Character Trait of the Month

Michelle Zavala spoke to the School Board on self-discipline, which is timely given that our students are learning from home while our buildings are closed. Michelle is a senior at Bastrop High School, president of National Honor Society, parliamentarian of HOSA, and a member of StuCo, Go Force, and Key Club. She said that self-discipline is about taking initiative for yourself and for others. Michelle said, “it’s more than being responsible. It’s the pinnacle of self-actualization.”

Student/Staff Recognition

The Bastrop Area Livestock Show was held last month with great success! Amanda Brantley, Director of CTE, presented the Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion Winners in all categories. Congratulations to all livestock show competitors who worked so incredibly hard and to these winners! Band directors for BMS and CCMS, Alex Ortega and Jackie Fullerton, showed off their Sweepstakes awards for the BMS Band and the CCMS Band, which means getting straight 1s at the UIL competition. Both schools earned these high honors, and we are so proud of their accomplishments! Finally, we recognized UIL winners from both middle schools. Principal Jim Hallemek of CCMS and Principal Krystal Gabriel of BMS also presented their award winners from the recent district Academic UIL competition. You can find the list of all student recognitions in this combined slide presentation.
Sandra Callahan shared an Updated Preliminary Budget Report. Key considerations include salary increases, two additional police officers and other related security enhancements, expansion of full day pre-k, 24 new teaching positions, transportation contract, additional portables, and immediate maintenance needs among others. Kristi Lee shared an update on BISD At-Home Learning via this two-page infographic with statistics as of April 15. Check out all the amazing work that has been done by our team!

In addition to the consent agenda, the Board approved the renewal of the child nutrition contract with SFE, as well as the Contract for Student Transportation. The new contract calls for 80 new buses. All new buses will be equipped with air conditioning, 3-point seat belts, GPS, two-way radios, cameras, and a student monitoring ID system. The contract also includes a starting wage increase for bus drivers to $17.25 per hour. The District plans to add A/C to the remaining 28 buses in the fleet.

The Board also approved the filing of a Pre-Kindergarten Waiver to the Texas Education Agency for an exemption delaying the offering of full-day pre-k at Emile Elementary for up to three years due to space constraints. The District will continue to explore solutions to offer full-day pre-k at Emile as quickly as possible. Beginning in 2020-2021, BISD will offer full-day pre-k at five of our six elementary campuses. The Board also approved a Resolution on GPA, Rank and Grading Policy as presented by Laila Olivarez. Penné Liefer presented a Resolution granting the Superintendent the authority to Approve Educator Appraisal Waivers During COVID-19. There were some teachers whose appraisals were not finalized before closing our school buildings, and this resolution applies to specific cases.

We Miss You!

#BeSafe  #BeResponsible  #StayHomeTexas

Enjoy this video collection of photos of our hardworking staff!

Next Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, May 19, 2020
5:30 PM