

...West of 98

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This year, for the 33rd year, the Stamford community will host its Christmas Dinner at St. John's United Methodist Church. This dinner is about serving fellowship and a Christmas dinner to anyone who desires it, but in light of the spread of COVID-19, we're having to make tough decisions. Our volunteers will be carefully screened. Our dining room will not be open this year and we'll limit fellowship to socially distant interactions with takeout and deliveries. We typically

serve around 700 meals and this year, we hope to do the same in a safe way so that next year we can return to the fellowship that is so important to our community.

Between now and December 25th, there are many opportunities to improve the Christmas season. It does not require extravagance. It might be as simple as checking in on older neighbor whose loved ones are fewer and far between. It might be supporting a local toy drive. It might be reassuring a retail clerk who is fighting

holiday stress, stressed-out shoppers, AND a dangerous pandemic all at once.

Whatever the case may be, I hope and pray that each of us will look across our community, at familiar faces and strangers, and find a way to make Christmas something happy, not merely a struggle for survival.

James Decker is the Mayor of Stamford, Texas and the creator of the "West of 98" website and forthcoming podcast. Contact James and subscribe to these essays at westof98.substack.com.

Local students named to ASU Dean's List

Angelo State University in San Angelo, Texas, has announced the students achieving the Dean's List designation for the 2020 fall semester.

To be eligible for the ASU Dean's List, full-time undergraduate students must maintain a 3.25 or better grade point average on a 4.0 scale.

The complete fall 2020 Dean's List is available at angelo.edu.

Local students named to the Dean's List are as follows:

Bronte

Hannah Brackeen, Tanner Braswell, E'lexia Davis, Melissa Perez, Chanel Smith, Hanna Weatherly

Robert Lee

Haylee Cason, Garrett Knight, Kandace Skipworth

Blackwell

Victoria Davis, Hannah Edwards, Payton McKee, Carli Powers, Dillon Solis, Madison Solis

as presented by Robin Allen and to approve the bills. She was seconded by Beverly Sinclair. All were for.

David O'Dell gave the high school report: 93.64% ADA for October. Lee McCown gave the elementary principal's report: 94% for October attendance rate and 249 total students enrolled at Robert Lee School.

Supt. Hood recommended submitting a letter to SHAC requesting a waiver for Texas Summer Mandate. Tom Sawyer made a motion to approve the recommendation and was seconded by Beverly Sinclair. All were for.

Supt. Hood recommended approving the 2020-2021 Campus Improvement Plan. Jefe Roberts made the motion to approve the CIP as presented and was seconded by Beverly Sinclair. All were for.

Supt. Hood recommended signing a Memorandum of Understanding between Robert Lee ISD, Coke County, and the Coke County Sheriff's Office. Tom Sawyer made the motion to approve the recommendation and he was seconded by George

Grim. All were for.

A motion was made by George Grim for the board officers to remain the same: Wes Washam, President; Tom Sawyer, Vice-President; Jeffie Roberts, Secretary. The motion was seconded by Linda Burns and all were for.

Jeffie Roberts made the motion to approve the minutes of October 16, 2020, and was seconded by Tom Sawyer. All were for.

Jeffie Roberts made a motion to approve the financial report

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Robert Lee ISD board meeting minutes told

The Robert Lee ISD Board of Trustees held a regular meeting on Thursday, November 19, 2020, at 5 pm.

Members present included Wes Washam, Tom Sawyer, Jeffie Roberts, Beverly Sinclair, Linda Burns, and George Grim. Erin Oleksiuk was absent.

The meeting was called to order at 5 pm by President Washam with a quorum of members present.

The invocation and pledge was led by George Grim.

Supt. Hood made the recommendation to canvass the 2020 election results: Linda Burns - 502, Irma Torres - 218, Jeffie Roberts - 240. Tom Sawyer made the motion to approve the recommendation and was seconded by George

Steve Martin. Tom Sawyer made the motion to approve the sale and was seconded by Beverly Sinclair. All were for.

Supt. Hood gave his respective report on the budget update, construction update, reading of a thank you note, and informed the board about not having a Christmas party this year.

The board entered into closed session at 6:02 pm and reconvened into open session at 6:30 pm.

Supt. Hood recommended CKC (Local) as presented. Tom Sawyer made the motion to approve the recommendation and he was seconded by George Grim. All were for.

The next regular meeting will be Thursday, December 17, 2020, at 5 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Bronte ISD board meetings minutes told

September 17, 2020

The Bronte ISD Board of Trustees held a regularly scheduled meeting on September 17, 2020.

Those in attendance included board members Blake Braswell, Ashley Braswell, John Seales, Jodie Arrott, David McWright, and Terry Queen, and administration members Tim Siler, Dough Kuhlman, and Jennifer Englert.

The meeting was opened at 7:04 pm with a prayer by David McWright.

Quorum was established at 7:05 pm with six members present. Board member Josh Schoenfield was absent.

The minutes were presented

and read. A motion to approve the August minutes as presented was made by David McWright and seconded by Terry Queen. Ayes: 6, Nays: 0. The motion passed.

A motion to approve the bill listing as presented was made by Ashley Braswell and was seconded by David McWright. Ayes: 6, Nays: 0. The motion passed.

There were no audience items.


Ms. Englert and Mr. Kuhlman gave a quick update on activities. Ms. Englert reported a total of 151 students in elementary. Teachers are feeling more comfortable with the virtual classroom setting but there are problems regarding virtual

**Please Pray for our Communities,
 Our County, Our State and Our Country**



And Don't Forget to Pray for Rain!

Merry Christmas
 During this holiday season, we wish you all the best.



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