The Hurst-Euless-Bedford Independent School District hosted the sixth annual Hall of Fame Banquet and Inducted six new members in front of a banquet room of well-wishers. The first Hall of Fame winners were inducted in 2008 as part of the District’s 50th anniversary celebration. The following individuals were inducted into the HEB ISD Hall of Fame November 9, 2013. Each member was inducted into one of six categories.

JOEL M. MONTGOMERY, Ph.D.
DISTINGUISHED LB BELL GRADUATE

Joel M. Montgomery, Ph.D., is a Captain in the U.S. Public Health Service and Director of the Global Disease Detection Division in Kenya. His team provides technical assistance regarding control and prevention of infectious diseases to professionals at the CDC, Ministries of Health, World Health Organization, and the U.S. Agency for International Development throughout Kenya and East Africa. Montgomery was previously Director of the Department of Emerging Infections at the U.S. Naval Medical Research Unit Six in Lima, Peru. He was inspired to pursue a career in science while a student in HEB ISD. Montgomery earned his bachelor’s, master’s, and doctorate degrees from the University of Texas at Arlington.

WILLIAM “BILL” BARNES
DISTINGUISHED VOLUNTEER

Bill Barnes joined the Hurst-Euless-Bedford ISD in 1965, where he stayed until his retirement in 2002. He served as teacher, assistant principal, curriculum consultant, and principal at two elementary schools. In 1972, he opened Spring Garden Elementary School, where he was principal until retirement. Today, Barnes is involved with Texas Retired Teachers Association (TRTA), where he has served as District 30 President and is currently State Legislative Coordinator. He was instrumental in passing legislation (HB 1857) that provides a cost-of-living raise for retirees who had not had an increase in 12 years. Barnes has served on the TISD Retiree Health Care Advisory Board and is an active member of the HEB Retired School Employees.

JOHN WOOD
DISTINGUISHED TRINITY GRADUATE

John Wood is native of Bedford. He has degrees from Texas Christian University and New York University School of Law. While at TCU, he authored award-winning essays, poems, a play, and a novel. At NYU, Wood was published in the “Environmental Law Reporter” and “NYU Journal of Law and Liberty.” After graduation, Wood was a legal fellow for the Natural Resources Defense Council and was then hired by the American Conservation Association. Wood also worked with HBO documentary filmmakers and Focus Features on the film “Promised Land.” Today, Wood is Executive Director of Economist Sustainability Institute. His new book, “Foundations of Sustainable Business,” will be published in 2014.

BILLIE JANE MARTIN
DISTINGUISHED FORMER EMPLOYEE

Billie Jane Martin joined the Hurst-Euless ISD in 1952 to teach at North Hurst Elementary School and she moved to Hamilton Lane Elementary School in 1979. She opened Willowbend Elementary School as the first grade team coordinator in 1994. Martin helped establish the Classroom Teachers Association in 1999. She was active in the Texas State Teachers Association (TSTA) and the National Education Association and was asked to represent TSTA as the national contact to the Honorable Jim Wright, Speaker of the House. Martin was active in the Eta Epsilon and Kappa Delta chapters of Delta Kappa Gamma teachers’ honor society. She was honored with Life Membership in both the State and National PTA.

GEORGEANN GALLIAN
DISTINGUISHED FORMER BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBER

Georgianne Gallian began her career teaching in Arlington ISD. She took time off to raise her children and then became teacher and director of First United Methodist Church Day School. Gallian was volunteering at Shady Brook Elementary School when a proposed redirecting plan caught her attention. She presented the school board with a more neighborhood friendly plan, and several board members approached Gallian about running for school board. Gallian served from 1985 through 1994. She was appointed assistant principal of Hurst Hills Elementary School after her school board term ended. Gallian took medical retirement while serving as Principal of Hurst Hills in December 2006. She passed in February 2019 after an eleven-month battle with colon cancer.