September 2018



#### From the President's Pen Della Swaim

I love fall! I eagerly await the first cool breeze that signals the change from summer

heat. Sometimes change is hard. We will miss Dr. Bobby Burns and his friendship to C-FB RSPA. Have a great next chapter, Bobby. However, I eagerly anticipate what the future will hold for C-FBISD with Dr. John Chapman at the helm. Welcome, Dr. Chapman! We hope to see you at many of our meetings. Please let us know how we can help you settle in. Your C-FB retired employees are the best cheerleaders for you and C-FBISD.

C-FB RSPA has presented a TRTA Associate Membership and local membership to Dr. Chapman.

# Please watch your email for a special invitation from CFBISD! And put "lunch on November 9<sup>th</sup>" on your calendar!

This is an exciting season for Texas politics. There are many close races in the November 6<sup>th</sup> election. If 300,000 retired Texas educators will find their voice and vote for education-friendly candidates, we can make a significant difference in the outcome of those races. We welcome all active school employees to join us in this endeavor as Associate Members of TRTA. It is important that we develop relationships with our Legislators so that perhaps they will keep us in mind as they make decisions about our retirement system and our health insurance.

Your C-FB RSPA officers were able to visit with many active C-FB employees at the Learn More Achieve More Conference last month. We handed out 700+ mints and over 70 voter registration cards! It was a great experience to communicate with the active school employees. This was possible because C-FB RSPA is considered to be a "Community Partner" with the school district. In fact, C-FB RSPA was honored by C-FBISD this summer as a "Supporter of public schools" in the **TEXAS LONE STAR** Magazine, a publication of the Texas Association of School Boards.

Each of us knows someone who has recently retired from the school district. Please forward this newsletter to them and make a personal invitation to them to attend our September 19th meeting with you. Bill Barnes is a very engaging speaker, and this meeting will be a perfect opportunity to invite a visitor.

# Meeting: Wednesday, September 19

Program: (1) Bill Barnes, TRTA Legislative Coordinator, "November General Election and 86th Legislature"
(2) Introduce C-FBISD Superintendent, Dr. John Chapman
(3) ABC (A Book a Child Children's Book Project) Raffle tickets available at \$2 each or 3 for \$5

> Webb Chapel Church of Christ 13425 Webb Chapel Rd., Farmers Branch 75234

11:00 meet and greet; 11:30 program/lunch. Lunch \$10.

RSVP by Wed., Sept. 12 to Wanda Patterson by email: pattersonwow@gmail.com or text: 214-766-1431.



# September Program

Pat Enlow 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President (Programs), Children's Book Project, Publicity, Member TRTA District 10 Legislative Committee

Oh, my goodness! Are you keeping up with the candidates and the November 6<sup>th</sup> election? Lots of information is being shared by TRTA through Tim Lee's "Inside Line" and <u>The Voice</u>. It can be a bit overwhelming. Through our

Candidate Forum in February, you met and heard several of our candidates for state offices. **Bill Barnes**, **TRTA Legislative Coordinator**, is our speaker this month. He is always entertaining AND he can give us the



latest information so that you can determine which candidates best represent our interests as retired teachers and public school advocates. This is an important election as our pension and health care will be issues once again. (Please scroll down and read the legislative article for information concerning issues and voting.)

We are also excited to introduce **Dr. John Chapman**, our new **Superintendent** for C-FBISD! Please welcome him. He will have some exciting news for us!





See you on September 19<sup>th</sup>!



#### Membership

Wanda Patterson, VP for Membership

Our first meeting of 2018-2019 is almost here! I am looking forward to seeing

#### everyone!

In order to encourage attendance and increase our membership, TRTA State Membership Committee has launched the "**Bring a Friend to Homecoming**!" fall membership campaign. Local unit members who recruit new members to join between September 1 and October 31 will earn **Double** entries into the <u>Each One</u> <u>Bring One</u> drawing. (This is a contest each year that gives one person in our district \$100 for bringing in a new member.) Additionally, the local units with the most members recruited/renewed will have a chance to win one of eight or more \$250 vouchers redeemable for 2019 TRTA Annual Convention delegate expenses.

Several years ago, we expanded upon the <u>Each One</u> <u>Bring One</u> idea and have a \$50 drawing in our unit for the member recruiting the most new members. So, for each new member you bring in during the 2018-2019 year, you will have a chance to win \$50 at our May meeting.

All of this is a great way to continue to increase our membership in order for our voices to be heard in Austin. So please contact any recently retired friends and invite them to attend our **September 19<sup>th</sup>** meeting!

Thank you so much for always reaching out and recruiting new members for **C-FB RSPA**!

# Welcome to our <u>New Members</u>!

Patti Bohannan Angela Shelly Brown Dr. John Chapman Wynell Esson Jane Henry Elaine Hoffman Mike Mango Annissa Mitchell



### News from the Treasurer

Judy Carey, Treasurer

Reminder..... If you have not paid your TRTA state dues (\$35) and your C-FB

RSPA local dues (\$10), now is the time to do that!! The dues you pay now are for 2018-2019. Please send your check (made out to *C-FB RSPA*) to me at **975 Laguna Drive, Coppell, TX 75019**. If you have questions about your dues, please call me at 972-393-2956 or email me at judy.carey@verizon.net</u>. We need your support to help pay for programs at our meetings, door prizes, recruit new members, etc. We do put your \$10.00 to good use.

We did not win one of the \$500 donations given out by TRTA for paying our state dues before June 30, 2018. Thanks to all of you for paying your dues early. We now have another chance to win one of eight \$250 vouchers from TRTA. I would like to encourage you to renew and recruit as many new members as possible for a chance to win one of eight possible \$250 vouchers to be used toward 2019 TRTA State Convention delegate expenses. Between September 1 and October 31, 2018, each new member recruited will count DOUBLE, so let's get busy recruiting!!!

If you have any changes in your information, please let me know. I can change your information with TRTA, but you need to change your information with TRS yourself. TRTA does not share the changes that I send in with TRS.

If you are interested in viewing the **Treasurer's Report**, it is posted on our C-FB RSPA webpage at <u>localunits.org/cfbrspa/</u> (under *A bout Us*). **Also our proposed budget for 2018-2019 is posted** 

there. Please look at this proposed budget. We will be voting on it at our September meeting.

I look forward to seeing you at the September meeting.

# A Book a Child Project



Pat Enlow, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Children's Book Project

Last year was so much fun! We were able to deliver a record 2,710 books to students in C-FBISD. Students, educators, and administrators were all smiles when we showed up at five schools with a new book for each child to keep, read, love, and share! C-FBISD recognized our efforts by creating a video of book delivery and posting it on their YouTube channel!

Our C-FB RSPA Board has approved another raffle this year. We are changing it a bit and only including gift cards. Although I SO appreciate the outpouring of items last year, it became a bit daunting to store, transport, and set up the 25+ items donated. **Mary Eisenmann, Celeste Craig, and KayLynn Lyon** have graciously donated gift cards this year. If you wish to donate, or volunteer to help, please **contact Pat Enlow at 972.393.8662** or <u>patenlow@verizon.net</u>. The cost of raffle tickets will remain the same, \$2 for 1 ticket and \$5 for 3 tickets and will be for sale at our September 19, October 17, and December 12 meetings. The drawing will be held at the December meeting. Of course, cash donations are always welcome. The 'giving' bags will be on the tables at all meetings. It's going to be another great year!

I wish to thank our **Book Project Committee members**, **Gail Schwamb, Della Swaim, Carolyn Chiever, Pat Scoggin**, and **Lori Smith** for their hard work. Look for them at the ABC Raffle table. They will be ready to sell tickets!

Thank you to our community partners for their generous donations.







**Field Trips** Beth Sargent, Linda Frith, Lee Nitcholas, Sharla Lee

We have a very special field trip coming soon. We are going to **Chi Omega Christmas Market** 

on **Friday, November 16<sup>th</sup>**. We will be signing up for this exciting shopping trip at our September and October meetings. We will get advancesale tickets to save on admission cost. Please bring checks made out to C-FB RSPA in the amount of \$12. Start working on your Christmas shopping list!



# 2018-2019 Field Trips

September 21, 2018 (Friday) Senior Follies at the Eisemann Center, Richardson

November 16, 2018 (Friday) Chi Omega Christmas Market at Fair Park

> January 2019 (TBA) The Craft Guild of Dallas

March 20, 2019 (Wednesday) Kimbell Art Museum in Fort Wroth

> June 2019 (TBA) Lavender Farm

More details on our web site under About Us: Field Trips: http://localunits.org/cfbrspa/index.cfm/about-us1/field-trips \_events/. As we firm up plans for the January and June trips, we will post more information on them.



A big THANK YOU to **Lori Smith** and **Carol Sprawls** for stepping up as our Lunch Coordinator and our Healthy Living Chair respectively.

Our thanks and appreciation go to **Judy Thurman** who has served as our Lunch Coordinator for many years, and to **Barbara Shell Fletcher** and **Joyce Wagner** who have served as our Healthy Living Co-Chairs for several years. We appreciate all you have done for us!

We are always looking for new members of our leadership team. Please let one of the board members know if you are interested in serving on any of our committees!

# Legislative News



Compiled by: Pat Enlow, Member TRTA District 10 Legislative Committee Della Swaim, C-FB RSPA President



The following is useful information to help you in the very important November 6 General Election. **Please become informed and cast your vote!** 

FUN FACT – Texas is the only state that allows citizens to vote from space! So, no excuses for not voting!

Last day to register to vote: Oct. 9, 2018

Last day to receive applications for ballots by mail: Oct. 26, 2018

#### Early Voting:

Oct. 22 – Oct. 26 (Mon. – Fri.) 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 27 (Sat.) 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Oct. 28 (Sun.) 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. Oct. 29 – Nov. 2 (Mon. – Fri.) 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

<u>Election Day</u>: **Nov. 6 (Tues.)** 7:00 a.m. to 7 p.m.

#### Things you might consider doing:

◆ Go to <u>dallascountyvotes.org</u>, <u>votedenton.com</u>, or your county website to:

- $\Rightarrow$  See if you are registered to vote.
- $\Rightarrow$  Request a mail-in ballot.
- $\Rightarrow$  View sample ballot. (This will be available closer to election time.)
- $\Rightarrow$  See voting locations. (This will be available closer to election time.)
- Go to trta.org to:
  - $\Rightarrow$  Find the incumbents who represent you and their contact information.
  - $\Rightarrow$  Sign up for "Inside Line", an email that keeps you current on candidate and legislative issues.
  - $\Rightarrow$  Read *The Voice*, a quarterly publication, mailed to members that addresses issues pertaining to retired educators.
- To find information on candidates and issues, go to:
  - $\Rightarrow$  <u>texansforpubliceducation.com</u> to find information and ratings on all candidates.
  - $\Rightarrow$  <u>teachthevote.org</u> to find information on candidates and education issues.
  - $\Rightarrow$  <u>trta.org</u> and look under "Our Issues".
- Contact your legislators at the TRTA Legislative Hotline at 1-888-674-3788 and ask them or their staff:
  - Will you commit to more funding for the TRS Pension Fund and **keep it a defined benefit plan** for all present and future retirees?
  - Will you vote for an annuity increase for all retirees to cover cost of living increases?
  - Will you support a permanent source for TRS-Care in the base state budget that replaces the supplemental twoyear funding system and make it more sustainable and affordable?
  - ♦ Are you willing to sponsor bills that support the above issues?
- ♦ Attend our September 19th C-FB RSPA meeting to hear **Bill Barnes**.
- ♦ Attend Rally for Educators with Tim Lee, Executive Director, TRTA

Monday, October 15 from 5-6 p.m. Performing Arts Center 3000 Rivercrest Blvd., Allen, TX

Contact <u>patenlow@verizon.net</u> if you wish to be a part of a carpool. I encourage you to bring active educators

♦ Attend candidate forums and watch debates on TV.





# Volunteer Hours For 2018

#### Kay Edmondson

This is a reminder for you to <u>count your Volunteer</u> <u>Hours</u> and email me, Kay Edmondson, with your count. My email is <u>mce60@verizon.net</u>.

The State of Texas likes to know how many hours retired school personnel give back to the community.

Count obvious things such as volunteering as a school mentor as well as counting hours spent babysitting grandchildren and care-taking ill family members; even count the hours driving to and from such tasks.

# Hours are counted from January 1 to December 31, 2018.

Keep track of your volunteer hours and report them monthly or in a lump sum at the end of the year.

Thank you!

## Our Meeting dates for 2018-2019

All meetings are on Wednesdays at Webb Chapel Church of Christ 13425 Webb Chapel Rd, Farmers Branch 75234 with Social time starting at 11 a.m. and meetings at 11:30.

#### September 19, 2018

**Program:** Bill Barnes, TRTA Legislative Coordinator: "November General Election and 86th Legislature"

Introduce C-FBISD Superintendent, Dr. John Chapman ABC (A Book a Child Children's Book Project) Raffle tickets available at \$2 each or 3/\$5

#### October 17, 2018

**Program:** Kathy Anderson, Bloomin' Colors Nursery: Topic TBA ABC (A Book a Child Children's Book Project) Raffle tickets available at \$2 each or 3/\$5

#### December 12, 2018

Program: Dr. John Chapman, C-FBISD Superintendent: "What's Going On in C-FBISD?" Performance by District group
ABC (A Book a Child) Raffle tickets available at \$2 each or 3 for \$5 Drawing for ABC (A Book a Child Children's Book Project) Raffle

February 20, 2019

Program: Rose-Mary Rumbley, Teacher, Actress, Dallas Icon

#### April 17, 2019

**Program:** Dr. John Boyd, "History of Parkland Hospital" (Includes interesting info and pictures about JFK assassination.) (Dr. Boyd will have his books available for purchase.)

May 15, 2019 Program: Health program TBA



# View us on the Web!

Our C-FB Retired School Personnel Association has a website with helpful information and photos!

The address is <u>localunits.org/cfbrspa</u>

# Sunshine

Kathy McWhorter



Please notify me if you know of a member who is ill or needs a note of encouragement! <u>kathymcwhorter@verizon.net</u>

