



## BOARD BRIEFS

### Mineral Wells Independent School District

---

#### A Summary of Actions by the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting of September 9, 2019

The Board of Trustees met on September 9, 2019 for the purpose of holding a board workshop/regular board meeting. Members present were Maria Jones – President, Scott Elder – Secretary, Donna Henderson, Greg Malone, Lauretta Poole, and Joe Ruelas.

#### Action Items:

1. Approved the Monthly Financial Reports and Accounts Payable Listing.
2. Approved the Water, Electricity, and Gas Reports.
3. Approved the board meeting minutes for August 12, 2019 and August 29, 2019.
4. Approved the Facility Use Agreements for Category 1 Organizations.
5. Approved the Faculty/Staff Computer Refresh for 2019-2020 as presented.
6. Approved the Templeton Demographics Proposal for 2019-2020 Demographic Study as presented.
7. Approved the Application for Optional Flexible School Day Program as presented.
8. Closed Session Items: None.

#### Information Items:

1. Board held a workshop at 5:31 p.m. for Child Abuse Reporting and Training in Texas Schools facilitated by Linda Porter Bradford, Children's Alliance Center; review of Emergency Operations Plan with David Tarver; Planning 2019-2020; and Agenda Review.
2. President's Report:
  - Maria Jones, Board President, reported that two board members will be attending the 2019 TASA/TASB Annual Convention, September 20-23. Ms. Jones will represent the Board as the delegate to the convention.
  - Dale Latham, ESC Region 11, will facilitate the required Team of Eight Training on October 21, 2019.
3. Superintendent's Reports:
  - John Kuhn, Superintendent, called on campus principals for a brief overview of themes, programs, and new procedures:
    - Lamar Elementary – Principal Kendra Fowler says Lamar's theme is the ocean and although everyone is different, they will "swim together" this year. Changes include adding an MCL in 1<sup>st</sup> grade. As the teacher will have a regular class, she will be assisted by an MCL para to help coach teachers. An additional Kindergarten teacher was hired to meet growth – K enrollment now at 270. Adopted new curriculum with HMH which is a comprehensive reading program and includes year two of Saxon Phonics. Special thanks to PTO for help in purchase of smaller playground equipment and great new ground cover that is wheelchair accessible. SPED department is expanding smaller playground area by adding cover and smaller playground pieces.
    - Houston Elementary – Principal Amy Salazar says they've adopted a sports theme where they are "Team Houston – Together Everyone Achieves More." Changes include self-containing 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classrooms where students now receive core instruction from the same teacher all day. It also allows for more class time as there is no transition between classes. Teachers have already noticed positive behavior changes in these students. Houston is also working to improve the RTI process which includes targeting struggling math students through a program called the Success Center. Students are pulled out for a 45-minute session (not pulled from core classes) where they receive individualized intensive math instruction. Houston will continue with Saxon Phonics for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and they are encouraging all students to read outside the classroom through the AR program.
    - Travis Elementary – Principal David Wells announced changes to the master schedule by moving to a three-pod system that consists of a Math teacher, an ELA teacher, and a Science teacher. Each teacher will teach one Social Studies class to their home room. This system increases instructional class time by 15 minutes per class, per day. In addition, it increases RTI by 10 minutes per day and allows an additional 5 minutes for recess. RTI has been restructured. Every core teacher is now a Tier 2 or Tier 3 RTI specialist which allows every student to become an RTI student. Teachers can then pull student groups for additional instruction as needed. Also new this year, Travis will have their first bilingual class in 4<sup>th</sup> grade and hoping to extend this to 5<sup>th</sup> grade next year. The Travis slogan – "Education is Your Ticket to the Greatest Show on Earth."
    - Mineral Wells Junior High – Principal Shanna Owens says Junior High is going "From Good to Great Together" this year. Ms. Owens announced a change in the bell schedule to reflect the Flex 2.0 40-minute tutoring time that is now built into the day. Not only does it allow for content tutoring, but also RTI, GT, STUCO, and any other student clubs/groups. New this year is MAPS testing through NWEA. Two days of testing per subject (math, English language usage, reading, and science) are given at beginning of year, around Thanksgiving, and again around Spring Break for the purpose of examining growth – not a passing score. Data helps determine areas of struggle and what interventions to implement. MWJH also established a Resource Math Class extending services for SPED students. The teacher teaches 4 sections of resource math and is also utilized as an inclusion English teacher.
    - Mineral Wells High School – Principal Doug Funk says "Today is Tomorrow – The Future is Now." High School made changes to the mega lunch bell schedule by going to a 30-minute lunch with a 30-minute tutorial. This schedule is in place four days a week (Monday through Thursday), with Fridays resuming the regular mega lunch schedule to allow meeting time for student clubs/organizations. High School has added a Ram Readiness Class throughout the day for students who have not been successful on EOC exams. They will receive very focused, structured intervention in the areas where they struggle. The CTE Department has added Manufacturing Logistics. CTE is also having a drone demonstration September 10 at 8:30 a.m. for those that would like to come watch.
    - Mineral Wells Academy – Principal Jeff Smith reported 42 completers and 39 graduates for 2019, with more than half finishing with an endorsement. MWA has a theme of "It's Not Enough," with hopes of graduating more. MWA begins the year with an enrollment of eleven but looks to increase this by mid-year. DAEP beginning enrollment is 20, some of which are carry-over from last year. The goal for DAEP is to reduce recidivism.
  - Dr. Kuhn reported an enrollment of 3,248 at the end of August, down by 32 from last year. Positives in looking at areas of growth begin with the year MWISD implemented full-day PreK. That PreK group of students went from 151 to 227 with implementation of full-day PreK, and the numbers for that same PreK group, now in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, have increased to 255. In looking at the grades behind this group, similar growth is the trend. As each of these groups advance grade levels, overall growth for MWISD will begin to increase. Attendance rate is at 97.27% with every campus except MWA being above the target rate of 95%.

- Parisa Lerma, Special Education Director, presented an update on the Special Education program.
  - Carey Carter, Executive Director of Curriculum, presented the Mineral Wells ISD 2018-2019 Accountability Update. Mineral Wells ISD received a B with an overall grade of 84. Mineral Wells High School received a B (81), Mineral Wells Junior High received a C (74), Mineral Wells Elementary (the three elementary campuses combined) received a C (70), and Mineral Wells Academy received an A (93). In comparison with the State, MWISD 8<sup>th</sup> grade Science, 5<sup>th</sup> grade Math, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade Math outscored the State. Other notable improvements include a 93% passing rate in US History EOC; best overall improvement (STAAR at approaches) in English I and Algebra I; and best overall improvement (STAAR at meets and masters) in 8<sup>th</sup> grade Reading. Distinction designations include: MWHS 4-year longitudinal graduation rate and 4-year graduation plan; MWJH academic achievement in Science; and MWA graduation plan bonus.
4. A Public Hearing was held regarding the Optional Flexible School Day Program. Following a brief overview by David Tarver, Assistant Superintendent, the floor was opened for questions and discussion.
  5. The Board received calendars for September and October.

**Next Regular Meeting will be on October 14, 2019**

This school district and its Career and Technology Education Program does not discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race, color, age or national origin in its educational programs, activities, or employment as required by Title IX, Section 504 and Title VI.

Este distrito escolar y su Programa Educacional de Carrera y Tecnología no discriminan en base a sexo, discapacidad, raza, color, edad u origen nacional en sus programas educativos, actividades, o empleo como lo requiere el Título IX, Sección 504 y Título VI.