

# Eighth Annual HALL OF FAME

## 2015 HEB ISD INDUCTEES

The Hurst-Euleless-Bedford Independent School District hosted the eighth 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 7, 2015. Each member was inducted into one of six categories.



### MICHAEL FOSTER

DISTINGUISHED LD BELL GRADUATE

Michael Foster is a medical researcher who primarily studies viral hemorrhagic fevers, including Dengue and Ebola. His priority is to learn how these viruses spread through a population and how they impact the human body. Foster lives and works in various locales throughout the year, including Nigeria, Mexico, and the Caribbean. He credits many local influences for shaping his success, starting with his parents, whom he calls the best on Earth. Foster is a product of Hurst-Euleless-Bedford ISD from kindergarten through graduation and is grateful for HEB ISD coaches and teachers who were his mentors. He is also thankful for several Hurst philanthropists and community leaders who support his research.



### JAMES R. POWELL

DISTINGUISHED TRINITY GRADUATE

James R. Powell was raised in Bedford and is a 2001 Trinity High School graduate. He received his bachelor's degree from the University of Texas. He later earned his law degree from Texas Wesleyan University. He is Assistant General Counsel at the North Central Texas Council of Governments where he has been heavily involved in transportation planning, project management, and innovative finance. He oversaw the award of more than \$10 million in Federal Transit Administration funds, co-authored the North Central Texas Regional Public Transportation Coordination Plan and managed HEB Transit, an award-winning Job Access project which has provided nearly 40,000 trips to transportation-disadvantaged workers in HEB.



### STEVE FARCO

DISTINGUISHED COMMUNITY LEADER

Steve Farco has lived in the HEB area since he was 10 years old. Farco has dedicated himself to supporting his community and his school district. He has been a student mentor, a coach with BESA and Tri-Cities Baseball, and the Blue Raider Football Booster Club President for 2010 – 2012. He is an HEB ISD VIPS Gold Apple Volunteer for donating 1,000 or more hours in a single year, and he was treasurer for the "Vote Yes Bond Election" community group for HEB ISD in 2011. Farco has donated to the HEB ISD Education Foundation's fundraising campaigns and he is a member of their board of directors.



### LISA THEISEN

DISTINGUISHED VOLUNTEER

Lisa has spent the last 15 years volunteering with HEB ISD schools. She held numerous PTA offices at the campus level and in the Council of PTAs, including two years as Council PTA president. In 2013, Central Junior High School awarded Theisen with a Texas PTA Honorary Life Membership. Theisen also serves on campus committees, the LD Bell High School Orchestra Booster Club Executive Board, and she is a student mentor. She helps plan the HEB ISD Adopt-A-School and Volunteers in Public Schools awards luncheon and she serves on the HEB ISD Education Foundation Board of Directors. She has been recognized for volunteering between 500 hours and 1,000 hours for HEB ISD in a single year.



### JAMES "BUB" DOWNE

DISTINGUISHED FORMER EMPLOYEE

James "Bub" Downe joined HEB ISD in 1963. He was a teacher and coach at Hurst Junior High School, he taught at LD Bell High School, and then he moved to Bedford Junior High School. He was Vice Principal at Hurst Junior High School and also at Harwood Junior High School. He was later named Principal of Harwood Junior High School. As principal, Bub Downe led Harwood Junior High School to national recognition as a "Blue Ribbon School" during the 1986 – 1987 school year. This was the first school in HEB ISD to receive this honor from the US Department of Education. Downe was named Administrator of the Year and then retired in 1993 after a 30-year career in HEB ISD.



### NEAL W. ADAMS

DISTINGUISHED FORMER BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBER

Neal W. Adams graduated from Texas A&M University and obtained his Juris Doctor from Baylor University School of Law. Adams is President of the law firm of Adams, Lynch & Loftin, P. C. He was a school board member from 1979 – 1986, and he was board president four of those years. He was named a Texas Congress of Parents and Teachers Honorary Life Member for his dedication to Texas public schools. Honorary Life Membership is one of the highest honors that can be bestowed upon an individual by the Texas PTA for outstanding contributions to the well-being of children and youth.