

Character Education

Avrie Bortz, a fourth-grader at Mina Elementary School, spoke about responsibility, which is a character trait that helps people learn to trust others. “Responsibility is not something you’re born with. You have to build it up over time in your life. If you show others responsibility you will gain their trust, but if you fail to show them responsibility, people will trust you less. They won’t let you do anything fun because you aren’t taking responsibility for your actions.” Well said, Avrie.



Special Presentations

October is **Domestic Violence Awareness Month**. Gina Gralinski from the Bastrop Family Crisis Center talked about the agency’s resources and efforts to raise awareness about domestic violence in school-age children. Research shows that one in ten high school students has been purposely hurt by a boyfriend or girlfriend. Gralinski presented the board with special masks to spotlight domestic violence awareness, as well as a basket of purple ribbons.



In honor of **National Principals Month**, Superintendent Barry Edwards and our Board of Trustees took time to recognize our amazing campus leaders. These 14 women and men have huge responsibilities on their shoulders, yet they lead with grace, poise, energy, and always with an abiding focus on what is best for their students and staff.

In addition to words of recognition, principals were presented with a BiSD rain jacket and face mask. Watch this [special video tribute](#), which was a collaboration of the Board, Service Center, and city and county leaders.

Thank you Principals! (see photo next page)

District Staff Presentations

Athletic Director Andy Sexton talked about the advancements being made in our athletic programs as well as some of the challenges they are facing due to COVID-19. Still, he said, the sports program is off to a strong start this school year.

Dr. Rocha presented updates from last year’s [State Compensatory Education Evaluation](#), which included additional funding for at-risk students. The additional funding allowed for tutoring, English learner support, credit recovery, and intervention classes. Additionally, due to reallocating funding because of COVID-19, the district replenished and distributed more than 100 more electronic devices per campus and purchased additional online educational resources to help students.

Board Action

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

- Approved an interlocal agreement with Smithville and La Grange school districts to allow their students to attend the Bastrop Works program.

- Approved amending the Authorized Representative and Authorized Representative Add Form for Lone Star Investment Pool. This was done due to some staff changes in the business department.
- Approved filing complaints with the State Board of Educator Certification against several employees who abandoned their contracts.
- Approved a Staff Development Waiver for January 5 and February 15 without having to extend the instructional day or the instructional year for staff and students.
- Approved changes to the 20-21 Academic Calendar by adding eight new early release days.

HAPPY NATIONAL PRINCIPALS MONTH!

(Masks were briefly removed to take this picture.)



Left to right back row: President Ashley Mutschink, Zach Allison-Gateway, Daniel Brown-CCMS, Secretary Billy Moore, Superintendent Barry Edwards, Trustee Chris Dillon, Bridgette Cornelius-CCHS, Trustee James Allen, Vice President Dr. Matthew Mix, David MacRoberts-BES, and Emily Allen-Mina.

Left to right front row: Alison Hall-CCIS, Windy Burnett-Emile, Trustee Kellye Seekatz, Trustee Molly McClure, Krystal Gabriel-BHS, Kristi Kisamore-BIS, Ladyanne Horne-BMS, Kelly Hubley-RRE, and Kelli Ruby-CCE. Not pictured are Martin Conrardy and Stacy Trost.

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is November 17, 2020, at 5:30 pm at the PAC.