

It is a great day in WISD! The board of trustees met last evening to conduct the business of the district. The meeting began with recognitions.

Whitehouse Swim Team:

1. Joanna Moran qualified for the state swim meet in the 100 meter butterfly and set a school record with a time of just over 59 seconds. She was the district champion in the 100 freestyle and 100 butterfly. She advanced to the finals in the state swim meet.
2. Ruger Stocking has signed to swim at Oklahoma Christian and broke two school records this year: 100 butterfly and 200 freestyle. Ruger was district champion in the 100 butterfly.
3. Clayton Cole set a new school record and was district champ in the 100 backstroke.

Congratulations to these three athletes on a great year!

Mackenzie Santschi, senior at WHS has been named a National Merit Finalist! Of the more than 1.6 million students who took the PSAT as a junior last year, she is one of the top 15,000 or the top 1% of all students. Congratulations to Mackenzie.

A **curriculum alignment update** was given by Dr. Bass outlining the process our curriculum team has taken to evaluate the method of delivery of an aligned curriculum. The facts of writing our own vs. purchasing a framework that we can use to guide us was presented. In the end, whatever we do, our incredible teaching staff will use our own lesson plans and activities.

Bond sales were discussed. The bond counsel and financial advisor were present to inform the board that orders for the bond sales were taken Monday, March 6th and most have already sold with the underwriters guaranteeing the remainder to be sold. The impact of the true interest rate of 3.8513% on the 94.8 million dollars of bonds translates into an increase on the tax rate of .2256, about 3.5 cents lower than projected. By choosing 25 year bonds rather than 30 year bonds, the district will save nearly \$21 million dollars in interest. The tax rate will be set in August of 2017.

Administrator contracts were approved for the coming year and teacher contracts will go to the board in April for consideration.

The board of trustees is developing **Board Operating Procedures**, a document to guide the board and set ground rules for board members in their role as they support

the district. The draft copy is being developed and will be considered for adoption at a future meeting.

A **UIL update** was given to the board that included two items:

1. For Conference 5A only - Football will be split into Division 1 (large school) and division 2 (small school) prior to district alignment to prevent larger schools playing smaller schools in the playoffs. The current range for 5A is an enrollment at the high school of 1100 - 2149. Whitehouse High School is roughly 1,400 and would most likely place us in the small school division. Reclassification for UIL alignments occurs next February 2018.

Construction progress is going well and the warehouse is now underway located just behind the special education building on Bascom.

Spring Break is March 13 - 17 and Monday the 20th is a professional development day. Be sure to watch for your campus/department agenda for Monday the 20th. Also, ***report cards will go home March 23rd, Thursday.***

Have a great week and finish strong!

Christopher Moran, Ed.D.