# **Board Buzz**

# Weekly Superintendent Update for the FBISD Board of Trustees

# Friday, February 12, 2021 - Volume 1; Edition 5

# I ♥ FB (Happy Almost Valentine's Day)

Brace yourselves! It's going to be a COLD one! Based on information that we have received regarding the weather the next few days, we will move to remote instruction Monday, February 15. Please see the notice sent to parents and staff below. The required waivers will be added to the agenda for the February 25 Regular Board Meeting.

Thank you for your attendance during the Special Called Board Meeting on Thursday, February 11! Enjoy your weekend! Happy Valentine's Day!



#### INCLEMENT WEATHER UPDATE FOR MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH

Flour Bluff ISD will move all students to remote learning on Monday, February 15, due to forecasted wintery weather expected for our area Sunday evening and into Monday. Staff who can work remotely will be asked to do so. However, please communicate with your immediate



supervisor on your specific job responsibilities and expectations for Monday, February 15. We are asking parents to prepare their children to take part in remote learning on Monday, February 15. Campus administrators and teachers will provide students with additional details on resources needed for remote instruction on Monday and communicate this information with parents. **At this time, Tuesday, February 16, will be a regular school/work day.** We will be watching the weather throughout the weekend and on Monday. Please keep a close eye on your email for updates and stay in communication with your supervisor. We will also provide updates via the District's website, social media platforms and through local media outlets. We hope you have a wonderful weekend. Stay safe and warm!

My week "BUZZING" around the District!

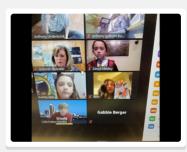


Flour Bluff Elementary Reading Night

"This is NOT a Valentine!"



"This is NOT a Valentine!" - Read by Velma Soliz-Garcia



FB Elementary Students and Teachers - Reading Night



Book BINGO!



First Game of Chess with the FBHS Chess Club!

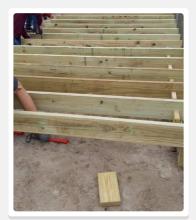


Learned a lot from the members!

Love the learning opportunities for ALL students



FBHS Principles of Construction Class built this deck for the baseball field!



Reminder...this is only the second year of this class



Our kids continue to amaze me♥



Valentine Treats for Central Office Staff!

### Calendar Committee

On February 10, 2021, the district calendar committee kicked off its first meeting to begin the planning process of developing an academic calendar for the 2021-2022 school year. The district calendar committee is made up of staff, parent, and community representatives. The goal of the district calendar committee is to work collaboratively to put together

a calendar that maximizes learning opportunities for student learning and purposeful planning/staff development days for teachers. A summary from the meeting minutes include the following:

- FAQ: Operational minute requirements and required staff workdays
- Examples of district calendars from other school districts
- Information and discussion from the January 27th DOI meeting regarding year-round school
- Staff development waiver available from TEA
- Pros and Cons on of having 9-weeks and 6-weeks grading period
- UIL implications for the different grading periods
- Recommendation to plan a similar calendar to the 2020-2021 school calendar
- Superintendent information on planning/staff development days

Next meeting is scheduled for February 24, 2021. Committee members will discuss proposed calendar options for the next school year.

#### **District Committees**

The following committees will start meeting this semester and we are asking for representation from our Board of Trustees (1 member for each). This item will be added to the February 25 Board Agenda for your consideration - discussion and action to occur at that time.

- Budget Committee
- Benefits Committee
- Calendar Committee

# FBISD Capital Projects Meeting

A meeting was held this week with Maintenance and Operations (Don Youngberg & Ronney Robles) along with longtime consultant, Jared Merdes (Stridde, Collins & Associates) to discuss all projects in the







district. The team will be creating a portfolio of projects, estimated costs, and any historical documents. This will help us as we move towards scheduling workshops and planning committees.

## COVID Recovery Instructional Materials Support Initiative (CRIMSI)

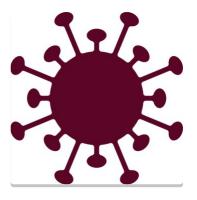
On February 5, 2021, Flour Bluff ISD submitted an application to apply for the COVID Recovery *Instructional Materials Support Initiative (CRIMSI)* through TEA. This week, TEA notified the district that four campuses (ECC-3 teachers, Primary-3 teachers Elementary-1 teacher, and Junior High-4 teachers) were selected to participate in the *CRIMSI* pilot.

This initiative is to pilot instructional materials on the Texas Home Learning (THL) platform. The pilot will begin in spring 2021. All products on the THL cover 100% of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS), including K-12 math and reading language arts and K-5 science. In addition to full access to the THL learning platform, each teacher will also receive free instructional materials/manipulatives, support for remote learning, including up-front training and on-going coaching, and a \$1000 stipend at the end of the pilot. Jennifer Norman, K-4 Curriculum Supervisor, and Tamara Blair, Junior Curriculum Supervisor will serve as school leaders for the pilot, and Dr. Schaum will oversee the pilot for the district and attend all training.

# COVID-19 UPDATE

Work of the Nueces County superintendents with Nueces County and the Corpus Christi-Nueces County Health Department to provide opportunities for school district employees to be vaccinated continued this week.

The first round of educators were vaccinated Tuesday, February 9. 500 vaccines were set aside for Nueces County educators. The clinic was held at the Church Unlimited site on Ayers St. Approximately 40 educators from FBISD participated.



We are collecting information via a districtwide survey for the next round to occur next week. Special thanks to Nueces County Judge Barbara Canales, Nueces County Health Department Director Annette Rodriguez, County Commissioner Brent Chesney for helping us to see this endeavor come to realization. I especially want to thank our Board Members for connecting with these county elected officials and asking them to assist and to connect with us at FBISD. I now have them on speed dial!

# COVID-19 Testing Update

We had twelve (12) COVID-19 Rapid Tests administered to employees this week. All test results were negative. We sill begin to make COVID-19 Rapid Tests available to students the week of Feb. 22.

# COVID-19 Online Tracker

The Online Tracker is updated each day as new cases are received and students/staff recover from COVID-19. To review the COVID-19 Online Tracker and Re-Opening Plan, click the link below... <u>https://flourbluffschools.net/coronavirus-covid-19-updates/</u>

# Update on Public Comment at January Board Meeting

At the January 28, 2021 school board meeting, a public comment was submitted by Joan Carrillo regarding the teachings of *Critical Race Theory* and *Racial Equity* in public schools. Due to school board members not allowed to respond to comments, Ms. Carrillo then reached out to Kim Sneed to see how to get the question answered at the next board meeting. In order to provide an articulated response to her request, Buechler and Associates were contacted. In an email, as per the advice of our attorneys, the following information was communicated to Joan Carrillo: 1) Members of the general public cannot place items on the agenda as set forth in policy BE(Local), and 2) the district curriculum follows the state guidelines, including those developed by the State Board of Education and the TEKS. She has not responded as of today, February 12, 2021.

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

<u>Click here</u> to keep up-to-date on progress of all House and Senate Bills and other legislative activity.

# HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATE

#### <u>Substitutes</u>

- Continuing communication to Substitutes to remind them of the critical need for substitutes
- Remind Ap/ Aesop Sending message Thursdays, Fridays, Mondays
- Send out COVID-19 safety protocol information and links to all subs routinely
- Information on District COVID-19 testing site and interest in COVID-19 vaccine shared with subs
- Addition of seven new substitutes added last week additional orientations being completed this week
- Kim Sneed ordering additional materials so that each sub can receive a bag with a FBISD facemask, hand sanitizer, and a touchless toucher
- Will be working on some "Positive" send-outs to the subs to let them know how much we appreciate them

#### Short-Term Remote Work Requests/ Emergency Paid Sick Leave (EPSL)

• 113 teachers/staff teachers have taught/ worked remotely since 10/13/2020

#### **Contracts**

- $\cdot$  February Admin List to Superintendent very soon
- $\cdot$  April Teachers

#### **Current Job Posting Information**

- $\cdot$  Deputy Superintendent (Internal)
- $\cdot$  High School Special Education Social Intervention Classroom/ SDGC
- · Pest Control Specialist





- · Social Worker
- · HVAC Lead Maintenance Technician
- · Reading and Math Tutors
- · Education Aide UP High School
- · Bus Drivers
- · Bus Aides
- · Custodians

### FBISD Calendar of Events

### Regular Meeting of the Flour Bluff ISD Board of Trustees

When

Thursday, Feb. 25th, 6pm

Where

FBISD Board Room



#### CONTACT INFO

@FlourBluffISD Facebook

I have a new district issued cell phone. Please add this number to your contacts. It will be my cell phone number for all district related business. 361.438.0160

- 🔀 vsolizgarcia@flourbluffschools.... 🔍 📞 (361)694-9205 (361)438-0160
- flourbluffschools.net

