

NEF and NISD Unite to Empower, Engage and Encourage Students & Teachers

The Northwest ISD Education Foundation was established in 1997 as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that works with local businesses and community leaders to enhance the quality of education in Northwest ISD. NEF's mission is to provide financial support to empower NISD educators, engage the community and encourage future-ready students.

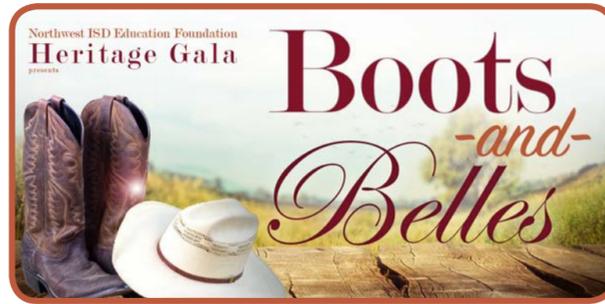
To date, NEF has awarded more than \$1.6 million in grants and more than \$500,000 in student scholarships. The generosity from the community is essential as the district plans for fast growth in the coming years. The funding NEF receives and distributes into the classroom allows students and teachers to experience innovation, exposing them to limitless possibilities for their futures.

Last August, the NISD Board of Trustees and the NEF Board of Directors signed a memorandum of understanding that defined the relationship between the school district and foundation as one that works together to support the district's strategic goals to provide positive community

partnership opportunities in our schools.

The education foundation's vision is to be a recognized leader in providing financial support to teachers and students in the region NISD serves. Quality schools are essential to the strength and advancement of our communities. Grants have funded programs to assist students with learning the cycles of production agriculture, robotics, fine arts and more. Most recently, the education foundation was the recipient of \$5,000 awarded by Tanger Outlets Fort Worth at their grand opening ribbon cutting ceremony on October 27. The Wilson Middle School band performed at the celebration and received a donation of \$1,500 for their fine arts programs.

There are plenty of opportunities to get involved by providing funding through sponsorships and donations, volunteering time on committees and attending events. Encouraging businesses in the area to get involved is one of the greatest contributions you can make to help NEF continue to grow. Learn how you can give back at www.nisdtx.org/nefgiving.



Heritage Gala to Raise Funds for Students and Teachers

The NEF Heritage Gala will support the foundation's mission to raise funds for teachers and students in Northwest ISD. Last year, the foundation raised more than \$100,000 at the Heritage Gala. This year's event is Saturday, April 28, at the Lucky Spur in Justin and will feature live music entertainment, a delicious menu, silent and live auctions and awards. Sponsorships for the event will begin at \$1,000. If you are interested in sponsorships, please call 817-215-0084. Ticket sales begin this February.

Thank you, Golf Sponsors!

NEF sincerely thanks our 2017 Legends Golf Tournament sponsors. Your generous contributions helped raise more than \$70,000 to benefit NISD educators and students through innovative teaching grants and student scholarships. As business leaders in our community, your partnership is essential to bringing talents and



resources into the classroom. Save the date for next year's tournament on October 5, 2018.



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Keeping You Connected to Northwest ISD

January 2018

New Year Brings New Schools



A rendering of the planned design of Curtis Elementary School.

On December 11, the Northwest ISD Board of Trustees unanimously approved Lizzie Curtis Elementary School as the name for the district's 18th elementary school.

Curtis Elementary School is currently under construction and is located north of U.S. Highway 287, east of F.M. 156 and south of Bonds Ranch Road in the Revelstoke subdivision. Alice "Lizzie" Curtis was the first teacher of Blue Mound School, the first known educational facility in Haslet.

"The facility naming process is one in which we take great pride," said Emily Conklin, executive director of communications. "We gather feedback from our community, and the district's naming committee reviews every option submitted. There are many great nominations, but Lizzie Curtis was one we kept coming back to because of her historical meaning to our area, and specifically to education."

Prior to being the first teacher in the building, Ms. Curtis taught school in the home of a Haslet resident for several years. The new elementary



December aerial view of Adams Middle School.

Adams Middle School is currently under construction in the southern portion of the district, across the street from Eaton High School and Schluter Elementary. Students zoned for the school have chosen the lion as their mascot as well as navy blue and white as their colors. The choice of the lion was special to the campus namesake Leo Adams and the color, navy blue, is the same as the color used at Eaton High School. Adams Middle School

school will open in August 2018 and is expected to relieve enrollment at Peterson and Haslet elementary schools.

"This is a unique situation in which the school district has not been able to find any living relatives of Ms. Curtis since she passed away in 1935," Mrs. Conklin said. "Her impact to education and the community is so significant; she is deserving of this recognition. We are encouraging anyone in our community who may be related or know more about her history to please contact us at 817-215-0171."

NISD Saves Millions in Energy Costs



From left: Mark Schluter, Charles Ashby, Dr. Ryder Warren

The Texas Energy Summit Steering and Awards Committee has recognized Northwest ISD with the Outstanding K-12 School award for its energy efficiency, led by Charles Ashby, the district's energy manager. Mr. Ashby was presented with the recognition for Northwest ISD at the 2017 CATEE Texas Energy Summit, an educational forum and business exhibition for energy and water professionals. Since 2008, Northwest ISD has consistently worked to decrease its energy usage, annually saving anywhere from hundreds of thousands to millions of dollars.

will open in August 2018 with sixth-through eighth-grade students.



Adams Middle School will feature collaboration spaces throughout the academic areas of the campus' 198,818 square feet, with inside and outside walkways from the academic wing to the athletics, cafeteria and fine arts sections of the school.

2018

Upcoming Events

- January 15 – MLK, Jr. Day – No School
- February 16 – Early Release (see times at www.nisdtx.org)
- February 19 - Bad Weather Make Up Day – No School
- March 12-16 – Spring Break – No School

Calendar Planning Begins Now

This early spring, community members, parents and staff will have an opportunity to vote and provide feedback for the 2018-19 school calendar. Each year, the District Education Improvement Council creates two to three options for the community to review and vote. That feedback is taken to the DEIC for consideration and then submitted to the school board for final approval.

Texas Education Code requires 75,600 minutes of instruction each school year. The calendar survey will be made available on the district's website at www.nisdtx.org. To view the current calendar, go to www.nisdtx.org/calendars.

The Northwest Vision is published by the NISD Communications Department



Do you know NEF?

The Northwest ISD Education Foundation (NEF) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization focused on enhancing the quality of education in NISD and encouraging future-ready students. By providing financial support and resources, NEF impacts your student every day through innovative teaching grants in the classroom or student scholarships for AP tests and graduating seniors. To learn more about the foundation and how you can support our mission every day, please visit www.nisdtx.org/nefgiving.

14,000+ Student Increase in 10 Years

With an additional 1,100 students this fall, Northwest ISD finished the semester with 23,140 students. As a fast-growth school district, one of the ways NISD stays proactive in managing the growth is by working closely with demographers on a regular basis.

Demographers predict an additional 6,600 students over the next five years. "We're prepared, and we're ready," said Superintendent of Schools Ryder Warren, Ed.D.

"This district has been on course to plan for growth for more than a decade now. Much of that preparation is attributed to a school board that provides leadership, governance and understanding in the increase in population in our immediate area and is willing to budget and make decisions accordingly."

At the start of the 2022-23 school year, enrollment could be approximately 29,755 students. The bond package the Northwest ISD voters approved in May 2017 will assist with overcrowding for the next three to four years. The district is aware it has to be diligent with

taxpayer dollars and make the best decisions for kids that will benefit enrollment for years to come. With demographer calculations of 29,100 planned future home lots within the district, NISD has to plan for a long growth period.

"By the 2027-28 school year, just 10 years from now, we know we could be serving more than 37,200 students," said Dr. Warren. "While it is exciting to know our community is expanding, we know you – our community – are trusting us, and we are so appreciative of the long, continued support we receive by our 14 communities."

The district will begin meeting with the attendance boundary committee, made up of parents and staff, to determine zoning changes for the upcoming school year. The focus will be on Curtis Elementary and Adams Middle School.



Student Enrollment

2006: **11,824**

2017: **23,140**

Building Our Future

Thanks to our supportive community for passing the May 2017 bond election, construction is well underway for building additions, land acquisitions, building design as well as construction of new facilities included in this bond passage is shown in the diagram below. In November, the NISD Board of Trustees passed a culture of voting resolution encouraging staff members to register to vote and participate in elections. With early voting beginning February 20, go to www.nisdtx.org/elections to learn how you can become a registered voter and stay informed.

New Facilities Anticipated Schedule



Students Earning Career-Focused Certifications

This year, more than 2,000 Northwest ISD students have earned certifications and licenses to help in their potential careers. Some certifications give students the opportunity to earn job experience immediately, and others help a prospective employee stand out.

At Eaton High School, agriculture science teacher Kristen Stockard oversees the floral certification program. For her, certifications are a starting point for students to explore their passions later in life.

"The benefit I see is that our students walk out of here with tools in their hands to land a job or have a leg up starting in college," she said. "It's that first stepping stone that can help students differentiate themselves from the pack."

To earn the first floral certification, students have to take a test with

100 questions and create two floral designs. Time limits exist for both sections, and students have to use their own creativity to complete the arrangement portion.

Eaton senior Lauren Bryant has completed the first floral certification through the Texas State Floral Association and is currently working her way to obtain the second certification.

For Lauren, who plans to attend Tarleton State University and major in agriculture science, certifications are a valuable asset.

"It's beneficial because it can help you land a job at a floral shop to earn that first real-world experience," she explained. "I want to become an agriculture teacher myself, so it's a great learning experience to challenge myself to think through the situations in the certification process."



NEF to Donate 2,000 Books to NISD

Barnes and Noble Southlake selected the NISD Education Foundation as the recipient of the 2017 holiday book drive. Over the holidays, the community showed support and shared the joy of reading by

purchasing a book to donate to the cause. Barnes and Noble Southlake will present the education foundation with more than 2,000 books that the foundation will give to the school district

at a school board meeting in January. "I cannot stress the importance of reading enough to our families," said Superintendent of Schools Ryder Warren, Ed.D. "Parents, I encourage you to either read with

your younger children or stress the importance with your older children. Visit a local library, find a reading program, and support your children by engaging them in meaningful questions about what they are reading."



New Year's Reading Resolutions

Plenty of resources, from book selection to expanding vocabulary, are provided at www.nisdtx.org/justread. Elementary Language Arts Coordinator Dr. Sunni Johnson shares there are many ways parents can support their children with reading. "It is important to remember as a parent, you can positively influence reading as enjoyable in your child's life," Dr. Johnson said. "Make time 30 minutes each day to read with your child and then share what you read. Start 2018 with a goal to make reading a part of your routine."

Partnerships Enhance Student Success

Northwest ISD loves its community partners. Business and community partnerships enrich the education NISD students receive in and out of the classroom.

In NISD, we strive to build mutually beneficial partnerships. Students and staff seek opportunities to reach out and take part in internship and volunteer programs that benefit the district's community partners.

endeavor! In addition to our generous partners, Sonic, Chick-fil-A at Presidio Towne Crossing and Chuy's Alliance Mexican Restaurant have joined in the spirit of giving by donating monthly meals to honor students who personify what it means to be a Peterson Mustang by exhibiting the characteristics and attributes of a positive difference maker."

By developing partnerships among schools and the business community, students get an opportunity to interact with people from the work world, identify role models, and



Principals have a tremendous need for community partners who can make positive contributions to their campuses.

develop an awareness of the complexities, constraints, and concerns of the community.

"Peterson Elementary is able to do so much for our students and teachers because of the generous support from our partners in education," said Justin Vercher, Peterson Elementary School principal. "Both Alliance Community Fellowship and Clairton Family Chiropractic have been tremendous in this

The Northwest ISD Partners in Education program creates school-support opportunities for parents, businesses and the community by offering a wide variety of options amenable to every school schedule, talent and expertise. PIE brings volunteers into Northwest ISD classrooms at each campus and at all grade levels. To learn more, please visit www.nisdtx.org/pie.

Want to Get Involved?

- Northwest Reads - April 2018
- Mentoring
- Adopt-a-School
- Northwest Back to School Fair

Thank you to all the NISD Virtual Angel Tree donors and volunteers, especially (seen below, from left) Janet Corder, CarrieAnn Jones, Becky Bolstad, Tammy Muths and Jill Warren for their time and talents in coordinating the Virtual Angel Tree program this year.