

BOARD BRIEF

Budget Update *(Information Item)*

Trustees heard from Dr. Waggoner and Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Support Tony Harkleroad regarding developments and factors affecting the 2012-13 Operating Budget. RISD received \$14.2 million less this year in the operating budget due to the widely-reported reductions in state funding to most Texas public school districts. For 2012-13, RISD's state funding reductions will total \$21.7 million, which is an additional reduction of \$7.5 million compared with this year.

RISD prepared for the reductions earlier this year by utilizing an operating surplus and implementing a number of budget reductions. For more information regarding last year's budget reduction

process, please see [RISD's legislative/budget reduction page](#).

This year, enrollment is approximately 450 students higher than original projections for 2011-12, which will result in an increase in state funds of approximately \$2.1 million. Looking forward to 2012-13, the loss in state funding will be higher than had been projected. However, Mr. Harkleroad expects revenue from enrollment growth to provide adequate funding so no further reductions in programs or services should be required to achieve a balanced budget.

The Board is not expected to formally approve the 2012-13 budget until June of 2012.



About RISD's Board Brief

Board Brief is an RISD electronic communication typically available the day after Regular RISD Board meetings or Study Sessions. Board Brief includes highlights of selected action and information agenda items. Additionally, the RISD Board approves some items under the consent agenda. The full October 3, 2011 agenda may be viewed by visiting risd.org/board and selecting BoardBook.

Public Hearing

The Board held a required public hearing related to Taxation of Tangible Personal Property in Transit. The Legislature amended state law to exempt from taxation certain tangible personal property held temporarily at a location in this state for assembling, storing, manufacturing, processing or fabricating purposes (goods-in-transit). The law also allows taxing units to opt out of the exemption.

By opting out of the exemption, RISD is able to collect tax revenue on property that was previously subject to taxes, thus retaining funds to support district operations and student programs.

No stakeholders offered comment.



2012-13 Student Academic Calendar *(Action Item)*

After two months of discussion and stakeholder feedback, the Board formally approved [Option 3](#) as RISD's 2012-2013 Student Academic Calendar. The approved calendar features the traditional length of Winter Break, first semester exams before Winter Break, an end to the school year of

June 6 and graduations on June 9 and 10, 2013. More than 3,800 stakeholders responded to the calendar survey, with 74 percent of respondents favoring Option 3.

Participation in School Finance Litigation *(Action Item)*

The Board voted unanimously for RISD to join school finance litigation against the State of Texas. RISD will join a coalition of school districts represented by Haynes and Boone, LLP. The district asserts that the current school finance system impairs its ability to provide adequate education to students and that the current financing model constitutes an unconstitutional statewide property tax.

The coalition that RISD will join is one of several that have filed or plan to file suit

against the State of Texas. Haynes and Boone previously represented districts, including RISD, in litigation filed in 2005 that was ultimately successful in challenging the State’s previous school finance system.

RISD is hopeful that the litigation will result in additional funds from the state, which will allow districts to provide a quality education and to meet the higher expectations that are required under the

newly implemented school accountability program.

“If they are successful on adequacy, it will be a win for every school district in the state,” Dr. Waggoner said.

Joining the litigation will cost RISD approximately \$43,000, based upon a \$1 per WADA fee that all participating districts will pay.

Recognitions

Students, staff and community members were recognized for their achievements or exceptional support of RISD.

The Board recognized Richardson High student Jenna Caire for having her artwork selected to appear in the 2012 Dallas is Diversity Calendar and for receiving the \$500 Dallas is Diversity scholarship. Other students who received recognition were Aikin Elementary Art Club students Eberardo Santamaria, Adreona Williams and Heaven Williams, and Richardson West Junior High students Rose Nagele and Zamantha Almanza. They received first place in the Cottonwood Art Festival Chair Contest.

Richardson East Church of Christ was recognized for support of Forestridge Elementary.

CARE Corps was recognized for many years of service to the Dallas, Richardson and Garland areas. This year, the agency is expected to serve 8,250 people in the RISD area. Working as an agency of the North Texas Food Bank, CARE Corps will distribute almost 250,000 pounds of food to families in need.



▲ Richardson High School student J.Caire who was recognized by the board for having her artwork selected to appear in the 2012 Dallas is Diversity Calendar.

▶ (left) Dr. John Siburt, preaching minister of Richardson East Church of Christ

(right) Brooke Cole and Karen Springs (l-r) representing CARE Corps



Board of Trustees Continuing Education Credit Hours Report *(Action Item)*

The Board heard a report on board member continuing education. Each board member exceeded the required minimum of eight hours of training. State law requires each school district to record in the minutes of the final regular Board of Trustees meeting of the calendar year whether each board member has completed training required by the State Board of Education.

The following are the number of hours training completed by each RISD trustee in 2011:

Name	Required Hours	Hours (2011)	Status	Total Hours
Luke Davis	8	32.00	Completed	485.50
Karen Ellis	8	34.25	Completed	710.00
Kim Caston	8	26.50	Completed	154.25
Lanet Greenhaw	8	31.75	Completed	732.40
Karen Holburn	8	53.75	Completed	105.25
Kim Quirk	8	29.50	Completed	204.00
Kris Oliver	8	16.75	Completed	57.05

Gifts *(Action Item)*

The Board voted to accept several gifts in excess of \$5,000:

- Pearce High School received a tennis court bleacher cover valued at \$5,040 from Chris Jackson.
- Richland Elementary received a \$10,000 Pogue Flame Award grant for campus instructional support and teacher training from the RISD Excellence in Education Foundation.
- Moss Haven Elementary received five outdoor tables and one bench valued at \$5,000 from the Moss Haven PTA.
- Big Springs Elementary received \$14,600 for grade level field trips, and resources for the library and teachers from Fujitsu Network Communications.
- RISD received \$15,145.20 for fine arts enhancement from the Richardson ISD Council of PTAs.

In addition, the Board voted to accept \$27,067.80 worth of gifts from various sources valued at less than \$5,000.

Amendment to Dual Credit Agreement with DCCCD *(Action Item)*

The Board voted to extend its agreement with the Dallas County Community College District (DCCCD) to provide additional dual-credit course offerings to RISD high school juniors and seniors, based on strong interest from students, parents and counselors to add foreign language courses. In response to feedback, students will be able to receive dual credit in Spanish, French, Japanese and German courses taken at Richland College during the spring.