

Dr. Joshua J. Isaacson
Superintendent

De Soto School District #73



Superintendent's Office

Ensuring learning, growth, and success for all.

Dr. Clint Freeman
Assistant Superintendent

Mrs. Doréan Dow
Assistant Superintendent

To: De Soto School District Staff
From: Josh Isaacson
Date: November 18, 2016
Re: Summation of November 17, 2016 Board of Education Meeting

Please accept this communication as an abbreviated highlight of actions from the regular and executive sessions on November 17, 2016. The official board minutes will be posted on the District Communication page of the district website. The official minutes from each meeting are posted in the arrears by one month due to the approval of the minutes at the following board meeting.

District Report:

- Dr. Isaacson reported on October enrollment numbers for each grade-level and the total count of 182 students at ECC, 604 students at Athena, 808 students at Vineland, 448 students at DJHS, and 970 students at DHS, for a total of 3,012 students district-wide. A yearly comparison of AESOP absences, fill rates, and unfilled absences for both certified and classified staff was shared. Lastly, Dr. Isaacson reported receiving \$17,154 from a claim made on technology replacement items that were damaged by the storm on October 20, 2016.
- Mr. EA Boyer reported on progress on the junior high school, indicating that the elevator installation was being finalized and should be functional within a week. Mr. Boyer stated that the kitchen equipment, painting, and ceilings would be completed over the next several weeks. Mr. Boyer reported that sod placement in the front of the connecting corridor and the asphalt behind the junior high had been completed. The cafeteria will be ready for student use beginning on January 3, 2017.
- Mr. Patrick Lawlor reported that the Vineland gymnasium logo would be installed over the holiday weekend and that the majority of the Vineland punch list had been completed. Mr. Lawlor indicated that the auditorium project was moving along as the weather had been cooperative. Mr. Lawlor stated that masonry work on the fifty foot south wall had begun and fill would continue to be brought in to support the building of the walls.
- Mrs. Dow commended students and staff for hosting Veterans Day assemblies at each campus on November 11. Mrs. Dow highlighted the KJFF Radio interview by students Blake Lilge, Trista Grobe, and Roy Bradford along with Mrs. Mahn and Dr. Rickermann under the *News, What's New* tab on the district website.
- Mr. Ferrell reported on MSBA updates including upcoming legislative session and the prospects of future school funding.

- Mrs. Dow reported that the district earned 118.5 out of 140 points or 84.6% of the possible points on the APR, which was an increase of 9.6% from last year.
- Dr. Rickermann reported that De Soto High School earned 123 out of 140 points or 87.9% of the possible points on the APR. This was an increase over the 86.4% earned the prior year as a result of the 121 out of 140 points earned on the APR.
- Mrs. Mahn reported that De Soto Junior High School earned 50 out of 70 points or 71.4% of the possible points on the APR. This was an increase over the 70% earned the prior year as a result of the 49 out of 70 points earned on the APR.
- Mr. Grindstaff reported that Vineland earned 68 out of 70 points or 97.1% of the possible points on the APR. This was an increase over the 85.7% earned the prior year as a result of the 49 out of 70 points earned on the APR.
- Dr. Britain reported that Athena earned 52 out of 70 points or 74.3% of the possible points on the APR. This was an increase over the 64.3% earned the prior year as a result of the 45 out of 70 points earned on the APR.
- Mrs. Schmitz reported on the First Steps kindergarten results, including percentages for students on level based upon cognitive, language, and motor skills.
- Dr. Isaacson provided a summary on the results from the Listening and Learning Survey.
 - The [Listening and Learning 2016-2017 Summary Report](#) and the [De Soto 73 Public Schools Annual Performance Report](#) are available on the District Communications page under the *News* tab or by clicking on the links above.

Personnel:

Resignations:

- The board approved the resignation of Amanda Burnett, as Vineland Para, effective November 6, 2016.

Employment:

- The board approved the employment of Denise Heath, as Vineland cafeteria aid, effective November 21, 2016.
- The board approved the employment of Donald Burgett, from Part-Time DAATS supervisor, effective November 21, 2016.
- The board approved Megan Smith as volunteer of high school academic team for 2016-2017.

New Business:

- Mr. Deaton reported on the Fall Sports Programs.
- The Board approved the annual Audit.
- The Board approved the revised Policy and Regulation 1405 regarding Parent/Family Involvement.
- The Board approved the annual report on the A+ program.

- The Board approved the annual report on the Guidance/ELL/Migrant/At-Risk Program.
- The Board approved the revisions to the 2016-2017 Budget.
- The Board approved the WAF bids #21 and #22 for De Soto Junior High Bond Project.
- The Board approved the list of surplus text materials.
- The Board approved the DHS Auditorium Brick Run Adjustment.
- The Board approved the Cafeteria Tables for De Soto Junior High School.
- The Board approved the Cafeteria Chairs for De Soto Junior High School.
- The Board approved the agreement with AAU Wrestling Club.
- The Board approved the agreement with De Soto Express.
- The Board approved the list of District Compliance Officers.

Closing:

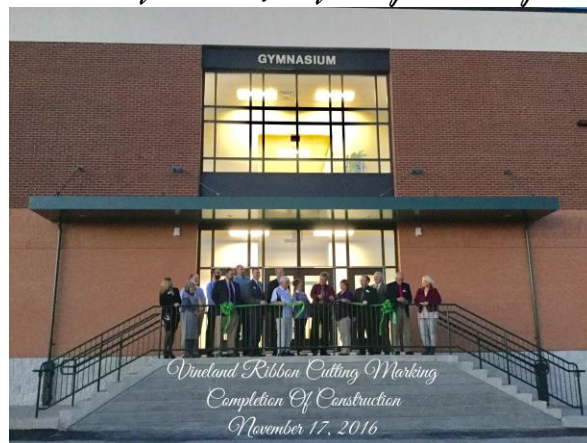
De Soto Staff,

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving is a time for sharing, friendship, and family. Thanksgiving is also an opportunity to take time to reflect and be thankful for all the things that are truly important in our lives. We are thankful to have each one of you as a member of our Dragon family. Thank you for your continued commitment to our students and community and know that my door is always open if you need anything as we continue the school year. Enjoy the weekend weather and Go Dragons!

With Dragon Pride,

J. Isaacson

P.S. Thank you to everyone for making last night's event memorable, for supporting our building projects, and for ensuring each of our students has outstanding facilities to learn and grow as a member of the Dragon family. Thank you!



For a slideshow of pictures from this night, visit <http://tinyurl.com/VESceremony>