

Community Connection

Superintendent's News



Dr. Andy Reddock
Flatonia ISD

JULY 2019



It is hard to believe that we are already on the downhill slide of summer; moving quickly toward the start of the 2019-2020 school year at Flatonia ISD. How time flies! In the district we have been diligently working to close out the 18-19 school year and are deep into the planning and preparation process for an awesome 2019-2020 school year. Over the past few weeks, the maintenance and custodial crews have been steadily working to clean and repair the school buildings so that everything is in tip top shape for the return of our students and teachers. Both crews are doing an outstanding job in that effort and we appreciate their dedication to "do the job right". Additionally, our campus and district administrative teams are investing a great deal of time and energy preparing for the return of our students and teachers. Many people do not realize that the summer is a very, very busy time for school personnel as we are busy closing down one school year while simultaneously preparing for the next. This changeover includes hiring faculty and staff, closing down budgets from the prior year while working to develop a new budget for adoption, preparing professional development, and finalizing other systematic needs before the start of school. All of these are formidable tasks that often go unnoticed, but are greatly appreciated and so very important to the success of our school community.

As we continue to develop our 19-20 budget, I am very proud to share that the Flatonia ISD Board of Trustees unanimously voted to increase salaries for the 2019-2020 school year for professional staff (teachers, counselor, nurse), auxiliary staff (aides, custodians, maintenance, food services, etc.), and administrative personnel. Significant raises for our teachers and auxiliary staff are funded as a result of House Bill 3 (HB3), from the 86th Texas State Legislature. Dependent upon many factors, school districts across the state received varying amounts of funding relating to HB3. The bill established that of the money received by a district, 30% must be used for salary and wage increases for teachers and other non-administrative staff. HB3 provides a monumental overhaul to public school finance, something not seen in numerous years. In addition to the additional funds for public schools from the state, HB3 will also trigger a reduction of property taxes relating to public schools. Additional information regarding HB3 can be reviewed via "Texas Legislature Online" at <https://capitol.texas.gov/billlookup/billnumber.aspx>.

Another major event this summer has been the start of construction resulting from the 2018 Bond Election that was approved by district voters last November. Phase 1 of the project is now in full swing, with crews currently addressing site work and temporary infrastructure. Phase 1 includes the addition of a new High School wing at Flatonia Secondary, additions to the Agriculture Sciences Building, additions to the Fisd Weight Room, and a new Library and two Fine Arts classrooms at Flatonia Elementary. Although we will all have to work around and within some constraints resulting from construction this school year, we are very excited about the future for our district and appreciate the support from our community shown by the positive results for this bond. Phase 2 of the project will include renovation and connection of existing buildings and replacement of the Fisd track as is currently in the design phase. Additional information regarding construction will be coming out as we start the school year.



FISD Phase 1 Construction Ground Breaking Ceremony



Dirt work being completed for foundation of new Flatonia High School wing.

As always, if you have any questions regarding this article or anything else relating to Flatonia ISD, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone at (361) 865-2941 or by email at areddock@flatonia.txed.net. I would enjoy the opportunity to visit with you.

At your service,

Andy



BULLDOG PRIDE