

Teacher salaries, other items on school board agenda

The school policy concerning eligibility of students who want to participate in certain activities remained unchanged Monday night after parents approached the board with the opinion that the policy was to stringent.

The Rice district school board met Monday night of last week for its regular monthly meeting, since it was required to approve the results of the April 4 trustee election. The meeting began at 7 p.m. and was adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

The two incumbent trustees, Wayne Corman and Fritz Leopold, were re-elected. The board looked over results and approved them. Corman and Leopold then were sworn in by Mary Fachtner. All board officers were re-elected to their official positions. Reggie Briscoe will serve another year as president of the board. Leopold will be vice president and Corman will serve as secretary.

The board agenda also called for action on proposals for district personnel, discussion of new band uniforms, and discussion of crowd control at graduation exercises.

Robert Klockman addressed the board in regard to the policy concerning eligibility of students for cheerleader, twirler, flag corps and drum major. Two years ago the board changed eligibility requirements from a grade-point average to saying that if a student did not pass one subject in any six-week period in a school year, the student could not try out for those positions that year; that means that one failing grade eliminates the student from participating in the activities for two years.

Klockman said the policy should be changed. He said policies such as "no pass-no-play" encourage excellence in students, but that this was excessive punishment and caused students to be discouraged from achievement. After debate on the issue, in which parents and board members presented their reasons for changing or keeping the policy, respectively, trustee Bill Fiebel made a motion that the policy remain unchanged.

The motion was unanimously adopted.

The board then took up the question of salaries for teachers and other staff members for the 1987-88 school year. Supt. Harold King reviewed his estimates for district revenue and expense projections for that year. Included in the projection that because of property valuation decreases, local tax revenues will decrease by \$300,000 if the tax rate remains the same. However, the state revenues to the district should increase, King said. He also said the board should be prepared to spend at least about \$104,000 more next year, because of the need for buses and other items not purchased in the past.

The district also received more money than it expected from the state this year. The budget for this school year was projected with a \$131,000 deficit and it appears the year will end with a \$198,000 surplus. That means the district will have a total surplus of about \$1.6 million. The board's goal is to keep that at about \$1.2 million so \$400,000 could be available to cover expenses that next-year revenue sources would not pay for.

The board voted to increase all teacher and administration salaries by \$114 a month. The state requires that teachers, most of whom are on a 10-month contract, receive pay scale increases of \$1,140 a year. The Rice district pays each teacher \$2,000 more than the state scale, and could have voted no pay increase, since the local pay scale already is higher than the state scale. Cafeteria workers also will receive an increase, but that will come from the cafeteria fund which also shows a surplus. Other employees will be considered for increases on a merit basis.

Band director Debbie Harhai explained an example of the new uniforms the board voted to seek bids on. The uniform was modeled by a student. It is lighter in weight than the old uniforms, and will cost about \$95-105 each. With other accessories, the total cost to the district may

run \$15,000. The board will advertise for bids to be opened April 21. A board meeting was scheduled for 7 p.m. that night to act on the bids.

Before adjourning, the board talked with Rice High principal Fred Gramann about crowd control at high school graduation exercises. The cat calls, boos and jeers have increased in recent years, breaking the solemn occasion. As board member John Thomas said, now that such activity has become a tradition it will be difficult to stop. The discussion will continue, including the possibility of hiring additional law enforcement officers, using more teachers to watch the audience and act as ushers, and allowing admission by ticket only.



On hand last week when Colorado County judge Lester Cranek (seated) signed the proclamation designating April as Child Abuse Prevention Month, were Robert Walker, left, pastor of the First United Methodist Church in Columbus and the chairman of the Colorado County Protective Services Board, and Linda Fitzwater, right, supervisor for the children's protective services unit of the Texas Department of Human Services.

April is child abuse prevention month

The month of April has been proclaimed as "Child Abuse Prevention Month" by Colorado County judge Lester Cranek.

The proclamation Cranek signed last week designating the month was sought by the Colorado County Protective Services Board and the children's protective services unit of the Texas Department of Human Services.

The proclamation said that child abuse and neglect is a growing problem in our area, and may be transmitted from one generation to the next. "Prevention and treatment of child abuse can provide parents with the capability to make a home a safe and healthy environment," it reads.

The protective services board urges the support of Colorado County residents as critical to the effectiveness of its services. Many persons and organizations are actively working to enlighten parents in order to reduce the incidence of cruelty to children.

Registration for pre-kindergarten will be Friday, April 24 from 1-2:30 p.m. at the Garwood School office. To be eligible for pre-kindergarten the child must be four years of age before September 1 of this year, be economically deprived or limited English proficient. A birth certificate and his/her health records will be needed to register your child.

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Raider Review

FTA's of the month chosen

Since this was the last time this year that an FTA'er would be chosen, four outstanding members were selected to receive the honor. They were Cindy Garza, Dionne Glover, Leslie Glover and Sally Strube. Leslie voted for the February FTA'er, practiced volleyball for the FTA team on March 11 and attended the March 12 FTA meeting. Cindy, Dionne and Sally practiced volleyball for the FTA team on March 11, attended the March 12 FTA meeting and played on the FTA volleyball team on March 13. Congratulations to all of the winners!

Those members who were previously named as FTA's of the month were: Jennifer Mader, Lara Dupre, Lynette Banks, Shari Popp, Ventrese Tillman and Kelli Lanier.

The FTA awards banquet will be held on Tuesday, April 21 at 7 p.m.



FTA's of the month for March are, pictured from left to right, Sally Strube, Cindy Garza, Dionne Glover and Leslie Glover.

Breimon advances in tennis

The Rice tennis team played their hardest at Bellville on April 6 during district competition. Facing several good teams, the Raiders really had it tough!

Norman Breimon was one of Rice's most sensational players, as he secured second place in singles.

The Raider Review would like to congratulate Norman and wish him good luck!

Graduation invitations arrive

The senior class graduation invitations which were ordered earlier in the year, were passed out on Friday, April 3. The invitations are printed by the Balfour Company and are the same for each senior. The name cards that fit in the invitations also arrived, and were traded among the seniors according to tradition.

Memory books, key chains and senior pins were also passed out by a Balfour representative.

The arrival of graduation invitations is one of the final steps in the long awaited and much anticipated process of graduation.

With all of the excitement on Friday, many seniors found it difficult to concentrate on their schoolwork!

On Wednesday, April 8, Tom Prusa, manager of the Attwater Prairie Chicken National Wildlife Refuge, delivered a U.S. Government check in the amount of \$29,867 to the Colorado County treasurer Nita Renick. The check was payment for the period of October 1, 1985, through September 30, 1986. The public law 95-469 provides the U.S. Congress a means of distributing funds back to the county in which the federal government has purchased lands for a national wildlife refuge.

In accordance with the law, the county which receives a payment shall distribute the payment to the units of local government which incurred loss or reduction of real property tax revenues because of the existence of the public lands. The local units of government entitled to this distribution will be those such as, but not limited to, cities, towns, townships, school districts and the county itself which levy and collect real property taxes.

On April 3, Rice played another game against Bellville. Rice played a strong game but was unable to pull through a win and lost 10-0. Coach Kirk Ellis said Bellville was a hard team to beat and hopes for better luck in the games against Hempstead and Sealy.

On March 31, the Rice High School baseball team played a tough game against Columbus. Rice was winning until the fifth inning but Columbus came from behind and beat Rice 11-5. Russell Labay, Frank Adkins, Kevin Dornak and Jeff Marquardt should be complimented on a well played game.

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Spring break Easter fever

by Suzanne Corman
Here comes Peter Cottontail. Yes, it is once again that time of year. This furry little fellow is gonna hop down the street on Easter morning and leave us all kinds of goodies. Hope you've been good.

This will be a combination Easter and Spring break vacation for the students at Rice. The students intend to put the long awaited break to good use. They have a number of activities planned.

Dionne Glover seems to be going the farthest from home. She will be visiting relatives in New Jersey.

Most of the students will be soaking up the sun for much of the holiday. Brian Blair, Lane Thomson, Frank Adkins and Kevin Dornak will be visiting relatives in New Jersey.

David Schorlemmer has something a little different in mind. He is going to be a college boy for a few days. Kind of a trial run before the real thing.

Brian Hyek says he is really looking forward to the family reunion that is planned for his Easter vacation. Mr. Gramann will also be spending his time with his whole family in Victoria.

Vance Corman and DeWayne Dopplau are a few of the unfortunate ones this Easter. They said they will probably be working most of their vacations. Sorry guys!

No matter what the plan, the Raider Review staff wishes everyone a very safe and fun Easter vacation.

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Rice CISD School Menu

Thursday, April 16: Easter holiday.

Friday, April 17: Easter holiday.

Monday, April 20: Easter holiday.

Tuesday, April 21: chicken nuggets, as grain potatoes, English peas, honey, hot biscuits.

Wednesday, April 22: barbecue on bun, French fries, catsup, tossed salad, ice cream.

Thursday, April 23: beef and rice, black eye peas, ambrosia, peanut cookies, whole wheat rolls.

Friday, April 24: taco salad, pinto beans, dill pickles, lunchroom doughnuts.

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