

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**Richardson Independent School District**  
**Richardson, Texas**

**Date:** October 3, 2006

**Department:** Communications

**Submitted by:** Jeanne Guerra

**Briefing Date(s):**

N/A

**Study Session**

N/A

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**INFORMATION ITEM**

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**TOPIC:** Commendations – Recognition of Board Members, the Community, Staff, Schools and Students

### **Pledge**

Scheduled to lead the Pledge of Allegiance at tonight's meeting are **Wallace Elementary** third-graders **Michael Okeke, Hunter Punjak** and **Samuel Reidling**.

### **Student Performance**

The **Westwood Junior High Chorale Girls** will perform for the board. (Please see *Students* section)

### **Staff**

RISD Director of Fine Arts **Mike Brashear** was presented with the 2006 *Meritorious Achievement Award* at the recent Texas Bandmasters Association Convention. The award is given in recognition of exemplary professionalism and invaluable contributions to the education of young people through the band medium.

RISD Purchasing Buyers **Vicki Arbogast, Karen Cargile** and **Barbara Hoffman** have earned the designation of Certified Texas School Business Official from the *Texas Association of School Business Officials*. The designation is earned through a combination of specified coursework, specialized training and school business experience.

Last year, RISD was the first district in North Texas to implement the Teacher Advancement Program, a compensation program for teachers based on campus teamwork, professional development and student results. Three RISD schools participated in the program, Forest Meadow Junior High, Audelia Creek Elementary, and Thurgood Marshall Elementary.

Teachers and administrators from these three campuses underwent substantial additional training and planning over the course of last year, and in addition to board recognition, they will be receiving their annual TAP bonus checks for the 2005-06 year this month.

Staff members qualifying for bonus compensation include, from **Forest Meadow Junior High: Shelly Abernathy, Melisa Andino, Suzanne Bates, Sarah Brightwell, Drew Broxson, Kristy Cage, Mallory Clark, Tamara Coleman, Jan Danielson, Jason Derfus, Brook Easky, Christine Flake, Valerie Finke, Kasey Frederick, Kari Gilbertson, Kyle Griffis, Kimi Hodges, Amy Kilpatrick, Tricia Laing, Andrea Layne, Kelly Moeller, Traci Nickleberry, Brenda Owens, Susan Purifoy, Al Reincke, Heather Roberts, Leslie Shelley, Cara Smith, Leon Spikes, Staci Tekell, Rosie Walker, Holly Warren, Cheryl Wear, Hollie Echevarria, Shonte Crain, Catherine Wright** and **Alexandria Xinos**.

From **Audelia Creek Elementary**: **Traci Ahangarzadeh, T'Wanna Birdine, Dedria Blunt, Cara Covington, Catherine Dunn, Courtney Ellis, Julie Kincheloe, Lisa Hames, Brent Harper, Deby Hill, Adrian Holloman, Michele Hyde, Lori Langhofer, Temple Latimer, Jill Livingston, Allison Lyles, Ganges Mathew, Melissa Miller, Amy Mollenhoff, Frances Parker, Frank Patranella, Marie Reed, Kurtis Rowe, Jessica Rudolph, Kristina Russell, Jennifer Saavedra, Katrina Shackelford, Adonnis Skinner, Jennifer Spain, Nancia Sterling, Lyndesy Theobald, Deetrece Thomas, Celia Nicole Wilson, Elizabeth Woodall, Joy Tribble, Nicole D. Wilson**, former Assistant Principal **Charis Oubre** and Principal **Mike Savage**.

From **Thurgood Marshall Elementary**: **Angela Arqueros, Shameka Brackens, Sonja Brock, Dwane Chappelle, Cherl Cothren, Kristen Davis, Toni Dowd, Sean Elliot, Christine Ford, Cindy Gassiot, Kelly Harmon, Kristen Hart, Deanne Hinson, Tracey Huffman, Tamara Jenkins, Kerri Kyle, Amy Langlinais, Nancy Lewis, Terri Lewis, Louise Link, Aurora Mays, Sara Parkerson, Tara Parmley, Desiree Penn, Kay Rushing, Tiffany Sadler, Shelley Switser, Mary Tosetto, Jennifer Vasquez**, former Assistant Principal **Beth Carstens** and Principal **Wanda Watkins**.

## Students

The students comprising the following two teams placed first in the *Destination ImagiNation* regional competition this spring, and advanced to the statewide tournament.

Because a new school year has started since these competitions were concluded, some of these students have advanced to new schools; however, they will be recognized as part of the school's team on which they competed.

Combined from **Pearce & Richardson High Schools**, senior level: **Emily Anderson, Xander Aulson, Melissa Berry, Annie Blankenship, Josh DeGroot, Kara Fisher, Taylor Knight** and manager **Glenn Anderson**.

The second team being recognized is comprised of students who have worked together for four years, advancing to the state competition each of those years and to the Global Finals twice. This past summer, the team of *Ladies & Germs*, from **Parkhill Junior High**, advanced to Nashville, Tennessee and outscored 58 other finalist teams from around the country and world to place first in the Global Finals.

From **Parkhill Junior High**, middle level: **Max Anderson, Molly Francis, Jill Frey, Aaron Kawalsky, Andrew Matsil, Megan Sims, Sarah Sims** and manager **Glenn Anderson**.

Five **Richardson High School** students advanced through area and state competitions to compete in the Annual Health Occupations Students of America National Competition in California this summer. The Health Science Technology program at RHS was implemented two years ago with 12 students and has since grown to include 130 students. The students advancing to the national competition include **Mindy Du, Minna Du, Alex Frolov, Emilija Pranjic** and **Claire Schwegel**.

The **Westwood Junior High Chorale Girls** have been selected to perform at the *Texas Music Educators Association's 87<sup>th</sup> annual Clinic and Convention* in San Antonio in February. Only a small number of the state's outstanding choirs receive invitations to perform at the TMEA Convention, and it is considered the most prestigious honor than can be achieved by a choir in the state of Texas.

Members include **Jelisa Baker, Allie Becker, Chris Mackenzie, Ashanti Clark, Hannah Hull, Eryn Levine, Karen Miller, Emily Muehleman, Marielle Nagele, Erin Nicholas, Esmey Osabutey, Kayley Pyne, Lexie Roberts, Kellisha Sadler, Alina Saeed, Rachel Templer, Andrea Thorne-Thomsen, Laura Vardell, Sarah Watson** and **Sage Wiseman**. They are directed by WWJH Choral Director and former STARS winner **Joel Price**.