



October 7, 2024

The Dickinson Independent School District Board of Trustees met on Monday, October 7, 2024 for a regular Board Action meeting. This is a recap of the highlights from the meeting.

The Board of Trustees approved:

- The guaranteed maximum price for construction of Elementary #8
- The purchase of five school buses
- 2024-2025 Dickinson ISD District Improvement Plan and the Campus Improvement Plans
- A nomination for the Galveston County Appraisal District Board of Directors
- An interlocal agreement with the City of League City for a crossing guard
- An agreement with Galveston County for the district's School Liaison Officer Program



The Board of Trustees marked the start of construction of Elementary #8 at a Groundbreaking Ceremony on September 30.

Board Presentations:

- Lt. Cliff Foster, with the Galveston County Sheriff's Office, gave a presentation about the district's School Liaison Officer Program.
- Dr. Jeff Pack, Deputy Superintendent for Educational Services, gave a presentation on the district's Board goals for 2025-2029 for House Bill 3.

Written Reports:

- School Liaison Officer Safety Report
- Tax Report for August 2024 and year to date,
- Bond/Construction Update
- Bilingual education exceptions/ESL waivers report

Board Recognitions

National Principals Month

October is National Principals Month, and we want to express our heartfelt gratitude to the amazing principals who lead Gator Nation. Their dedication, passion, and commitment shape the educational experiences of our students and foster positive school cultures. Every day, our principals inspire teachers, staff, and students to strive for their best. They navigate challenges with grace and create environments where every student can thrive. Special thanks to FastSigns in Galveston for donating yard signs for the principals to place at the front entrance to their campus.



Dickinson ISD principals include: Julie O'Gea, Bay Colony Elementary; Jennifer Heard, Calder Road Elementary; Kathy Behrendsen, Hughes Road Elementary; Kim Davidson, K.E. Little Elementary; Stephanie Williams, Lobit Elementary; Nici Snyder, San Leon Elementary; Leslie Burke, Silbernagel Elementary; Brendan Fitzpatrick, Barber Middle School; Brandi Peterson, Dunbar Middle School; Melody Lilley, Lobit Middle School; Temeka Brown, Dickinson Junior High; Patrick Spies, Kranz Junior High; Chad Nuetzmann, McAdams Junior High; Courtney Ramirez, Dickinson High School; Rashad See, DCC/DALC; and LaDonna Pratt, Coastal Alternative Program.

SuperGator Alumni

Dickinson ISD is started a new recognition at our monthly Board of Trustees meeting to honor alumni each month who are going above and beyond to volunteer in the school district and campuses on a regular basis. These alumni are giving back and making a difference in the lives of students and staff by giving of their time to inspire future Dickinson ISD alumni. For October 2024, the Board recognized two alumni who are giving back through the Dickinson ISD Education Foundation.



Kathy Rossacci, President of the Dickinson ISD Education Foundation

Kathy Rossacci is a proud Gator from the Dickinson High School Class of 1974. She dedicated 35 years to educating students as a teacher before retiring from Dickinson ISD in 2012. When the Dickinson ISD Education Foundation began in 2008, she donated her time initially as a teacher representative before taking on higher roles within the foundation following her retirement. Kathy's exemplary leadership and dedication to advancing education shone brightly during her tenure as Vice President of Development, and her influence continued to grow as she transitioned in 2022-2023 to her current role as Board President. Kathy is often one of the first to volunteer, having also served as the interim director of the foundation. She provides her music services at our events, bringing joy and enhancing the experience for all attendees.

Carrie Menotti, Vice President of Marketing and Events, Dickinson ISD Education Foundation

Carrie Menotti is a proud Gator from the Dickinson High School Class of 1982. She also worked for Dickinson ISD for 10 years in support positions in Operations and the Business Office. Three years ago, she accepted the role as Vice President of Marketing and Events with the Dickinson ISD Education Foundation, where she has played a pivotal role in planning events which have raised money for Dickinson ISD students and staff. Last year's gala, which Carrie oversaw, raised \$210,000 to support the foundation's projects throughout the year. Her leadership spearheading the gala, which is the foundation's largest event, was a driving force behind the success of the event. From seeking donors and coordinating the entertainment, to task of organizing silent auction and the setting up the event, Carrie's contributions were immeasurable.

Both Kathy and Carrie and their families have a long legacy as Gators, with both of their husbands, their children and other family members graduating from Dickinson High School. Thank you to both Kathy and Carrie for giving of your time and your dedication to Dickinson ISD and the Dickinson ISD Education Foundation. "Once a Gator, Always a Gator".

Texas Education Human Resources Day

Board President Corey Magliolo signed a resolution proclaiming October 9, 2024 as Texas Education Human Resources Day throughout the district. Thank you to all the members of the Dickinson ISD Human Resources Department for everything they do for employees throughout the year, and especially during spring and summer months as they prepare for a new school year. Members of the Human Resources Department include: Kimberly Rich, Executive Director of HR; Patricia Andersen, Director of HR; Donna Suderman, Secretary to Executive Director of HR; Morgan Ester, Benefits/Risk Management Coordinator; Maria Vargas, Benefits Specialist; Cynthia Corona, HR Generalist; Lashaunna Smith, HR Generalist; Traci Quilter, HR Generalist/Substitute Coordinator; and Sharon Robert, Receptionist/Publications Technician.



Dickinson Rotary donation to Kranz Band

The Kranz Junior High Honors Band will have the opportunity of a lifetime this December when they travel to Chicago, Illinois as one of four bands chosen from across the United States to perform at the 78th Annual Midwest Clinic. It is a very prestigious honor that would not be possible without the support of parents and community donations. The Board of Trustees recognized the Rotary Club of Dickinson for a large \$5,000 donation which is helping to make the trip possible. The Rotary Club has always been a huge supporter of Dickinson ISD students and staff.



DHS Band Marching Contest Recognition

The Dickinson High School Gator Band placed first in both the preliminary and finals competitions at the Alvin ISD Invitational Marching Contest on September 28 with their 2024 marching show, "Confectionary." The band competed against 25 bands from across the Houston area and had two amazing performances. After earning first place in preliminary competition, they were one of 10 bands to advance to the finals competition where they also earned first place.



The band also had two amazing performances on October 5 in the preliminary and finals competitions at the Bands of America South Houston Regional Marching Contest. The band was one of the 12 bands chosen to advance to the finals competition where they earned 7th place. This is the first time since 1993 that the DHS Band has advanced to the finals round at a Bands of America marching competition. Music for All's Bands of America (BOA) marching band championships are known as premier competitions, which are very competitive and draw only the best marching bands in the area. So, to advance to the finals round is an impressive achievement.

The DHS band's next stop is the UIL Region Marching Contest this Thursday, October 11 at Alvin ISD's Freedom Field. DHS is scheduled to compete at 8:15 p.m. The bands earning "1" ratings at the region contest will advance to the UIL Area Contest on Saturday, November 2, where only the top bands are chosen to advance to the state contest. Make plans now to come out and cheer on our Gator Band at the region contest!

Accepting this award at the board meeting were the Dickinson High School Drum Majors Arely Contreras, Jazlynn Davis, Brady Korenek, and Daniel Renovato. The band is led by Directors Trevor Braselton, Risa Hsu, Alex Hedden, Robert Wang, and Todd Sommer.

Texas Educational Theatre Association DHS Exemplary Campus

Dickinson High School was named an Exemplary Campus in the Awards of Distinction presentation by the Texas Educational Theatre Association last month at the TheatreFest convention held in Galveston for school theatre teachers and directors. This is the first time Dickinson High School has been awarded this prestigious honor.



The TxETA said in their notification to the campus theatre leaders that, "This remarkable achievement is a testament to the unwavering dedication, tireless efforts, and exceptional leadership that you have demonstrated throughout your tenure. Your unwavering commitment to providing an enriching and nurturing educational environment has resulted in your school's well-deserved recognition by the TxETA Awards committee.

As an educational leader, you have inspired not only your students but also your fellow educators to aim for greatness. Your vision, passion, and dedication to creating a dynamic learning space have touched the lives of countless individuals, and this recognition serves as a true testament to the positive influence you have had on your community.

We are confident that your school will continue to flourish under your guidance, consistently empowering young minds to reach their full potential and fostering an environment of learning and growth."

The Dickinson High School Theatre Directors are Laurel Powell, Marisa Hataway, and Roxanne Sheffield.

Board Recognitions

Texas Educational Theatre Association Dickinson ISD Exemplary District

Dickinson ISD was named an Exemplary District in the Awards of Distinction presentation by the Texas Educational Theatre Association last month at the TheatreFest convention held in Galveston for school theatre teachers and directors. This is the first time Dickinson ISD has been awarded this prestigious honor.



The TxETA said in their notification to the district that, "This remarkable achievement is a testament to the unwavering dedication, tireless efforts, and exceptional leadership that your district has demonstrated to the community. The unwavering commitment to providing an enriching and nurturing educational environment has resulted in a well-deserved recognition by the TxETA Awards committee. The vision, passion, and dedication to creating dynamic learning spaces have touched the lives of countless individuals, and this recognition serves as a true testament to the positive influence on your community."

Accepting the award at the board meeting on behalf of the district was Director of Fine Arts Paul Trahan, along with Dickinson High School Theatre Directors Laurel Powell and Marisa Hataway.

Dickinson High School AP Capstone Honorees

Eight Dickinson High School students were notified in September that they earned special recognition with either an Advanced Placement Capstone Diploma or an Advanced Placement Capstone Certificate for accomplishments during the 2023-2024 school year. Five of the students are current DHS seniors, while the other three graduated this past May. The Capstone Diploma honorees earned scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar, AP Research, and on four additional AP exams. The Capstone Seminar recipients earned score of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research.



The Board of Trustees recognized the five current seniors who earned Capstone honors. They include: Bethany Lloyd, AP Capstone Diploma; Natalia Moreno, AP Capstone Diploma; Reece Richardson, AP Capstone Diploma; Kelcy Cervantes, AP Capstone Certificate; and Anna Dawson, AP Capstone Certificate. Also recognized were DHS teachers Kristi Trahan and Abbey Spruill for their success last year in their inaugural year teaching the Capstone course.

Board of Trustees Meeting October Pledge Leader

Thank you to Allie Mitchell, an eighth grader at McAdams Junior High, for leading the pledges to the American flag and the Texas flag at the October 7 board meeting.



2024-2025 Board of Trustees

The Dickinson ISD Board of Trustees consists of seven members each elected to serve a single-member district for a three year term. Board meeting agendas are posted at least 72 hours before the start of a meeting. For more information about the Board of Trustees, visit the Dickinson ISD website at www.dickinsonisd.org/page/board.home. Working along with Superintendent Dr. Rebecca Brown, the Board of Trustees includes President Corey Magliolo, Vice President Jessica Rodriguez, Secretary Veanna Veasey, and trustees Mary Anthamatten, Kenna Cotton, Mike Mackey, and Jonathan Mills.

