



# NEWS RELEASE

## For Immediate Release

*For additional information, please contact:*  
Tracy Thayer, Federal Programs Director  
(830) 796-6300 • [tthayer@banderaisd.net](mailto:tthayer@banderaisd.net)

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### **Thank a School Board Member**

Texans benefit every day from the tireless work and countless hours dedicated by a group of more than 7,300 men and women in communities across the state. These public servants are elected to serve by local constituents and receive no compensation for their efforts. These men and women are the school board members of Texas. January is School Board Recognition Month and Bandera ISD will take this opportunity to thank these local leaders for devoting time to support public education and serve our local schools.

"Even though we are making a special effort in January to show appreciation to our board members, we realize their contributions reflect a year-round commitment," said Regina Howell, Bandera ISD Interim Superintendent. "They selflessly give of themselves to ensure that decisions directly affecting our local schools are made by representatives of this community. In these challenging times, they face difficult choices and shoulder critical responsibilities. Their ultimate goal is always focused on the future success of every student enrolled in the district," Howell said.

"Our district is enriched by the contributions of these local citizens who truly care about our kids. Serving as a crucial link between the community and classroom, this board is responsible for an annual budget of \$18 million, 2462 students, 366 employees, and four campuses. We applaud their efforts to serve as advocates for our children and the voice of public education," she said.

Don Miller has served on the Board of Trustees since 2008 and is the current Board Secretary. "I chose to serve on the Board of Trustees for Bandera ISD to give our students the best possible education and to hold true to the District's mission statement. For our teachers and administration, my goal is provide them with the best teaching environment possible and to ensure it remains a quality district," he stated.

"In a democratic society, someone has to do it," said Board member Rick Groomer. "I serve on the school board because in a small community its members are responsible for laying the foundation and putting in place the processes for students to learn, grow and achieve at the highest levels as possible in the field of education. It is an honor and a privilege to serve the community and represent our district throughout the state of Texas." Mr. Groomer has served on the Board of Trustees since 2004.

"I ran for the board during a controversy that had the community split. Since I had a lot of contact with a lot of different groups including the businesses in Bandera, I felt that I could see both sides. I also felt I had the skills to help bring the Board back together and help us start moving forward again. Through my entertaining, I get to go to a lot of different schools all over the state so I get to see how others are running their schools and can see what seems positive and what seems to be negative and have tried to use that experience to help our district," explains Board member Lee Haile. Mr. Haile has served on the Board of Trustees since 2003.

BISD Board of Trustees President, Dr. Barbara Skipper relates "There are two main reasons why I choose to serve on the Bandera Board of Trustees. As a lover of schools and the American public education system, I have devoted my entire adult life to either being an educator or supporting public education by serving on the local school board. My four school-age grandchildren have further motivated me to do my part to ensure our education system is the best it can be." Dr. Skipper has served on the Board since 2003.

Current Bandera ISD Board of Trustees include: Rick Groomer, Lee Haile, Greg Hicks, Don Miller, Laurie Neff, Laurie Palacios and Dr. Barbara Skipper. For more information about the Board of Trustees go to the "District Information" link on the BISD web site [www.banderaisd.net](http://www.banderaisd.net) .