr. Powell discussed the district’s obligation in taking students, “from where they are to the very, very pinnacle of where they might be — and the magic in that is we never know what they might be able to do and what they can accomplish.”

He also praised the incoming interim superintendent, who he has worked with previously.

“I know she will continue to bring out the greatness in this staff and in this community as interim superintendent as she’s done before,” Dr. Powell said. “I’m going to spend my retirement years watching all the great things you do.”

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board deliberated on the proposed **Superintendent Separation Agreement**.

The Board deliberated on the proposed **Interim Superintendent Employment Agreement**.

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ACTION ITEMS

The Board approved the proposed **Superintendent Separation Agreement**.

The Board approved the proposed **Interim Superintendent Employment Agreement** with Dr. Patricia A. Linares. Dr. Linares is a longtime Texas public school educator and administrator with recent experience serving as an interim superintendent of Fort Worth ISD from 2014-2015. In her nearly 18 months as interim at FWISD, she continued the district's goal of advancing student achievement while awaiting the naming of a permanent superintendent.



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June W. Davis
President
Place 4



Ryan Ray
Vice President
Place 5



Gary Grassia
Secretary
Place 6



Lyndsa M. Benton
Trustee
Place 7



Thedrick Franklin
Trustee
Place 2



Mia Hall
Trustee
Place 3



VACANT
Trustee
Place 1

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