

Character Education

Kamilah Garcia, a 4th grader from Lost Pines Elementary spoke to the board about compassion, the character trait for November. In her speech, Garcia said “my definition of compassion is to care about others, treat others with kindness, and always help people in need. I try to show compassion as often as I can because you never know what other people are going through and maybe my smile was enough to get them through the day,” Garcia ended her speech by reminding everyone that actions speak louder than words and we should all show compassion, now more than ever.



Special Presentation

Bastrop County Judge Paul Pape administered the Oath of Office to Molly McClure and Billy Moore. Both were re-elected to the school board earlier this month. Molly’s husband Leon joined her for the picture, as did Billy’s wife Kathleen. Congratulations to Molly and Billy! We appreciate their dedicated service to the students and staff of Bastrop ISD.



Student/Staff Recognition

Amanda Brantley, Director of College, Career & Military Readiness, recognized 56 students from Bastrop High School, Cedar Creek High School, and the Colorado River Collegiate Academy who achieved the designation of AP Scholar (not pictured). The Board also recognized All-Region Jazz Band from BHS (pictured left below) and All-Region Choir from CCHS (pictured right below). Congratulations to these talented artists and their directors Kenneth Gilbreath and Kate McGrew.

In cross country, we recognized Coach Poos from CCHS and Coach Rangel and her team from BHS (pictured center below). Congratulations to these outstanding student athletes and coaches.



Bastrop High School Cross Country Coach Leslie Rangel recognized the school's team for qualifying for Regional and District.



District Staff *Presentations*

During a public hearing, Sandra Callahan presented the [20-21 School Financial Integrity Rating System \(FIRST\)](#). Currently, Bastrop ISD has a Superior rating. Callahan was also joined by Robert Belt from Belt, Harris, Pechacek, LLLP presented the 2019-2020 Audit Report, which showed our fund balance had a net increase of \$2.7 million dollars. Mr. Belt says this is a strong indicator the district is in excellent financial shape.

Kristi Lee presented the board with an update about the [Texas 21st Century Learning Centers Grant](#), which is the grant that funds our ACE program. In October, BISD was notified that the grant has been extended for another two years, which is nearly \$3 million in additional funding.

Board *Action*

In addition to the consent agenda, the Board took the following action:

- Approved plans to expand and implement new initiatives for College, Career, and Military Readiness. As well as plans to increase reading and math scores by 20% in the next five years. The [House Bill 3 Goals and Plans](#) proposals were presented by Amanda Brantley and Early Literacy Director, Reba King.
 - Approved the [20-21 District Improvement Plan](#) and the [20-21 Targeted Improvement Plan](#) as presented by Dr. Marisol Rocha, Director of Federal & State Programs and School Improvement, Cedar Creek Middle School Principal Dan Brown, and Emile Elementary School Principal Windy Burnett.
 - Approved sending a class size waiver to the TEA as presented by Penne' Liefer, Associate Superintendent for Administrative Services and Human Resources. The board also approved filing a complaint against several teachers with the State Board of Educator Certification for Abandonment of Contract.
 - Unanimously approved signing Superintendent Barry Edwards to a new employment contract.
 - Unanimously approved a [one-time pay incentive](#) for Bastrop ISD employees for their incredible work and dedication this past year.
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- Approved the reorganization of Board Leadership positions. The positions are as follows: Ashley Mutschink, President; Billy Moore, Vice-President; and Kellye Seekatz, Secretary.
- Approved canceling the December Board Meeting.

Happy Thanksgiving

#TogetherWeCan

#MaskUp

