

## Dr. Brent Hawkins LISD Superintendent

# Hawk's Talk Friday, October 19, 2018

# **October LISD Board Meeting Summary**

Action items approved by the LISD Board of Trustees at the October meeting included the contract extension for Livingston ISD Superintendent, Dr. Brent Hawkins. The contract was extended through January 31, 2022. Dr. Hawkins shared, "One key ingredient is consistency. We've made a lot of progress and I look forward to the great strides over the next thirty-eight months." Another approved action item was "The Blue Line" lunch program. This program allows officers visiting campuses during the lunch hour will be provided a lunch by the district. Also approved by the board was the Livingston Intermediate (TIP) Plan which is the plan required by the state to address the Improvement Required designation. The Annual Investment Report and Annual Investment Policy was approved. LISD Chief Financial Officer Ben Davidson reported that \$320,000 in interest was earned from September 2017 - August 31, 2018. The 2018-2019 District Improvement Plan and Campus Improvement Plans were approved. The October meeting opened with student and staff recognition. Livingston ISD School Based Officer Kevin Blackburn was inducted into the prestigious LISD Apple Corps.



APPLE CORPS INDUCTION - Officer Kevin Blackburn, LISD School Based Officer was inducted into the prestigious Apple Corps during the October meeting of the Livingston ISD Board of Trustees.Pictured L-R Dr. Brent Hawkins - Superintendent, Mike Nettles - Board Member, Bea Ellis - Board President, Ben Ogletree - Board Vice President, Blackburn, Marty Drake - Board Secretaty, John Allen Slocomb - Board Member, Scott Paske - Board Member.

Livingston Intermediate School Principal Elisha Bell showed a video highlighting programs and activities of the students of the Intermediate School campus.

The Texas Education Agency has issued a Notice of Grant Award to Livingston ISD with Immediate Aide in the amount of \$180,000 to Restart operations. This notice serves an acknowledgment from the government that Hurricane Harvey caused a disruption in school operations.

The LISD principals gave a State of the Campus report. Sheri Murphy, Timber Creek Elementary campus Principal opened the report with an explanation of how Lead4ward provides structure, tools and implementation support to campus leaders throughout the year. All principals attended an accountability training on September 28 and learned to look at the growth of students which shifted tutorials and student instruction to address growth. Lead4ward helps teachers prepare strategies and focuses on the gathered evidence of learning.

Dr. Paul Drake, Livingston High School Principal, discussed the professional learning communities "Planning for Rigor". The teaching staff meets on a regular basis within professional learning communities or PLCs and they focus on the following four questions. (1) What are we teaching? (2)How will we teach or assess the concept? (3) What do we do when they understand the concept? (4) What do we do for those who don't understand the concept and how do we provide interventions?

## District Calendar

Monday, October 22, 2018

LIS- Book Fair

LIS- Red Ribbon Week- Wear Red PRE- You Have the Power to Say No to Drugs and Bullying

LJH- Mystery Machine Monday 5:00 pm- LJH- Volleyball vs Cleveland (H)

6:30 pm- LHS- Homecoming Parade (Downtown) and Community Pep Rally

Tuesday, October 23, 2018

LIS- Book Fair

LJH-Pep Rally- Camo

PRE- Your Choices are the Key to

Your Dreams

LIS- Crazy Hair/Crazy Sock Day 4:30 pm- Lady Lion Volleyball @ Splendora

5:00 pm- LJH- 7th Grade Football @ Little Cypress

5:00 pm- LJH- 8th Grade Football vs Little Cypress

6:00 pm- Parenting the Love & Logic Way Wednesday, October 24, 2018

LISD College Day

PRE- National Unity Day- Unite Together Against Bullying

LJH- World Famous Wednesday

LIS- School Appropriate Pajama Day

LIS- Book Fair

### Thursday, October 25, 2018

LIS- Tailgate/Open House

LIS- Book Fair-Family Night

LJH- School Pictures

PRE- Team Up Against Drugs and Bullying

5:00 pm- LHS- Sub-Varsity Football @ LCM

### Friday, October 26, 2018

PRE & CGE- 50's Day

PRE-Bop Out Drugs

LJH- Fabulous Friday

LIS- Hollywood Royals-Top Hats/

Haras

7:00 pm- Lions Varsity Football vs LCM (Homecoming)

Pine Ridge Elementary Principal Mary Hill discussed the Engaging Activities in PLCs. Lead4ward software helps to distinguish between Engaging Activities and Engaging Experiences. Planning guides are used to plan student activities. Engaging Experiences are content specific, focused on a specific TEK which is the state standards for what students should know and be able to do and not something that they are doing every day in class.

Livingston Intermediate School Principal Elisha Bell discussed the 3 Minute Downey Classroom Walkthrough. At Livingston ISD all core content teachers receive a Downey Walkthrough daily. There are specific items the administrator is looking for when conducting the classroom walkthrough. (1) Is the goal of the lesson clear to students? (2) Is the lesson aligned with the TEKS standards for the grade level? (3) Is the Depth of Knowledge on the level of classroom instruction? (4) Is the teacher asking higher-order thinking skills? (5) How are the students engaged? (6) Is the students work displayed? (7) Do we see the same strategy every time we walk through the room?

Cedar Grove Elementary Principal Erin Barnes discussed Assessments. All assessments are created in Eduphoria software using a variety of resources. Test questions are created targeting specific TEKS and learning goals aligned to state and district standards. Tests are built with appropriate Depth of Knowledge to challenge students and evaluate their thinking and learning. Instruction is guided by the Assessment.

Livingston Junior High Principal Jared Nettles discussed Interventions. The district uses three main forms of Interventions. (1) Targeting support of all students (2) Pull out students for elective intervention (3) Before and After School Intervention. Interventions are offered each day during specified programs. Examples - Lion Time, Roar Time, Odyssey. Interventions are offered to struggling students as well as higher achieving students. The standards are addressed in the area of need from the STAAR test results. Some students are pulled out of regular schedules to spend time with retired teachers to focus on math and reading. Students at Livingston Junior High school who have failed either part of the math or reading STAAR test have required elective interventions. Students attend interventions in place of their elective classes. Some students feel they can't be successful and the team of principals must ensure every student grows in learning and that they continue to grow each year.

Livingston Junior High School Principal Jared Nettles and AVID teacher Suzonna McFarlain gave an explanation and overview of the new program Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID). The AVID program was implemented at the junior high to help prepare students for college, careers, and life. Seventeen students were identified to enter the program this fall. The program helps students learn to take Cornell notes and improves their writing, speaking and organization skills so they will be more prepared for success. Many teachers on the Livingston Junior High campus have had the AVID training and are implementing strategies over the whole campus.

The approval of the consent agenda included a budget amendment to appropriate funds approved last year to the current budget for the Corky Cochran Track and Soccer Complex, the purchase of new Chromebooks and projectors in the amount of \$320,135. The Chromebooks will be used to cycle out the oldest Chromebooks. The increase of the Adult Breakfast price from \$1.75 to \$2.15 was approved and the Amendment of the Order of Election for Early Voting was approved. The Polk County Commissioners Court voted to include two late days during the early voting schedule. Both Tuesday, October 23rd and Tuesday, October 30th the voting times will be extended from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. This action was approved by the board.



SUPERIOR RATING -- LHS Royal Brigade competed in the Bridge City Marching Contest, held in Bridge City, where they received a Superior Rating with straight ones from all three judges and won runner up in Class 4A. Pictured L-R: LHS Royal Brigade Band Director Lane Palmer with Drum Majors Emily Elam, Colby Kesler and Trystan Kegg.

