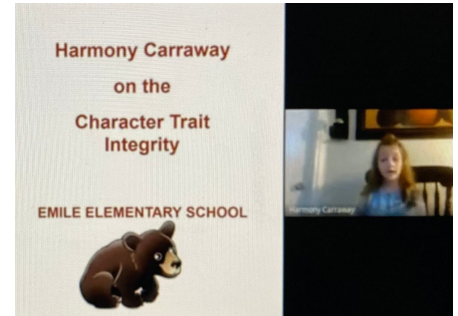


Character Trait of the Month

Harmony Carraway spoke about integrity. Harmony is in fourth grade at Emile Elementary, enjoys singing and acting, is an active member of the Bastrop Opera House Youth Academy, and a veteran performer. She said that integrity is having good morals and acting on those morals even when no one is watching. "Integrity is one of the best traits someone can have. When it comes to integrity it doesn't matter who you are or where you come from, you will stand for what is right."



Student/Staff Recognition

The **Student Councils** from CCHS (led by advisor Brian Meyer) and BHS (led by advisor Kristen Stevenson) were recognized for winning the Outstanding Student Council Award and the Sweepstakes Award from the Texas Association of Student Councils. Both groups earned the highest marks for community service, environmental work, pride, and patriotism. **The board also recognized the top graduating seniors from the Class of 2020.** CRCA Principal Martin Conrardy, CCHS Principal Bridgette Cornelius, and BHS Interim Principal Terrell King proudly named their top students. [Click here to view the Top Graduates presentation.](#)



Superintendent Barry Edwards recognized our colleagues selected as the Paraprofessionals of the Year, Elementary Teachers of the Year, and Secondary Teachers of the Year before naming the District award recipients. **Alfred Schmitz** from Lost Pines Elementary is the District Paraprofessional of the Year. **Emily Tawater**, also from Lost Pines Elementary, is the District Elementary Teacher of the Year. **Robin Inks** from Cedar Creek High School is the District Secondary Teacher of the Year. Tawater and Inks will go on to represent Bastrop ISD in the Region 13 Teacher of the Year competition. First-year teacher Rachel Hamby from BHS was selected as the Rock Star Rookie of the Year. Congratulations to the district winners and our colleagues who represent their campuses so well. You can see all the nominees and award recipients [here](#).



Robin Inks
Cedar Creek High School

Robin has unique insight into students others have difficulty with. She teaches with courage, compassion and a burning desire to meet the needs of all learners. She is seriously like a Disney princess come to life!



Emily Tawater
Lost Pines Elementary

I had heard how much she cares for her students, but the little I had heard and seen about Mrs. Tawater doesn't even come close to what an amazing teacher she is!





District Paraprofessional of the Year

Alfred Schmitz
Lost Pines Elementary

"Mr. Schmitz has surpassed my highest hopes for the care and commitment I hoped for my son's education. He is the gold standard of teaching."



Rock Star Rookie of the Year

Rachel Hamby
Bastrop High School

"Ms. Hamby has killed it in her first year of teaching! She really pays attention to the needs of her students and advocates for them. She's a rock star in the classroom and with the FFA program."



2020 Award for Outstanding Teaching of the Humanities



Dr. Deirdre Doughty
Colorado River Collegiate Academy

Congratulations also to Dr. Deirdre Doughty, who teaches at Colorado River Collegiate Academy. She was given the 2020 Award for Outstanding Teaching of the Humanities. The award was given by Humanities Texas, which recognizes and promotes educational excellence. As a recipient of this award, Dr. Doughty receives a cash award of \$5,000, and the Colorado River Collegiate Academy receives a cash award of \$1,000 to be used for humanities instructional resources.

Dr. Doughty is also this year's Region 13 Teacher of the Year.

Staff Presentations

A [Public Hearing on the 2020-21 Budget](#) was presented by CFO Sandra Callahan. Key considerations include salary increases, additional police officers and other related security enhancements, expansion of full day pre-k, new teaching positions, stipend increases, and funding for improvement projects. Mrs. Callahan also presented the BISD 2020-21 compensation package which will be available on the District website in the near future.

Police Chief Scot Bunch presented the 19-20 [Police Department Activity Report](#). Chief reported a drop in arrests of 50%, additional surveillance cameras that allow officers to monitor campuses from their smartphones, and a plan for increased community partnerships. Dr. Adelaida Olivarez presented information about COVID-19 Waivers and Accommodations, which include [Missed School Day Waiver](#), [CPR Instruction Waiver](#), [Instructional Materials Inventory Requirement Waiver](#), and [ASVAB Test Waiver](#).

Board Action

In addition to the consent agenda, the Board approved the 2020-21 budgets as presented including a 3% raise for teachers and librarians, and a raise of 3% of the midpoint for all other staff. The board also approved the BISD Compensation Package, and the COVID-19 Waivers and Accommodations.