

SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH

January 2012

Have you thanked a school board member lately?

In recognition of their dedicated service, January is designated "School Board Recognition Month." This is a time to show our appreciation and begin to better understand how local trustees work together to provide a better future for our children. In January, join with others from throughout our district and state to salute the men and women who provide grassroots governance of public schools. Make a special effort to tell each school board member that his or her hard work has been noticed and is truly appreciated.

As citizen leaders, individual school board members face complex and demanding challenges. Yet, few people fully understand the scope and far-reaching implications of Board Members' responsibilities. Everyone should recognize the vital contributions of these men and women and focus attention of the crucial role these elected public officials play in the education of our children.

Their job is to establish a vision for the education program, design a structure to achieve that vision, assure schools are accountable to the community and strongly advocate continuous improvement in student learning. That job entails an endless string of meetings and school functions to attend; reams of reports, agendas, proposals, and other information to read and study; and a host of difficult decisions to make.

School Board Members come from all walks of life. They are farmers, secretaries, doctors, lawyers, homemakers, architects, truck drivers, professors, business owners, and real estate agents, to name just a few.

While they wear many hats in the workday world, school Board Members put on a collective hat when they get down to the business of leading their school districts. Board Members must pull together as a team toward a common goal – helping students achieve. While they may individually disagree on certain issues, their role as a Board is to consistently strive toward that goal.

Board Members contribute hundreds and hundreds of hours each year leading their districts. Whether it be crafting policies, hiring top-notch administrators, listening to staff and student concerns, or recognizing outstanding programs, board members always keep their eyes on the goal of student achievement.

The time spent in board meeting represents just a small fraction of the hours School Board Members spend in leading their districts. They also work hard at seminars and training sessions to keep abreast of the latest trends in educational leadership, are deeply involved in community activities, and spend many hours in the schools and at extracurricular events.

Their love of learning and concern and caring for students, staff and the community, drive Board Members' desire to lead so students can achieve.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO KENNEDALE ISD'S BOARD MEMBERS



Dr. Mike Walker, President	8 Years Total Service
Joe Taylor, Vice President	11 Years Total Service
Rhonda Barnes, Secretary	9 Years Total Service
Janet Adams, Member	8 Years Total Service
Lori Glovier, Member	7 1/2 Years Total Service
Scott Roland, Member	3 Years Total Service
John Hunt, Member	1 Year Total Service