

# BOARD UPDATE

Galena Park Independent School District • Volume 31, Number 8 • March 4, 2013

## STUDENT RECOGNITION

- **Galena Park High School students** were recognized for being selected as members of the National Forensics League National Speech & Debate Honor Society for their performance in high school speech activities. James Kingsmill, coach, has also been elected to the National Forensic League with the title of Professional Coach.
  - **Mrs. Noelia Vargas' fifth grade class at Woodland Acres Elementary School** won the First Annual Lonestar Math Cup.
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## EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

- **Ashley Buhring, North Shore Senior High School**, has been selected as a Fellow to the National Science Foundation's New Science Teacher Academy.
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## ACADEMIC SPOTLIGHT

- **Dr. Wanna Giacona, Executive Director of Special Programs**, presented an overview of the Special Education Programs.
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## REPORTS

- **Arnold Ramirez, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resource and Communication Services**, presented the following:
    - Policy EIE (LOCAL) Academic Achievement, Retention and Promotion
    - TASB Localized Policy Update 96
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## NEW BUSINESS

### ACTION

- **Approved** the Resolution calling upon Texas State Representatives to oppose the passage of House Bill 945 or any other similar legislation designed to abolish the Harris County Department of Education (HCDE), Harris County Board of Trustees and the office of County School Superintendent.

### GENERAL CONSENT AGENDA

- **Approved** the minutes of the Board Workshop held on Monday, February 11, 2013 at 5:15 p.m. and the Regular Meeting held on Monday, February 11, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.
- **Permitted** the District to apply for funding for literacy materials from the ATPE Foundation/Beth Ann Rogers Literacy Initiative on behalf of the Woodland Acres Elementary School and Galena Park Middle School libraries.
- **Permitted** the District to apply for the American Association of School Administrators' (AASA) Urgent Need Mini-Grant that will assist GPISD students and their families meet their immediate and urgent needs.
- **Permitted** the District to participate in the Communities in Schools' Cycle 8 21st Century Community Learning Center grant application to provide after-school programming at up to five GPISD campuses to benefit our students and their families.
- **Permitted** the District to participate in the Harris County Department of Education's Cycle 8 21st Century Community Learning Center grant application to provide after-school programming at MacArthur Elementary to benefit our students and their families.
- **Permitted** the District to participate in the Harris County Department of Education's grant application for the Educational Technology, Media and Materials for Individuals with Disabilities—Stepping Up Technology Implementation Cooperative Agreement.
- **Approved** the 2012-13 Early Head Start Policies & Procedures as presented.
- **Approved** the 2012-13 Early Head Start Program Plans as presented.

## NEW BUSINESS

### CONSTRUCTION CONSENT AGENDA

- **Approved** proceeding with a Contract with JSE Consulting Engineers, Inc. for the Design and Construction of a UPS system to meet the needs of the Administration Data Center. The total Project Budget is \$200,000.
- **Approved** the proceeding with project #917-2013 by awarding a construction contract to American Mechanical Services, LLC in the amount of \$499,225.00 for the replacement of the cooling towers at Jacinto City Elementary and MacArthur Elementary, and to refurbish the cooling towers at Cimarron Elementary, Havard Elementary, North Shore Senior High 9th Grade Campus and Woodland Acres Elementary/Middle schools.

### FINANCIAL CONSENT AGENDA

- **Approved** the Proposed Budget Amendments for the period of February 2013 as presented.
- **Approved** the Proposed Request for Purchases over \$50,000 as presented.
- **Awarded** CSP 12-009 for an Annual Contract for Internet Access to Comcast Business Communications, LLC for a total annual cost not to exceed \$20,000.
- **Approved** the hiring of First Financial Group as the third party administrator for the District's 403(b) plans and 457(b) plan effective May 1, 2013.
- **Approved** the tax refunds request for overpayment of taxes as follows:
  - Certified Auto Group     \$2,094.18
  - Helm US Corp.             \$7,871.29
  - La Ranchera Inc.         \$2,728.99

## INFORMATION

- **Sonya George, Chief Financial Officer**, presented the Comparative Monthly Tax Collection Report for the period of September 1, 2012 – January 31, 2013, and September 1, 2011 – January 31, 2012
- **Ken Wallace, Assistant Superintendent for Educational Support and School Administration**, presented the Early Head Start monthly update for January 2013.