



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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School Board Recognition Month Gives Community a Chance to Say ‘Thank You’ for Advocating for Local Schoolchildren

Last month, Governor Greg Abbott proclaimed January 2019 as School Board Recognition Month, and San Felipe Del Rio CISD will join the Texas Association of School Boards and other districts across the state to honor the countless contributions of our locally elected advocates for Texas schoolchildren and public schools. “School board members tackle a difficult job and shoulder enormous responsibilities. These men and women are elected to establish the policies that provide the framework for our public schools. They provide vision and leadership in their roles as advocates, and they will continue to stand up for public education and guard against anything that takes away from our children or undermines our public schools,” said SFDRCISD Superintendent Dr. Carlos Rios. Board members serving the San Felipe Del Rio Consolidated Independent School District are: Mr. Raymond P. Meza, President; Mrs. Linda Guanajuato-Webb, Vice-President; Ms. Diana Gonzales, Secretary; Alfredo “Fred” Contreras; Joshua D. Overfelt; Amy Haynes-Sanders and Kenneth “Ken” Smith.



Planting Seeds of Success

In Texas, more than 5.3 million students rely on public schools to help them prepare for the future. They count on the adults in this state to ensure that schools are available, qualified teachers are in place, buildings are safe, and resources are provided. It’s a big job to plant the seeds of success in that many students ranging from pre-k and kindergarten to high school juniors and seniors in dual-credit courses.

“It’s a big job and a critically important one.” added Dr. Rios. “Our district benefits from the tireless work and countless hours contributed by these local citizens who work without pay. Serving as a crucial link between the community and classroom, our board is responsible for an annual budget of \$93 million, 10,570 students, 1,400 employees, and 16 campuses.”

Dedicated to Service at the Local and State Level

The SFDRCISD Board of Trustees lays a foundation by identifying what is at stake for students, the district, the board, and public education as a whole. Together, they commit to a shared vision emphasizing high expectations for students, staff, and the board. They accomplish this by taking active roles in each of the governance committees: Finance, Board Policy and



Operations. Each committee is composed of three board members, the Superintendent, and members of the Cabinet. Board members appointed to the Finance Committee include Mr. Alfredo “Fred” Contreras, chairperson; Mrs. Linda Guanajuato-Webb and Mr. Ken Smith. The Board Policy Committee members include Mr. Raymond Meza, chairperson; Ms. Diana Gonzales and Mr. Joshua Overfelt. The Operations Committee is chaired by Mr. Ken Smith; Mrs. Amy Haynes-Sanders and Mr. Alfredo “Fred” Contreras are members.

In addition to serving locally on the Board, three Trustees also take part at the state level collaborating with other board members across the state in developing TASB’s Advocacy Agenda, (legislative priorities) in anticipation of the upcoming legislative session. Currently, Mr. Meza serves as Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Director representing ESC Region XV; Mrs. Linda Guanajuato-Webb serves on the TASB Legislative Committee as a Delegate, and Mr. Alfredo “Fred” Contreras serves on the TASB Legislative Committee as an Alternate Delegate. School board members from around the state, serving as their districts’ official delegates to the TASB Delegate Assembly, adopted the TASB 2018-2020 Advocacy Agenda last September during the TASA/TASB Convention in Austin. The Agenda will guide TASB’s advocacy efforts during the 86th Legislature and will ensure that school district voices are represented at the Capitol and elsewhere.

[Honoring the SFDRICISD Board of Trustees](#)

San Felipe Del Rio CISD’s Board of Trustees will be honored at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, January 21st at the Student Performance Center and Administration Building beginning with a Proclamation Ceremony followed by recognition presentations from campus representatives. Parents and members of the community are welcomed to join the celebration and are encouraged to write “Thank You” notes to the members of the Board. These notes will be collected and presented to them that evening.

“It is more important than ever before that the public support public education so that today’s students are prepared to be productive citizens and the leaders of tomorrow”, said Dr. Rios. “Please take a moment and tell school board members ‘thanks for caring about our children and giving so much to our community’. Let them know we support them and that their dedicated service is recognized and truly appreciated.”

[2019 State of Texas Office of the Governor Proclamation](#)