



# DUNCANVILLE ISD

## Board Business

### Board of Trustees Recognized for Service, Dedication



*Back (L-R): Joe Veracruz, President Elijah Granger, Phil McNeely, Tom Kennedy, Superintendent Marc Smith*

*Front (L-R): Secretary Carla Fahey, Vice President Renee McNeely, Janice Savage Martin*

January is School Board Recognition Month and Duncanville ISD joins schools districts across the state in recognizing our outstanding School Board Trustees.

Our Trustees set the vision and policy for the district while overseeing a \$131 million general fund budget for 12,700 students, 1,700 employees and 18 schools.

Duncanville ISD school board members are true all-stars who receive no pay, but spend countless hours attending meetings, listening to concerns and being true public servants to ensure our students receive the best education possible.

During last night's meeting, Smith Elementary students performed songs and shared their appreciation for the Board.

## “Made with Pride in Duncanville” Honorees Recognized



**Gloria Alvarez** is a bilingual kindergarten teacher at Merrifield Elementary School/ Mrs. Alvarez encourages her kindergarten students to speak both Spanish and English. She is an excellent teacher and displays the love of learning for all. Her determination to promote biliteracy has encouraged other teachers at Merrifield to help their students learn Spanish so they are able to communicate with Mrs. Alvarez's students.

**Chad Rocker** is the district's locksmith and has played an important role in making sure all the new security door hardware is installed properly. His dedication and attention to detail made the transition to the new hardware a smooth process.

**Jonathan Campos** and **Isaiah Vera** are kindergarteners at Alexander Elementary School. Both Jonathan and Isaiah are leaders at Alexander. When their class visits the computer lab, Jonathan and Isaiah help their classmates log in, allowing students to be focused on instruction. Both students are always willing to provide assistance when it is needed.

## Dr. Smith: A-F Ratings System Doesn't Make the Grade



Recently, there have been many conversations regarding the state's new A-F accountability rating system for Texas public schools. The students, teachers and our community in Duncanville Independent School District are much more than an over-simplified letter grade. Last week, the Texas Education Agency released what it is calling provisional ratings. By the state's own admission, these letter grades are not complete and do not include data that will later be used for this new system.

Whatever letter rating is assigned to our schools and district is not a true reflection of us. This rating system fails to take into account

the high quality of our teachers, the strength of our community and, most importantly, the boundless potential of our students.

Read the complete letter from Dr. Smith [here](#).

## **Texas Academic Performance Report Hearing**

Duncanville ISD's Director of Assessment and Accountability, Nneka Bernard, presented the Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR). The report includes information about the district and campus performance ratings, student and staff data and finance information. You can view the complete report [here](#).

## **Superintendent Reports**

Trustees received an update on Duncanville ISD's 2014 Bond Program. View the [update](#) for more information.

Melissa Kates, Special Assistant to the Superintendent, shared a proposal about the [Collegiate Academy](#) and renovations.

Chief Financial Officer, Jan Arrington, presented the monthly finance update.

## **Other Business**

Approved [December 12](#) minutes

Approved [budget amendments](#)

Approved [financial reports](#)

Approved 2015-2016 [Texas Academic Performance Report](#) (TARP)

Approved the [calling of the school board election](#) for May 7, 2017 to elect Trustees for places 4 and 5

Approved memorandum of understanding with ["I Love You Guys" Foundation](#)

Approved [RFP 16-17.002](#) for drug and alcohol testing

Approved resolution regarding [A-F rating system](#)

Approved [architectural services](#) agreement for renovations at Duncanville High School

Approved [construction manager-at-risk](#) delivery method for Duncanville High School

Received the timeline for the [2017-2018 budget development](#)

Received [RFQ for audit services](#)