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Wylie Mayor Named President of Deaf School Governing Board

Wylie, TX, Dec. 17, 2015 – Wylie Mayor Eric Hogue has been named president of the governing board of the Texas School for the Deaf. Hogue was appointed to the board by the governor’s office in 2009, due to his unique qualifications including being fluent in American Sign Language. “I am honored to support the deaf community and look forward to continuing my work with the board,” Hogue said.

He learned to sign at the age of 10, due to the desire to befriend and communicate with some deaf neighbors. He began interpreting church services at age 12 and was a certified interpreter by 18, accompanying deaf and hearing-impaired people to city council meetings, college classes and other functions.

Texas School for the Deaf, located in Austin, is established as a state agency to provide educational services for deaf and hard-of-hearing students up to the age of 21. It opened in 1856, and 584 students are currently enrolled.

Photo courtesy Texas School for the Deaf

Wylie Mayor Eric Hogue introduces himself by signing the letter “E,” which represents his name, to the cast of “James and the Giant Peach,” presented at the School for the Deaf in Austin. From left, Lee Godbold, Cassidy Losh, Kennedy Toynes, Dylan Garrison , Jadella Mitchem , Joel Pennington and Brody Vukmonich.