



Dr. Lynn Armstrong

Dr. Armstrong was an educator in Fort Bend ISD for 22 years, beginning in 1985. She worked as a teacher at Missouri City Middle School and Clements High School, a Special Education Department Head at Kempner High School, and as an Assistant Principal at Clements High School. In 2006, she was named principal at Blue Ridge Elementary, after serving three years as assistant principal. While there, she created science labs, The Blue Ridge Eagle Band, small group rotators in math and reading, the school's International Multicultural Festival and other programs. She was also proactive in parent and community involvement and led the effort to take Blue Ridge Elementary from a Texas Education Agency "Unacceptable" rating to a "Recognized" status during her tenure as principal. Although she lost her battle with breast cancer on May 25, 2007 (the last day of school), she never lost focus of her life's dedication to educate and serve her students despite her illness.



Billy J. Baines

Known as the "Children's Principal" and a champion for all children, Billy J. Baines was employed with the Missouri City ISD in 1956 (until it merged with Sugar Land ISD in 1959 to form Fort Bend ISD) and then with FBISD for 31 years. In 1959, Baines became principal of Arcola Elementary School, making him the first African American principal named in the newly formed school district, where he also worked at Oaklane School. While serving in his first teaching assignments, Baines also volunteered to coach student basketball, track and baseball teams. After the desegregation of Texas schools, Oaklane School was closed, and Baines became assistant principal at Annie Wilcox Elementary School. In 1968, when Blue Ridge Elementary opened, Baines served as an assistant principal and later as principal. Prior to retiring in 1990, he also served as principal at Lantern Lane Elementary, a recruiter for school teachers, and coordinator for textbooks. Baines currently resides in Houston.



Stephen F. Austin

Known as the Father of Texas, Stephen Fuller Austin was born in the mining regions of southwestern Virginia, in what is now known as Austinville, which is 250 miles southwest of Richmond, Virginia. After graduating in Kentucky, Austin studied to be a lawyer, and at age twenty-one he served in the legislature of the Missouri Territory. In the 1820's, Austin was authorized by the San Antonio Governor to explore the Gulf Coast between San Antonio and the Brazos River to find a suitable location for a colony. By late 1825, Austin had brought the first 300 families, now known in Texas history as the Old Three Hundred, to the colony. He also helped settle an additional 900 families between 1825 and 1829. He had effective civil and military authority over the settlers and also organized small, informal armed groups to protect the colonists, which evolved into the Texas Rangers. The capital of Texas, Austin, is named in his honor.



Walter Moses Burton

Walter Moses Burton's life was one of struggle, perseverance, hope, generosity and dignity. He was at the leadership forefront of African Americans in Fort Bend County following the Civil War. After purchasing a large quantity of land, he became one of the wealthiest and most influential African Americans in Fort Bend County. In 1869 he was elected Fort Bend County Sheriff and Tax Collector. By 1874, he was elected to the Texas Senate representing the 17th district. During his four terms in the Senate, he served on the committees of Agricultural Affairs, Education, Roads and Bridges and Judiciary. He also joined fellow legislators in supporting bills and resolutions that would benefit African American citizens. Most notable was his contribution to public education. In 1876, Burton introduced the Senate bill to establish an agricultural and manual school for African American youth of the state, which is now known as Prairie View A&M University.



George Herbert Walker Bush

The 41st President of the United States, George Bush was elected to office on November 8, 1988, sworn in on January 20, 1989, and served until January 20, 1993. During his term in office, the Cold War ended; the threat of nuclear war was drastically reduced; the Soviet Union ceased to exist, replaced by a democratic Russia; the Berlin Wall fell and Germany was reunified; and Eastern Europe and the Baltic States all became free. President Bush also put together an unprecedented coalition of 32 nations to liberate Kuwait from Saddam Hussein's brutal aggression, thus paving the way for Israel and her Arab neighbors at the Madrid Peace Conference to begin anew their quest for peace in the Middle East. President Bush was the first sitting Vice President to ascend to the Presidency since Martin van Buren in 1837. He and his wife have been married 56 years and reside in Houston, Texas, and Kennebunkport, Maine.



William P. Clements

William Perry "Bill" Clements, Jr. was born in Dallas and worked as an oil driller for many years. He founded SEDCO, the world's largest offshore drilling company. He entered politics as the United States Deputy Secretary of Defense under Presidents Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford, in the latter administration under Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld (1975-77; 2001-2006). Clements is the first Republican to have served as governor of Texas since Reconstruction. He was governor for two nonconsecutive terms from 1979 to 1983 and 1987 to 1991. Clements' eight years in office are the most served by any governor prior to current governor Rick Perry who, having taken office upon the resignation of George W. Bush in December 2000, surpassed Governor Clements in Perry's third year of his second term.



Donald David Cook

A former Fort Bend ISD Board Member, Don Cook first became involved in FBISD as a parent of three daughters. He became the president of the Meadows Parent Teacher Organization, and in 1985 was elected to the FBISD Board of Trustees, where he served until 1991. He was also active in the Meadows community, serving as vice president of the Meadows Community Improvement Association, director of the Meadows Municipal Utility District, and a member of the Child Care Council of Greater Houston, Board of Directors of both the Children's Center for Developmental Therapy and the Cerebral Palsy Treatment Center. His involvement with swimming began at an early age. While in high school and college he competed, taught swimming, served as a life-guard, and supervised the recreation center. Don served as president of the Meadows Swim Team, and judged competitions for 20 years. He continued to swim for exercise up until a few months before he died.



David Crockett

Alamo hero David Crockett was a native of Tennessee who came to Texas to fight for freedom for the Republic of Texas. He was a celebrated 19-century American folk hero, frontiersman, soldier, and politician; usually referred to as "Davy Crockett" and by the popular title of "King of the Wild Frontier." He represented Tennessee in the U.S. House of Representatives, served in the Texas Revolution, and died at the age of 49 at the Battle of the Alamo. Crockett was the fifth of nine children of John and Rebecca Hawkins Crockett. His father, John, was one of the Overmountain Men who fought in the American Revolutionary War at the Battle of Kings Mountain. The Crocketts moved to Morristown, Tennessee, sometime during the 1790's and built a tavern. A museum now stands on this site and is a reconstruction of that tavern.



Rita Drabek

Rita Drabek earned a degree in Business Administration from the University of Houston and was working in downtown Houston when she married Johnnie Drabek, who lived in Sugar Land. When they married she applied for a teaching position in Sugar Land. Throughout her years as a teacher, Drabek offered a steady hand and a caring heart to students in Fort Bend ISD. After teaching for 16 years, Drabek was one of three female assistant principals named by the District in 1973. She served as principal at Lakeview Elementary, Meadows Elementary, and as Director of Elementary Curriculum before being elected to the Fort Bend ISD Board of Trustees in 1992, where she served three terms. Her stability and commitment to education and educators helped guide the District through a period of rapid growth and change. After her retirement from the Board, she went to work part-time as an educational consultant for the Region IV Education Service Center, where today she continues to mentor young teachers throughout the Houston area.



John Foster Dulles

John Foster Dulles was one of five children born to Allen and Edith Dulles. He attended Princeton University and The George Washington University Law School and tried to join the United States Army during World War I but was rejected because of poor eyesight. Dulles served as U.S. Secretary of State under President Dwight D. Eisenhower from 1953 to 1959. Both his grandfather, John W. Foster, and his uncle, Robert Lansing, served as Secretary of State. His brother, Allen Welsh Dulles, served as Director of the Central Intelligence Agency under Eisenhower. Dulles was a significant figure in the early Cold War era, advocating an aggressive stance against communism around the world. He advocated support of the French in their war against the Viet Minh in Indochina. He also played a great part in the CIA operations to overthrow the democratic Mossadegh government of Iran in 1953 (Operation Ajax) and the democratic Arbenz government of Guatemala in 1954 (Operation PBSUCCESS).



Lawrence E. Elkins

Elkins began his education career in Fort Bend County in September 1949 as a classroom history teacher and coach at Missouri City High School before consolidation in 1959. During his tenure, Elkins served as principal at E.A. Jones Elementary, Director of Instruction, and as Assistant Superintendent of Schools before being named superintendent in June 1974. He retired in February 1984, acting as superintendent emeritus from February 16 to June 30, 1984. Elkins led the district through many changes and projects during his superintendency – a growth explosion of approximately 16,000 students between 1974 and 1984, the passage of two major bond issues totaling \$85 million and the opening and dedication of 12 new schools. He was instrumental in creating the district's School/Community Relations Department in 1977, the Foundation for Excellence Program, the Fort Bend PTA Council and an active drug awareness program in the schools. He was also a strong advocate of Texas Public Schools Week. He served the district for 35 years.



Arizona Fleming

Arizona Fleming, an African American civil-rights activist, was born in Richmond, Texas, and was the daughter of Beauregard (Bully) and Laura Fleming. She attended segregated schools through the 12th grade, then entered Guadalupe College in Seguin. After college she worked for four years as a bookkeeper for Seagull Laundry in Houston, then later returned to Richmond and became a leading seamstress in the county. In 1927 she and several others founded the Fort Bend Fraternal Undertaking Company in Richmond; Fleming served as secretary and manager of the company. During the Great Depression, she received financial assistance from her uncle, C. H. D. Fleming of Beaumont, who helped her establish a good credit rating. After several years with the undertaking company, Fleming rose to the position of sole proprietor and eventually owned her own house. In the early 1950s, Fleming became involved in reestablishing the African-American vote in Fort Bend County and took part in many civil rights efforts to end local voter discrimination.



Johnnie Frankie

A long-time resident of Missouri City and active member of the Lions Club, Johnnie Frankie received a Bachelor's degree from Rice University and a graduate degree from the University of Houston. After four years of coaching football and basketball in Houston area high schools, Frankie moved to Texas A & M University, where he worked three years as an assistant football and basketball coach. He then moved to Wharton County Junior College as athletic director and head coach. While at Wharton, he led his football team to five bowl games and the basketball team to seven championships, including one national championship. After 10 years at Wharton, Frankie moved to Rice University as head basketball coach where he remained until his death in 1963. An avid supporter of high school athletic programs, Frankie was devoted to young people and helped many further their education through athletics.



Edgar Glover, Jr.

After a long career as teacher, coach and principal in the San Antonio school system, Edgar Glover, Jr. joined the Fort Bend School District in 1983 to serve as principal of Willowridge High School. In March 1992, his duties were expanded to include Christa McAuliffe Middle School. Known for his dedication to both school and community, Glover also served as an adjunct professor in the Department of Educational Administration at Texas Southern University and as a deacon of Zion Chapel in Fulshear. During his years in education, he was active in numerous professional and civic organizations, including the Texas and National Association of Secondary School Principals, the Mu Epsilon Nu National Male Educator's fraternity, the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, Kappa Alpha Psi civic and social fraternity and the Frontiers International service organization. He also received numerous educational honors, including Fort Bend Community's Successful Black Man of the Year.



Macario Garcia

Born in Mexico, Macario Garcia and his family immigrated to the United States in search of a better way of life. His family eventually settled in the Sugar Land area. Although he was not yet a United States citizen, in November 1942, Garcia was drafted into the United States Army where he served three years. On November 27, 1944, Garcia became a World War II hero. In an assault on enemy positions, his army unit was pinned down by machine gun fire from a hidden source. Garcia charged single-handedly and wiped out a machine gun nest. On August 23, 1945, Garcia was presented the prestigious Medal of Honor by President Harry S. Truman. He is one of 17 Hispanics to receive the Medal of Honor, and one of 3,612 medal honorees in the history of the United States. Garcia went on to become a United States citizen in 1947, and returned to Fort Bend County.



Lula Belle Goodman

Lula Belle Goodman was born and raised in Fort Bend County. A graduate of Prairie View A&M College, she taught students in Fort Bend for 41 years, touching the lives of children across our district. During her career, she taught at St. John's School in Dewalt, the Oaklane School in Arcola, New Hope School in Stafford, M.R. Wood in Sugar Land, and Lakeview Elementary in Sugar Land. Goodman was the ultimate educator and caretaker of the children in her charge. In one nominating letter a former student recalled, "She fed her students' minds, as well as their bodies and souls. She cut wood for a fire to keep students warm and comfortable, prepared food to nourish her most hungry students, and brought clothing and shoes when students were without." Through three generations, Goodman taught the children of our community with her caring spirit, loving heart and inspiring example.



Kenneth Hall

A 1954 graduate of Sugar Land High School and sports legend, Kenneth Hall holds more rushing records than any other high school running back in the history of Texas high school football. Known as the "Sugar Land Express," Hall set more than 15 state and/or national records during his Sugar Land career. He entered the Gators' Class B football program as a 5-11, 170-pound running back and left a 6-foot-1, 205-pounder with the kind of speed and power that caught the eye of legendary coach Bear Bryant, who signed Hall to a scholarship at Texas A&M. Hall later played football in Canada, as well as with the Colts, Cardinals and the Houston Oilers. Hall is such a sports legend that the prestigious National Player of the Year for high school football, cast in the likeness of Hall in his 1950's uniform, was named the Ken Hall Trophy.



L.V. Hightower

Hightower dedicated his life to public education in Fort Bend County. He was an employee of the district for 30 years, beginning his career as a coach at the old Sugar Land High School. When the Sugar Land and Missouri City school districts consolidated, he was appointed coach, athletic director and assistant principal of Dulles High School. Hightower served as principal of Dulles Junior High School and also opened Sugar Land Junior High (also known as Sugar Land Middle School) where he served as principal until he retired in 1980. According to the committee who chose L.V. Hightower as the name of FBISD's seventh high school, Hightower was a fitting choice, "He provided leadership for our district and truly cared about our students. His life was dedicated to education, and he set standards worthy of our respect and emulation." Hightower also had a special gift of making everyone feel special.



Mary Austin Holley

Mary Austin Holley was born in New Haven, Connecticut, in 1784. During her life, she became an accomplished author and teacher. She moved to Louisiana and became a teacher after her husband died in 1829. Once her cousin, Stephen F. Austin was settled in Texas, she communicated with him concerning the possibility of gathering her family around her in Texas. Austin made arrangements to reserve land for her on Galveston Bay, and in October 1831 she visited the Austin colony. Throughout her life, she wrote numerous books that gave an early account of Texas history, including pictorial documentation of historical landmarks. She also wrote a biography of Stephen F. Austin. Holley died of yellow fever on August 2, 1846, and was buried in the Donatien Augustine tomb in the St. Louis Cemetery at New Orleans. Her books and her long series of family letters are invaluable accounts of early Texas.



Lewis 'Buddy' Hopson

Lewis 'Buddy' Hopson joined Fort Bend ISD in 1963 as a teacher and assistant coach at Dulles High School. He became Head Coach and Athletic Director in 1969, becoming the district's first full-time Athletic Director in 1972. During his tenure as Athletic Director, the athletic competition district comprised high schools from across southwest Houston, and FBISD schools won over 100 district, and nine state championships in various sports. Hopson was also instrumental in adding girls' basketball and softball, and boys' and girls' gymnastics, swimming, and soccer to the athletic program. He also helped plan the district's first athletic facility – Mercer Stadium, Wheeler Field House and Frankie Field. Hopson influenced many young athletes through his service to the district and worked diligently to help students earn college scholarships to further their educations. He retired in 1992 after 30 years of service to FBISD. In 1996, he was inducted into the Texas High School Athletic Directors Hall of Honor.



E. A. Jones

E. A. Jones first came to Missouri City in 1936 as a coach, and was named principal of Missouri City High School in 1947. When Fort Bend ISD was formed in 1959, he became the first principal of Dulles High School.



Barbara Jordan

Barbara Charline Jordan was born on February 21, 1936. She graduated magna cum laude from Texas Southern University in 1956 and received her law degree from Boston University in 1959. She was the first African American elected to the Senate since 1883. In 1972, she was elected President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and served as Governor for a day on June 10, 1972. Jordan later became the first African American Texan in the United States Congress, representing the 18th district. She served as a member of the House Judiciary Committee, the House Committee on Government Operations and the Steering and Policy Committee of the Democratic Caucus. In 1991, Jordan was appointed as Special Counsel for Ethics by Governor Ann Richards. In 1994, she served as Chairwoman of the United States Commission on Immigration Reform and was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest award to a civilian in the country, from President William Clinton.



Isaac Herbert Kempner

A noted industrialist and philanthropist, I. H. Kempner was instrumental in founding the community which eventually became Sugar Land. As co-partner of Imperial Sugar Company and Sugarland Industries, Kempner was also instrumental in providing education for the town's residents. In 1916, Sugar Land had outgrown its one-room school house, which prompted Kempner to send his chief engineer to California to inspect a model, small-town school and buy the plans. Completed in 1918, the facility was a unique education/civic center of 11 separate Spanish-style buildings, equipped with 10 classrooms, home economics laboratory, 600-seat auditorium, a moving picture screen and a projection booth. Imperial Sugar Company and Sugarland Industries subsidized these facilities because of minimal available educational funds from county and state. However, Sugar Land quickly outgrew its school and in 1932 Kempner's company built a second 11-building unit with distinctive feature such as a gymnasium, indoor tile swimming pool and a complete chemistry laboratory.



Iva Lockett

Iva Lockett was the first Fort Bend ISD Library Coordinator. She began her career as campus librarian at Lakeview Elementary School, and served Fort Bend ISD for 32 years. Lockett was a graduate of Sam Houston State University of Houston and Texas Women's University, and a member of Delta Kappa Gamma. She was also an active member of Sugar Land United Methodist Church for 48 years.



Thurgood Marshall

Thurgood Marshall's tenure as chief counsel for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and founder of its Legal Defense and Educational Fund made him one of America's most influential and well-known lawyers. He devoted 30 years to public services, working as a federal appeals court judge, solicitor general, and U.S. Supreme Court Justice. Marshall brought 32 cases before the Supreme Court, winning 29 of them. His most noted case was *Brown vs. the Board of Education*, which dismantled the legal basis for racial segregation in schools and other public facilities. In 1965 President Lyndon B. Johnson appointed Marshall Solicitor General, the nation's chief legal counsel, of the United States, making him the first African American to serve as Solicitor General or a Supreme Court Justice. When Thurgood Marshall died in 1993, he was only the second Justice to lie in state in the Supreme Court's chambers.



Christa McAuliffe

Sharon Christa Corrigan McAuliffe was an American teacher from Concord, New Hampshire. Born in Boston, Massachusetts, she received her bachelor's degree in education and history from Framingham State College in 1970, and a Master of Arts from Bowie State University in 1978. She took a teaching post as a social studies teacher at Concord High School in New Hampshire in 1982. In 1985, McAuliffe was selected from more than 11,000 applicants to participate in the NASA Teacher in Space Project, and was scheduled to become the first teacher in space. As a member of mission STS-51-L, she was planning to conduct experiments and teach two lessons from the Space Shuttle Challenger. On January 28, 1986, her spacecraft disintegrated 73 seconds after launch, and she was one of seven crew members who perished in the Space Shuttle Challenger disaster. After her death, schools and scholarships were named in her honor, and in 2004 she was awarded the Congressional Space Medal of Honor.



Dr. Ronald E. McNair

A native of Lake City, South Carolina, Ronald McNair graduated magna cum laude from North Carolina A&T State University, receiving the prestigious honor of Presidential Scholar. While at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), McNair performed some of the earliest developments of chemical HF/DF and high pressure CO lasers. Following graduation from MIT in 1976, McNair became a staff physicist with Hughes Research Laboratories in Malibu, California. In January 1978, he was selected as an astronaut candidate by NASA. After completing the one-year training and evaluation period, McNair became eligible for assignment as a mission specialist astronaut on future Space Shuttle flights. McNair's first flight as a mission specialist was aboard STS 41-B which launched from Kennedy Space Center in Florida on February 3, 1984. McNair's second mission took place January 28, 1986 aboard the Orbiter Challenger, which was launched from Kennedy Space Center as well. Unfortunately, McNair and the six other crew members perished after the ill-fated Challenger exploded one minute and 13 seconds after launch.



Edward Mercer

Edward Mercer served as superintendent of the Sugar Land School District before consolidation with the Missouri City School District in 1959. Mercer was then named Fort Bend ISD's assistant superintendent and later stepped into the role of superintendent upon the death of Louis P. Rodgers, the district's first superintendent. Mercer served as superintendent until his retirement in August 1974.



Rosa Parks

Rosa Louise McCauley Parks was an African American civil rights activist whom the U.S. Congress later called the "Mother of the Modern-Day Civil Rights Movement." On December 1, 1955, Parks refused to give up her bus seat to a white passenger and was later arrested and fined for violating a city ordinance. The bus incident led to the formation of the Montgomery Improvement Association, led by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The association called for a boycott of the city-owned bus company. The boycott lasted 382 days and brought Parks and the cause to the attention of the world. A Supreme Court decision struck down the Montgomery ordinance under which Parks had been fined, and outlawed racial segregation on public transportation. In 1996, President Clinton presented Parks with the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Upon her death, Parks was the first woman in American history to lie in state at the Capitol, an honor reserved for U.S. Presidents.



Jan Schiff

Jan Schiff spent her adult life volunteering and working with public schools. She began her volunteer career in 1979 working for the AFS Intercultural Programs to orient and send students abroad. She later became a volunteer at her children's schools as a VIPS Coordinator, and PTO President. She was active in volunteer capacities for the Fort Bend Chapters of the American Cancer Society and CASA, and served on numerous boards including the Fort Bend Literacy Council, Fort Bend A.W.A.R.E., and various Campus Based Leadership Teams. She volunteered with the Fort Bend Education Foundation where she served as a member, Allocations Vice President, Vice President of Community Involvement, and President. Through her work, Schiff felt passionately about education and changing the world, one person at a time, whether making a foreign exchange student feel welcomed or teaching an adult to read. Prior to her death, Schiff served as the Volunteer in Public Schools Coordinator for Fort Bend ISD's Community Relations and Partnerships Department.



Louis P. Rodgers

Louis P. Rodgers served as superintendent of the Missouri City School District before it consolidated with the Sugar Land School District in 1959 to form Fort Bend Independent School District. He served as the first Fort Bend ISD superintendent until his death in May 1967.



Juan Seguin

Juan Nepomuceno Seguin was a Tejano hero of the Texas Revolution. As a teenager in Mexico, he had a strong interest in politics. He was very critical of his contemporary Mexican leader, Antonio López de Santa Anna, and gladly joined the Texas Revolution to rid Texas of Santa Anna's rule. He led a band of 25 Tejanos who favored a revolt and fought on the Texan side at the Battle of the Alamo. Because Seguin spoke only Spanish, he was chosen to carry the message through lines that the Texans "shall never surrender or retreat." Seguin got the message to the other soldiers on the Texan side. He returned to the Alamo, but it had already fallen to Santa Anna's army. Seguin later commanded an infantry company and fought at the Battle of San Jacinto. In 1839, Seguin was elected to the Texas Senate and became mayor of San Antonio in 1841.



William B. Travis

William Barret Travis will always be remembered as the Texas commander at the Battle of the Alamo. After arriving in Texas in 1831, Travis obtained land from Stephen F. Austin and set up to practice law in Anahuac, and later in San Felipe. When friction developed between Texas and Mexico, Travis was one of the first to join the Texas forces. When Mexican General Martin Perfecto de Cos demanded the surrender of the Texan's cannon that resulted in the Battle of Gonzales, Travis was one of hundreds to come to its defense. On orders from Provisional Governor Henry Smith in January 1836, Travis entered the Alamo with about 30 men. He later found himself in command, when then commander James C. Neill took family leave. Travis commanded the Texas defenders during the Siege and Battle of the Alamo. His Appeal from the Alamo for reinforcements has become an American symbol of unyielding courage and heroism. Although a few reinforcements arrived before the Alamo fell, Travis and over 180 defenders gave their lives for Texas independence on March 6, 1836.



Dr. Leslie A. Wheeler

A graduate of the Texas Dental School, Dr. Leslie A. Wheeler moved to Sugar Land in 1939 to practice dentistry. He was a member of the Sugar Land Independent School District Board of Education and was instrumental in the successful efforts to consolidate the Sugar Land and Missouri City school districts by election in April 1959. He was one of the Sugar Land ISD Board Members designated to serve on the first Fort Bend ISD Board of Trustees where he served as president until April 1965. In April 1966, he did not seek re-election which ended his 18 years of service as a school board trustee. In addition to serving on the school boards, Wheeler was also a dedicated mason and an active member of the Lions Club. While serving as president of the Lions Club, he doubled the club membership in a single year by using his charm and wit. He also served as an announcer for the school district's varsity football games and was known in Fort Bend County as an authority on organic produce.



M. R. Wood

M.R. Wood was the Imperial Sugar Company engineer who designed the Lakeview Auditorium. He was also appointed to the Sugar Land Independent School District Board of Education on May 10, 1920, succeeding C. B. Gillespie in an unexpired term. His popularity among fellow board members earned him the appointment of Board president shortly thereafter. Wood was re-elected to the Board of Education on April 11, 1922, and again served as president of the Board. On July 27, 1939, he resigned from his seat on the Sugar Land ISD Board of Education.