

## BOARD HONORS DEDICATION, CHARACTER



Trustees honored Caitlin Durham at O'Connor Elementary School as the April Employee of the Month. Mrs. Durham is a teaching assistant who has a “whatever it takes” attitude to ensure the success of students and staff. She also is the sponsor of the pep squad, helps coordinate special campus activities and the Safety Patrol. Mrs. Durham is truly a Champion for Children!

The “You Make a Difference Award” was given to the Golden Crescent Regional Advisory Council and the Victoria Fire Department for providing the VISD nursing staff with “Stop the Bleed” kits and training. The nationwide Stop the Bleed program was created to increase the survival from active shooters and intentional mass casualty events. The campus nurses will train their Medical Emergency Response Team on the program annually.



East High School senior Jacklyn Deleon was honored for her caring nature with the Pillar of Excellence Award. Jackie takes care of every person she meets in the best way that she can, whether it is including them in her AVID activities, offering up her seat or even simply going out of her way to make someone smile when she sees they are struggling. Jackie seeks to make sure students at East and other schools are happy, included and most importantly cared for.

Dudley Elementary 5<sup>th</sup> grader Aaron Ehsan was recognized for his spelling bee success. Aaron won the Region 3 Spelling Bee and will be representing VISD and Region 3 at the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, DC next month.



## SB 1882 APPLICATION AND PERFORMANCE CONTRACT APPROVED

Victoria ISD will enter into a partnership with the University of Houston – Victoria for Crain Elementary School and Patti Welder Middle School, under SB 1882. This allows VISD to receive additional funding for these campuses to build increase student achievement. Board members approved the application and Performance Contract after hearing a presentation on the requirements outlined in SB 1882 and what this partnership would provide the campuses. With the Board’s approval, the Performance Contract now must go to the University of Houston – Victoria legal office for review. Documents will be submitted to TEA by April 30, 2018.

## DESIGN-BUILD PROJECT APPROVED FOR ALOE ELEMENTARY

The Board reviewed the design-build contract to rebuild the classroom wing at Aloe Elementary that was damaged during Hurricane Harvey. The amount of the project is \$1,161,519, with insurance coverage at \$1,500,000. This amount includes all needed repair work, as well as replacing the damaged roof, including bringing the renovated area up to current code and standards. The project will be completed by August 1, 2018, in time for classes to resume for the 2018-2019 school year.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF ELEMENTARY CURRICULUM NAMED

Trustees approved the selection of Tammy Sestak as the Executive Director of Curriculum, Assessment, and Accountability. This position came open with the retirement of Carol Tippins. Sestak is currently VISD’s Director of Federal Programs.

## BOARD APPROVES INVESTMENT POLICIES

Trustees approved a resolution that allows the district to utilize seven qualified brokers who can engage in investment transactions on behalf of VISD. These brokers have previously been used by the district. Additionally, the Board approved the investment strategies for the district for the coming year. The strategies seek the greatest return on district resources but still ensure safety, diversity and liquidity.

## IN OTHER ACTION, THE BOARD...

...approved a Low Attendance Day Waiver for Howell Middle School for February 21, 2018. The low attendance was the result of safety concerns that came about from a social media rumor.

...announced continuing education hours completed by each Board member. All Board members exceeded the required training hours.

...heard a report on the Q3 results of the Quarterly Campus and District Improvement Plans. The Board also heard from Vickers Elementary Principal Steve Carroll and Howell Middle School Principal Jo Beth Jones on initiatives that have been put into place on their respective campus to help the campus reach and exceed the quarterly goals.

...approved out-of-state travel for Victoria West High School students Landon Holub to compete at the National Individual Events Tournament of Champions in Humorous Interpretation and Dramatic Interpretation, May 10-13, 2018, in Denver, CO.

...approved a letter of support for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center Grant Application, which would provide academic enrichment opportunities at eight VISD campuses.

...approved vendor contracts for school library and reference books, paper, furniture, metal roof repair, millwork replacement, playground mulch and installation, and food products.

... accepted gifts and donations to the district with a total value of more than \$29,294 for the month of April. This brings the total gifts and donations for the fiscal year to more than \$153,315. The Board also accepted Hurricane Harvey related gifts and donations for the month of April with a total of \$11,990, bringing the total Hurricane Harvey donation amount to more than \$500,165.

... adopted local policy ELA and updates to local policy BBB.