

Boardroom Notes

October 18, 2007

President Jim Ash convened the meeting with Michael Glaspie, Mike O'Donnell, Wayne Ogle, Gloria Peña, Erich Ramsey, Sherri Wade and Dr. Mac Bernd present.

Program/Presentation

2007-2008 Annual Wall Calendar

Veronica Sopher, public information, welcomed O.K. Carter, *Star-Telegram*, and Sandra Harris, Arlington Memorial Hospital, and thanked them for sponsoring the **AISD wall calendar**. In addition, student artists featured in the calendar were presented framed calendar pages of their art. Additional copies of the calendar are available in the public information office. Thank you to all of the talented and committed **art teachers** who foster the love of art in our students.

2007-2008 DIDC Members

Executive Director of Secondary Instruction Anne Brassell introduced the new members of the **Districtwide Instructional Decision-Making Committee (DIDC)**. The new members are as follows: Mary Bowles, Megan Hale, Glen Brunk, Edward Maneilis, Laura Pyles, Jeannie Bailon, Terri Nedderman, Jennifer Hay, Susan Spencer, Karen Allmond, Ed Farmer, Lora Thurston, Maryjane O'Halloran-Beane, Ann Shaughessy and Jan Suggs.

Score-A-Goal in the Classroom

Ernie Horn, **Score-A-Goal in the Classroom**, was on hand to award Judy Burcie, reading specialist, with a special recognition. Burcie received the Score-A-Goal in the Classroom Hummer Hero Award. Congratulations to Burcie who received the use of and the keys to a 2008 Hummer!

Superintendent's Report

We've seen a rise in media coverage of antibiotic-resistant staph infections across the country, known as MRSA. Dr. Bernd assured our parents and our community that the AISD is taking very seriously the danger of any antibiotic-resistant infection, and that we have several safeguards in place specifically in regard to staph bacteria. Some of those safeguards include the following:

- The AISD's custodial department thoroughly cleans all buildings daily and is especially vigilant in working with our coaches to pay special attention to athletic areas.
- We use several types of disinfectants and detergents that stop the spread of staph bacteria.
- Our nursing staff works closely with Tarrant County Public Health and also communicates with the cleaning staff at each campus.
- Since the beginning of the school year we have had isolated reports of documented infections: two at Arlington HS earlier in the year and one each at South Davis and Butler elementaries this week.
- Our coaches communicate with our student-athletes about proper procedures to prevent the spread of staph infections.

We also ask the help of our community by encouraging vigilant hand-washing, personal care and cleanliness, along with the covering of any break in the skin. Please alert your school and your physician if your child develops a suspicious skin irritation.

We are a large district of 74 campuses and more than 63,000 students, so the incidence of staph infections is not considered high or on the rise. However, we will continue to take preventative measures and will work with staff, students and parents to communicate any concerns. Dr. Bernd encouraged everyone to visit www.aisd.net for more information and for practical guidelines from the CDC.



Board Reports

- **Michael Glaspie** announced that he will step down as the Place Two School Board Trustee in time for the May 2008 election. The Place Two term ends in 2009. Board members commented on Glaspie's intention to run for the Arlington City Council and wished him luck.



Action Items

The board approved the following:

- Changing the time of the **Nov. 1, 2007 board meeting**. The Nov. 1 meeting will begin at 4 p.m., changed from 7 p.m.



Open Forum/Non-Agenda Items

- **Jennifer Boyle** shared with the board her concerns regarding overcrowding at West Elementary. She spoke at an earlier board meeting and expressed her concern about more students registering at West. Boyle asked the board to consider a bond election to build a new school to help relieve the growing population of West. She also suggested redrawing attendance zone boundaries.