

## Character Trait of the Month

Nyla Chovanetz spoke to the School Board about Patriotism, a character trait she said we can all show on a daily basis. Nyla just completed her time at Bluebonnet Elementary and will transition to Cedar Creek Intermediate this fall. When talking about patriotism, Nyla said we all can show patriotism by celebrating our veterans, voting, learning about American history, and respecting each other and our laws. "Adults need to work together to make sure everyone is treated fairly regardless of who you think you are," she said.

## Staff Presentations

Superintendent Barry Edwards presented [an overview of the Return to School Guide](#) that was published on July 20. He covered the four key areas of Health & Safety, Instructional Options for Families, Curriculum and Instruction, and Student Support Services. The Board authorized Mr. Edwards to submit the remote asynchronous learning plan once finalized to the Texas Education Agency for review and approval.

Penne' Liefer shared a hiring update. Our teacher turnover rate has declined from 24% to 19.2%, meaning we are keeping more of our good teachers. Starting next month, the District will implement a retention stipend for teachers of record who have been teaching in the district for three or more years. The stipend starts at \$300 with a maximum of \$1,500. More details will be shared next month.

## Board Action

In addition to the consent agenda, the Board approved an [order canceling the Bond Election](#), which was originally scheduled for May 2 but postponed due to COVID-19. Leadership met with the Citizens Advisory Task Force (CATF) recently to discuss the future of the bond and determined that the adversity, economic disruption and turmoil caused by COVID-19 is expected to endure for many months resulting in unknown operational and financial challenges and potential changes in the manner in which the District provides educational services. At a later date, the leadership team and the CATF will reconvene to assess the District's needs going forward.

The board approved an order modifying the [election for Board of Trustees Place 3 and Place 4](#), also scheduled for May 2. Billy Moore is unopposed, and Molly McClure has a challenger. The election is set for November 3, 2020 in conjunction with the General Election. Additionally, the board approved revisions to Policy EIC (LOCAL) adding fine arts courses to the list of exclusions, so these elective courses will not negatively impact a student's final GPA calculation. Finally, the board endorsed Mary Jane Hetrick for a position on the Region 13 TASB Board of Directors.

*"The strength of the pack is the wolf, and the strength of the wolf is the pack." - Rudyard Kipling*

**#BISDTogetherWeCan**

**Join Us for Our Next Regular Board Meeting  
Tuesday, August 18, 2020  
5:30 PM at the PAC**