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## **BOARD CELEBRATIONS**

Board Member Lyndsae Benton congratulated the **Crowley and North Crowley high school theater departments** that each qualified for bi-district One-Act Play competitions. She was able to attend both competitions and was impressed with what she saw. “Our kids do such an amazing job,” Benton said. “They were both outstanding.”

Board Secretary Gary Grassia noted that the board recently attended the **National School Board Association Conference** in Denver. Grassia said it was an honor and joy to talk and collaborate with the other board members.

## **REPORT ITEMS**

Kaitlin Walker, of Crowley High School, and Victor Torres, of North Crowley 9<sup>th</sup>, were honored as **state qualifiers for the Visual Art Scholastic Event (VASE)**. They are advancing to the Texas Art Education Association’s State Visual Arts Scholastic Event (VASE) in San Antonio in April. The mission of (VASE) is to recognize exemplary student achievement in the visual arts by providing art students and programs a standard of excellence in which to achieve.



*(Victor Torres and Kaitlin Walker)*

# Crowley ISD Board of Trustees

## Unofficial Summary of Actions

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Nearly 40 Crowley ISD high school band students recently earned the right to compete at the **Texas State Solo-Ensemble Contest** later this spring. The following students received the highest rating of Superior on their performances:

### **Crowley High School:**

Mica Alexander, Andy Anzaldua, Mason Asberry, Olaide Bankole, Brett Buxton, Mallory Dous, Samantha Ely, Corrine Federspiel, Tiffany Frias, Paola Herrera, Timbrel Hildebrand, Hailey Holman, Rose Ibarra, Katelynn Joiner, Erika Lopez, Jerreh Mabry, Camron Miles, Nathan Oyeka, Natalia Perez, Mariana Rodriguez, Kassidy Smith, Ayana Soto, Christopher Tithof, Jordon Torres, Gwen Tran, Dominique Walton and Tabatha Weigant



*(CHS Band Director Rudy Salazar, Samantha Ely, Kassidy Smith, Timbrel Hildebrand, Christopher Tithof and Mica Alexander)*



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### North Crowley High School:

Luis Adan, Issac Castro-Ortiz, Johnny Choi, Kun “Kenny” Choi, Dina Dzemic, Tania Garcia-Gonzalez, Victoria Grassia, Allan Martinez, Kathryn Marvin, Sitara Patel, Lauren Pistey, Kyler Ramos and Casey Stringer



*(NCHS Band Director David Trewitt, Casey Stringer, Lauren Pistey, Victoria Grassia, Tania Garcia-Gonzalez, Kun “Kenny” Choi and Issac Castro-Ortiz)*

More than 30 Crowley ISD high school choir students recently earned the right to compete at the **Texas State Solo-Ensemble Contest** later this spring.  
The following students received the highest rating of Superior on their performances:

### Crowley High School:

Melissa Elkins, Katie Ellis, Emily Estes, Trinity Garrett, Dakota Hildebrand, Kassidy Kelton, Natalie Lizarraga, An Ly, Suh Nei, Brayan Plascencia, Trinity Stewart, Avion Swift and Kelsey Wright

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*(Katie Ellis, Trinity Garrett, Kassidy Kelton, Trinity Stewart, Kelsey Wright and CHS Choir Director Robyn Hollimon)*

### **North Crowley High School:**

Kaitlyn Barnett, David Bissou, Mekhi Blake, Stanley Coston, Emily Denner, Grace Denner, Cydney Ford, Eric Goodman, Kayla Hoover, Robert Howard, Tobi Johnson, Stephanie Kelley, Jael Lilite, Alexis Montagnon, O'Shea Ross, Sydney Sadberry, Laura Westphal, Gracie Wilcox and Zhana Woodard



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*(Stanley Coston, Grace Denner, Eric Goodman, Robert Howard, O'Shea Ross and NCHS Choir Director Ange Goins)*

The **Heartbeat Team Award** winner for March (Markeith West, CTE law enforcement teacher and internship coordinator) was introduced to the board. [Watch to learn](#) more about West and why he's the heartbeat of Crowley ISD.

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) awarded **Certificates of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting and Distinguished Budget Presentation** to the CISD Business/Finance Department. These achievements are the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management. THE GFOA is a nonprofit professional association serving about 17,500 government finance professionals.

The Crowley ISD Business Services team includes Dwayne Jones, executive director of Business Services; Stacey Adrian, director of Accounting/Finance; Cindy Hankey, coordinator of Accounting; Debby Cranford, accounts payable specialist; Jean Drennan, workers' compensation; Debbie Eblen, lead accounts payable specialist; Nita Bruton, auxiliary leave and payroll; Denise Kendall, lead payroll specialist; Sharon Myers,

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payroll specialist; Kathy Weatherly, department secretary and Lilian Bishop, department administrative support.



*(Jean Drennan, Debbie Eblen, Nita Bruton, Cindy Hankey, Debby Cranford, Sharon Myers, Dwayne Jones, Denise Kendall, Kathy Weatherly, Stacey Adrian)*

The Crowley ISD Marketing and Communications Department won seven **Texas School Public Relations Association (TSPRA) Star Awards** at the TSPRA annual conference in February for its efforts promoting the hard work of Crowley ISD faculty, staff and students. The department, which competed in the 10,000 to 30,000 student population division, took home the following Star Awards:

### **Gold Star**

- Marketing Campaign – MyChoice Programs
- Published News or Feature – CPR Training Helps CTE Student At Work
- Video – News Package – Senior Walk

### **Silver Star**

- Photo – Academic/Classroom Subjects – Senior Walk
- Poster – Paperless Report Cards
- Video – General Interest/Feature Series – Black History Month

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### **Bronze Star**

#### •Video – General Interest/Feature Series – Secondary Teacher of the Year

The Crowley ISD Marketing and Communications staff includes Anthony Kirchner, director; Jaime Handy, communications and marketing coordinator; Matt Hoover, webmaster and digital content administrator; and Megan Middleton, multimedia manager. Other team members are Margarita Jones, district translator; Michelle Uranga, mailroom/receptionist; and Eldora Wood, lead receptionist.

### **OPEN FORUM**

A United Educators Association (UEA) representative discussed possible salary increases in the coming school year as well as developing a district-wide discipline plan.

Following the comments, Board President June Davis praised the hardworking employees of the district and asked Interim Superintendent Dr. Patricia Linares whether a 3-percent raise would be financially possible for the upcoming school year.

Linares, who was hired in February, also praised the dedicated employees who she's met across the district.

"We think it's critical that we not only provide a good salary but also let people know early so we don't lose them to other districts and that we can hire them before anybody else hires the best of the best," Linares said.

Linares hopes to bring to the board a proposal for a 3-percent salary increase for all employees for the 2017-18 school year for approval in April.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Approved the **Feb. 23, 2017 Regular Board Meeting Minutes and the March 9, 2017 Called Board Meeting Minutes**.

Approved the **February 2017 Financial Statements**.

Approved the **Employment of Personnel**, which includes one employee.

Approved **Refuse RFP – Renewal** agreement with Republic Services for districtwide refuse and recycling services.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Discussed the **Potential Naming of the Summer Creek Middle School Gym** in honor of Luther Pierce, a longtime janitor at SCMS who helped open the campus in 2008. He served the students and staff faithfully



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until retiring in December 2016. Pierce passed away Feb. 27, 2017 and his legacy lives on across the campus. Students and staff spoke about the positive impact Pierce made on SCMS.

Discussed **Student Dress Codes**. The student dress codes are reviewed, modified and approved annually. Each year minor revisions are made to dress codes to improve and reinforce stakeholder support, with the emphasis on increased student compliance.

Discussed **Student Fees, Fines and Charges** for the upcoming 2017-18 school year. The board annually approves the Student Fees, Fines, and Charges structure that is provided to parents and students. They are adjusted annually to reflect new programs or increases in expenses for current programs.

Discussed **Food Service Vendor Contract – Renewal**. CISD is completing the second year of the second five-year agreement with Aramark to provide districtwide Child Nutrition Services. CISD is pleased with the performance from Aramark and wants to exercise the second renewal option for the 2017-18 school year. A formal recommendation for renewal will be presented at the April 27 board meeting.

Discussed **Transportation Vendor Contract**. The district is completing the final year of its agreement with Durham School Services, the CISD transportation vendor and is performing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for this service. A district panel will review each and determine those entities where it would like to visit one of their existing client facilities. A formal recommendation will be presented at either the April 27 or May 25 Board meeting (depending on the scheduling of any site visits).

Discussed **TASB's Board Policy Update 107** and reviewing board policies.

Discussed **Addition of Districtwide Automotive Technology at Crowley High School**. There has been significant interest in adding Automotive Technology to the curriculum. Existing space at CHS will be used for this program. The estimated construction cost is \$482,856, which will be paid using Capital Bond Funds. The additional first year estimated cost for equipment/supplies/consumables and staffing is \$136,000, which will be paid using Perkins and general operating funds. Additional second year cost for equipment/supplies/consumables and staffing is \$164,000 and will be paid using Perkins and general operating funds. The total estimated program cost for year 1 and 2 combined is \$782,856.

## **BOARD ACTIONS**

Approved **District of Innovation Plan**. The District's Innovation Advisory Committee, which consists of parents, campus personnel and central office administrators, finalized a District of Innovation plan that allows for greater flexibility in the area of the first and last days of instruction. The five-year plan will begin with the 2017-18 school year and terminate at the end of the 2021-22 school year unless amended by the Innovation Advisory Committee, DWEIC and Board of Trustees.



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Approved **2017-18 School Calendar**. The 2017-18 school calendar was created with input from the Board of Trustees, campus/district administrators, the District Wide Educational Improvement Council (DWEIC) and the District of Innovation Advisory Committee. The first day of school is Tuesday, Aug. 22 and the last day of school is Friday, May 25, 2018. [View the new calendar](#).

Approved **Student Dress Codes**. The student dress codes are reviewed, modified and approved annually. Each year minor revisions are made to dress codes to improve and reinforce stakeholder support, with the emphasis on increased student compliance.

Approved **Student Fees, Fines and Charges**. The board annually approves the Student Fees, Fines, and Charges structure that is provided to parents and students. They are adjusted annually to reflect new programs or increases in expenses for current programs.

Approved **Instructional Materials TEKS Certification 2017-18**. Districts and open-enrollment charter schools are required to certify annually to the State Board of Education and the Commissioner that, for each subject in the required curriculum other than PE, students have access to instructional materials that cover all of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and is used only for expenses allowed by the Texas Education Code.

Approved **Instructional Materials Adoption for Proclamation 2017**. Board policy requires the Instructional Material Selection Committees to select materials for use in the district and recommend selections to the board for approval.

Approved **Memorandum of Understanding with Real School Gardens** to accept a \$188,000 grant over three years that involves constructing a garden at Oakmont Elementary for student learning, staff development and to promote community involvement. The district is responsible for some infrastructure at an estimated cost of \$30,000. The MOU also requires a \$10,000 a year program fee for three years for the Build and Train Program. Oakmont Elementary was just one of 11 schools in the North Texas area chosen for this project.

Approved **2017-18 Administrative Staff Contracts**.

Approved **2017-18 Professional Staff Contracts**.

Approved **Budget Amendment** for training for various programs and supplies.

Approved **Setting Date to Canvas the May 6, 2017 School Board Trustee Election**. The board set 8 a.m. May 15 as the time and date to canvas the trustee election. New School Board members will be sworn-in during the May 25, 2017 Board meeting.

Approved casting votes for **Education Service Center (ESC) Region 11 Board Elections**.

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### **SUPERINTENDENT/BOARD MEMBER COMMENT(S)**

Interim Superintendent Dr. Patricia Linares noted the following events:

- **Crowley ISD Job Fair** — Saturday, April 29
- **Crowley ISD Day** at the Texas Rangers' Globe Life Park — Sunday, April 30

Linares thanked the board, staff, teachers, principals and everyone in the district for welcoming her and emphasized the importance of continuing the work of doing what's best for children.

"Thank you for the warm welcome, but let's continue to move forward — because it's all about kids," she said.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board deliberated on the **Purchase, Exchange, Lease or Value of Real Property – Deliberate on a Letter Agreement and a Water Pipeline Easement and Right-Of-Way Agreement Submitted by the Tarrant Regional Water District.**

The Board deliberated on **Personnel.**

### **ACTION ITEMS**

The Board approved an **agreement with the Tarrant Regional Water District** for a water pipeline easement and right-of-way agreement.

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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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