

Eagle Mountain – Saginaw ***Retired School Employees*** ***“The Fun Begins!” Newsletter*** **October 2021**

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OCTOBER 13 MEETING AT JOE T. GARCIA’S RESTAURANT

Your Choice (Small appetites may share)

Family Style Enchilada Dinner - 2 cheese nachos as appetizers, 2 cheese enchiladas, 2 beef tacos, rice, beans, guacamole and corn tortillas **\$26 (includes tax and tip)**

Beef, Chicken, or Combo Fajitas - Beef and/or chicken fajitas, rice, beans, guacamole, pico de gallo, and flour tortillas **\$28 (includes tax and tip)**

Tea, coffee or soft drinks \$3



When we arrive, we'll meet outside and give CASH for our meals to Roy or Gordon. At 11, we'll walk through the beautiful gardens and have patio seating. Joel Fuller, retired EMS ISD teacher, coach and now Stockyards Tour Guide, will join us for lunch and tell about the historic Stockyards and Fort Worth's Northside. RSVP with your name/meal choice/ beverage or not, on Sat. Oct. 9 or before to lindacurrier@att.net No shows will be billed. No bus this year; lots of good parking really close to entrance.

COMMUNITY LINK PROJECT A SUCCESS!

September's Community Link community service project was a success, even as a thunderstorm rolled in! EMSRSE members brought 247 cans of food to the monthly meeting. Thank you to Gordon and Kathy Vogel, and Roy Mayfield for making the project possible. **THANK YOU TO MEMBERS FOR REMEMBERING TO BRING YOUR DONATIONS!**

2021 GOLD CARD LUNCHEON UPDATE

Thank you for responding to EMS ISD's survey request, either online or at the September meeting. While the answers were mixed, the district sent a letter on September 15 to the 2,000 Gold Card members. The letter stated that due to lingering COVID concerns, the Gold Card Luncheon has been rescheduled to April 14, 2021. Invitations will be sent to members closer to the date.

SEPTEMBER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS – SEE ATTACHMENT FOR MORE

Today EMS ISD has 22,331 students, up about 1,000 students from when Dr. Chadwell spoke to our group on Zoom at this time last year. And, there are still no portable buildings!

From Superintendent Dr. Jim Chadwell:

- The 17th elementary school just opened, Lake Country Elementary. The 18th elementary school is being worked on.
- The fourth high school, Eagle Mountain High School, on Bonds Ranch Road, is scheduled to open in 2024 and will probably be the last high school. It will be tucked into the hillside, rather than flattening the land and building. It will be three levels and will be the smallest high school. EMHS will start small and begin by housing freshmen, sophomore and junior students. Growth will be slow.

- In October 2022 the new Wayside Middle School will be started. It will sit directly across from Bryson Elementary and will look like Marine Creek Middle School. After the new Wayside is completed and students relocate to the new building, the old Wayside will be torn down and the property on the busy corner of Bailey-Boswell and Old Decatur will be sold. (*From Linda C.: hopefully not for a chicken restaurant (there are chicken restaurants on the other three corners now!)*) School boundaries will not be changed until 2023.
- A new, larger Administration Building capable of officing all Central Office administrators and support staff, is being built behind Marine Creek Middle School. Central administrators are in 9 different buildings now. Also on the site will be an elementary school, a YMCA partnership facility, and a science discovery lab for classes. The back of the property will not be developed, but left for student learning. (*If you know how to contact Jane Weaver, please let her know!*)
- BHS athletic activity center and stadium improvements will be ready soon. SHS will be next with a new athletic activity center and new finish on floors to make it brighter. CTHS will receive its' new athletic activity center after SHS's is completed.
- Interesting News: The Edwards family owns a very large area of undeveloped ranch land at the corner of Boat Club Road and Robertson Road. It will be developed after the Edwards family finishes developing the Chisolm Trail area it owns in southwest Fort Worth. The amount of property at Boat Club and Robertson is large enough to be its' own city, with a high school, middle school and elementary school. It is in the EMS ISD district.
- More interesting news: EMS ISD graduates who have teacher certification are guaranteed an interview with the district. If they are hired, they receive a signing bonus.

EMSRSE Business Meeting:

- 2021-22 Yearbooks were distributed. If you have not received one, they can be picked up at the October 13 meeting. New this year- page 48 has Supplemental United Healthcare Services, free or low cost. Please read!
- The 2021-22 Budget, July and August Treasurer's Report, May Minutes and 2020-21 Financial Audit conducted by EECU, were approved.

NOVEMBER 10 MEETING – ANNUAL “IT’S FOR THE KIDS!”

SCHOLARSHIP AUCTION AND BBQ LUNCHEON – FIRST LOOK!

- Goal is \$3,000, to provide four \$750 scholarships to three EMS ISD high schools plus one at-large scholarship. It’s for the kids!
- EMSRSE Members Ricky and Linda Long are Auction Chairs this year. They’re for the kids!
- Wednesday, November 10: 10 am check-in and set-up; 10:45 viewing; 11 luncheon; 11:45 auction; 1:45 clean-up. It’s for the kids!
- EMSRSE members are encouraged to bring two items (of course, you can bring more!) to be auctioned. It’s for the kids!
- Bring items you, yourself would want to buy. It’s for the kids!
- Seasonal or theme gift baskets are always crowd pleasers and bring in \$\$\$.
- No skills required to purchase and assemble! It’s for the kids!
- Handmade items are always great sellers! Quilts, throws, baby items, crafts, wreaths, floral and seasonal decorations, hand-painted pictures, hand-made greeting cards, whatever you can make will sell! It’s for the kids!
- Vendors, donate one nice gift and you can display your business cards. We’re all for the kids!
- Everyone loves gift cards - to give and to get. It’s for the kids!
- Only 6 weeks of Christmas shopping left after the auction! It’s for the kids!
- Come and spend! It’s for the kids!
- Can’t attend? Mail a check made out to EMSRSE Scholarship Fund, c/o Pam Phillips, 901 Canterbury Dr., Saginaw, TX 76179. Thank you in advance.
- It’s for the kids!

HEALTH INSURANCE NEWS

January 12 EMSRSE Meeting – A representative from United Healthcare will speak during the second half of the program regarding 2022 benefits.

2022 UNITED HEALTHCARE INSURANCE BENEFITS – WITH MEDICARE:
WEBINARS to register, go to www.trs.texas.gov/trs-care-events

Sept. 28, 9-11 am; Sept. 30, 2-4 pm; Oct. 4, 9-11 am; Oct. 8, 1-3 pm; Oct. 11, 1-3 pm.

2022 UNITED HEALTHCARE INSURANCE BENEFITS – NON-MEDICARE:

WEBINARS to register, go to www.trs.texas.gov/trs-care-events

Sept. 28, 2-4 pm; Sept. 30, 9-11 am; Oct. 4. 1-3 pm.

ONE-TIME REENROLLMENT IN TRS-CARE WEBINAR

to register, go to www.trs.texas.gov/trs-care-events

Oct. 8, 11-12 pm; Oct. 11, 10-11 am.

AMBA INSURANCE BENEFITS UPDATE

Dental Insurance (TRTA is not endorsing any AMBA products at this time.)

For **existing** dental policyholders: 1.800.258.7041

For **first-time** enrollments in a TRTA group dental policy: 1.800.322.0201

Vision Insurance

For **existing** vision policyholders: 1.800.258.7041

EMSRSE FACTS - BY THE NUMBERS (as of Sept. 24, 2021)

Total EMSRSE members – 157

- 10 are new members
- 134 members belong to both TRTA and EMSRSE
- 22 associate members belong to EMSRSE only
- 1 associate member belongs to TRTA and EMSRSE
- 129 total number of households represented
- 122 households are represented by email
- 7 households are not represented by email
- 38 households have addresses other than Saginaw or Fort Worth
- 10 charter (founding) members remain members from original 50: Linda Dennis, Barbara Hawthorne, Harold Hawthorne, Wanda Jernigan, Janet Larson, Marie Lynam, Dorothy Norris, Athena Pachares, Bob Trammell, and Sylvia Underwood. All have been members since May 1993, that's 28 years!
- 2 mistakes in Yearbook (that we know of): Cathy Wells - new email is frogcat60@hotmail.com Elizabeth "Beth" McCoy – new contact info: 1508 Clover Lane, Granbury, TX 76048, 817.229.9218. We apologize for these errors.

IMPORTANT SURVEY

If you have email, do you want EMSRSE monthly newsletter mailed or only emailed?

Please reply to this email with one of these phrases: both or email only

FROM JEANNE PAUL-TURNER, TRTA DISTRICT 11 LEGISLATIVE CHAIR AND TRTA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE AUSTIN

“Although the bill for a Cost of Living Adjustment did not go through during the 87th Legislative Session, we will continue to talk to Legislators and our Governor about it.

The Governor now has signed our supplemental check SB 5, and we will receive a check in January 2022 of either the value of your check or \$2400, whichever is less. Much has been accomplished during this 87th Legislative Session, thanks to Tim Lee, our Executive Director of TRTA, the TRTA Legislative Committee, the TRTA Board and many Legislative friends! Please send a thank to all Legislators!

87th Legislative Session – Accomplishments – Bills Passed

1. SB 1–the State Finance Bill which increased the state contribution to TRS.
2. HB 1585–Sunset Bill—provided important and needed changes to the TRS Agency!
 - A. Ombudsman
 - B. Reporting of financial bonuses to investment managers
 - C. Increased customer service in health care appeals
3. HB 2022–Golden Ticket Bill—opens the door to certain Medicare age-eligible TRS retirees to return to TRS-Care. Those who left between 2017 through 2019 will have a one-time opportunity to rejoin TRS-Care.
4. SB 288–Return-to-Work Bill—provides a greater flexibility for retirees to return-to-work by exempting all retirees before January 1, 2021 from work limits. It also institutes a required warning for the first offense from TRS before any penalties are assessed if retirees inadvertently work over the time limits.
5. HB 3207–Return-to-Work Disaster Bill—
Example, ice storms, hurricanes!
6. SB 1356–Tutoring Bill—allows organizations such as TRTF, to offer tutoring services

- through retired educators associations.
7. SCR 17–WEP Reform—a request from Texas Legislators to the federal government to repeal and reform the harmful Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP.)”

IF YOU MOVE, NOTIFY TRS, TRTA AND EMSRSE DIRECTLY

TRS - When moving, go to trs.texas.gov and print form TRS358, fill it out, and mail back to TRS. For name changes, no form is required, but certain information and documentation is. If changing beneficiaries, print form TRS15, fill it out, and mail back to TRS, 1000 Red River St. Austin, TX 78701-2698

TRTA – For change of address, notify TRTA in writing and give your present address and your new address. Mail to: TRTA, 313 E. 12th St. Suite 200, Austin, TX 78701.

EMSRSE – Please notify EMSRSE if your address, email address, or phone number changes at emsrseowner@gmail.com

2021-22 EMSRSE EVENTS CALENDAR

October 2021

Oct. 13 Meeting in the gardens at Joe T’s Restaurant - 10:45 am “Joel at Joe T’s” Joel Fuller, retired EMS ISD coach and teacher and now Stockyards tour guide, will give the history of Fort Worth’s northside. RSVP’s with meal choice required to lindacurrier@att.net on Sat. Oct. 9 or before. See meal choices listed above.

November 2021

Nov. 10 Meeting at the EMS ISD Administration Bldg. “It’s for the Kids! Scholarship Auction and BBQ Pot Luck Luncheon” with Auctioneer Earle Faske. 10 am set up room, food, and auction items; 10:45 guests view auction items; 11 lunch; 11:45 auction; 2 pm clean-up

Nov. 22-26 EMS ISD Fall Break

December 2021

No EMSRSE Meeting

Dec. 20-31 Winter Break

EMSRSE MEMBERS CHRISTMAS CAROLING – Will be relocated.

January 2022

Jan. 12 Meeting at Hollenstein – 8:30 am Coffee and breakfast snacks; 9 am “The Magic Healing of Essential Oils” presented by Harris Hospital Nurse-Educator Cindy Bozarth and facilitated by Joy Lynn Schnell, Healthy Living Co-chair; AND United Healthcare Representative with 2022 information, 9:50 Business meeting

February 2022

Feb. 9 Meeting at Boo-Rays’ – 11 am “Cajun Valentines Lunch at Boo Ray’s;” 12 pm The Hallelujah Chorus and Ukulele Band perform; Bring your Sweetie! 2022-23 Nominating Committee elected

March 2022

Mar. 9 Meeting at Hollenstein – 8:30 am Coffee and homemade cookie contest for \$25 prize; 9 am “Meet General Sam Houston;” 9:50 am Business meeting, 2022-23 Officers elected **and installed.**

Mar. 14-18 – Spring Break

April 2022

TBD – CHILDREN’S BOOK PROJECT FOR EMS ISD PK STUDENTS

Apr. 13 Meeting at “Top O’ Hill Terrace,” Arlington; 9:30 am leave cars at Hollenstein and board bus; 10:30 – 12:30 guided tour; BYO sack lunch on bus ride back, bottled water will be provided; \$10 cash per person

April 14 – EMS ISD Gold Card Appreciation Luncheon

May 2021

May 11 Meeting at the “Downtown Cowtown at the Isis;” 9:15 am leave cars at Hollenstein; 10 am tour and history of the landmark Isis Theatre; 11 - 12:30 classic or western movie; **\$6.50 cash per person (new Senior discount); bring a friend, retired school employee or not! (From Linda C.: I have seen the Isis Theatre and it is unbelievably beautiful! Jeff and Debbie Garrett Smith, former Boswell teachers, have done an awesome job renovating it. Fort Worth should be proud! During the renovation, Jeff was also earning his doctorate, which will be awarded very soon.)**

You won’t want to miss this – this is going to be the best year ever!

Roy

Roy Mayfield

President

TRTA Eagle Mountain – Saginaw Retired School Employees