



School Notes

For Immediate Release
Feb. 15, 2017

Northwest ISD School Notes, Feb. 15-27

School board calls \$399 million bond election

At their Feb. 13 board meeting, Northwest ISD trustees called for a \$399 million capital bond referendum, approving the suggestion of a community-led planning committee.

For the past four months, the district's long-range planning committee has studied student population growth and the state of current facilities as well as their student capacities. As a result of their studies, the committee recommended a bond package composed of new schools, school expansions, academic and extracurricular funding, technology improvements, building renovations, and safety and security improvements.

Some of the major items in the bond included three new elementary schools; a replacement Haslet Elementary School; a district aquatics center; and expansions of two high schools (Byron Nelson and Eaton), two middle schools (Medlin and Tidwell), and three to-be-determined elementary schools.

"Demographers tell our school district we are growing roughly an elementary school a year," said Superintendent Ryder Warren, Ed.D. "That is about 1,000 new students each school year. The Long-Range Planning Committee's recommendation will focus on meeting these growth challenges and preparing for the future."

Early voting for the bond election will take place from April 24 to May 2, with Election Day voting taking place on May 6. The last day to register to vote in the election is April 6.

For more information about the bond, visit www.nisdtxbond.org.

LOGO INCLUDED [2017 Northwest ISD Bond.png]

Academic calendar for 2017-18 approved

Trustees have approved Northwest ISD's 2017-18 academic calendar, with next school year beginning Monday, Aug. 28, and ending Thursday, June 1.

The final calendar comes from the recommendation of the District Education Improvement Council, a committee composed of parents, teachers and administrators. Community members then voted on three proposed options, with the approved calendar based on the most popular option as voted on by Northwest ISD constituents.

For more information on the 2017-18 Northwest ISD calendar and the calendar creation process, visit www.nisdtx.org/calendars.

CALENDAR INCLUDED [2017-18 Northwest ISD Calendar.pdf]

Northwest softball team raising funds for autism awareness

Northwest High School's softball team is hosting its ninth annual autism awareness fundraiser, and those interested in contributing can purchase a T-shirt to support the Northwest Special Olympics Program.

The Lady Texans will sell T-shirts for \$12 each throughout February, aiding the local Special Olympics program that assists Northwest students with special needs. Shirts are available in sizes ranging from youth large to adult XXXL.

Shirts are expected to arrive at the end of March, in time for Autism Awareness Month in April. Additionally, the Lady Texan softball team will host its annual home game in support of autism awareness on Thursday, April 13.

To see the design of the shirt and download an order form, [click here](#). Completed forms should be submitted to Northwest High School at the attention of Tanya Morrow, head softball coach. For more information, please email Coach Morrow at tmorrow@nisdtx.org.

FORM ATTACHED [Northwest Softball Autism Awareness.pdf]

District promoting healthy living, fighting heart disease with student-designed shirt

Northwest ISD is on a non-stop journey to fight heart disease and promote healthy living, and that process will be celebrated Friday, Feb. 24, with the help of a student's design talents.

On Feb. 24, the district will promote heart disease awareness by wearing T-shirts designed by Beck Elementary fifth-grader Reagan Dee, a student in Ashley Foland's art class. Reagan won a districtwide contest for elementary students to create a design promoting heart disease awareness; she will be recognized at a coming school board meeting and receive a T-shirt of her own.

District staff and students may purchase T-shirts designed by Reagan for \$15 to wear in support of fighting heart disease. Proceeds from the sale will benefit the American Heart Association. All orders must be completed by 5 p.m. Feb. 15. Shirts will be delivered to each school's campus health coordinator for distribution from Feb. 20 to Feb. 23. To order a shirt, [click here](#). Sizes range from youth small to adult XXXL.

PHOTO INCLUDED [NISD Heart T-Shirt.jpg]: The winning design in Northwest ISD's districtwide elementary art competition, created by Beck Elementary fifth-grader Reagan Dee.

High school students win Campus Crime Stoppers awards at annual conference

Six students from Northwest ISD's three comprehensive high schools – Byron Nelson, Eaton and Northwest – recently attended the 22nd annual Campus Crime Stopper Conference in Paris, Texas, where they won awards for their campus crime prevention efforts.

The student-led initiatives won three awards – the productivity award for medium-sized school districts (Northwest ISD's fourth consecutive year to win the award), best website (for www.campustipster.com) and best social media platform. In addition to their awards, Northwest ISD students also gained valuable networking experience with other students from across the state interested in crime prevention and possible safety and security career paths.

Students who took part in the conference include: Madeleine Azcona (Northwest), Haley Coffman (Byron Nelson), Nicholas Cosper (Eaton), Ethan Montandon (Northwest), Kassy Norman (Byron Nelson) and Lauren Plasencia (Eaton).

Northwest ISD's Crime Stopper programs are overseen by Gary Gindt, executive director of safety and security, and Mike Conklin, safety and security coordinator.

Parent survey yields positive results

A Northwest ISD survey for parents and guardians revealed positive perceptions about the district and its schools, according to the results from roughly 2,600 respondents.

According to Education Service Center Region XI, which conducted and managed the survey, results show that perceptions across topic areas continue to remain highly favorable. Parents report their children's schools are positive, welcoming and safe, while students are excited to go to school and participate in school activities. Additionally, if their children have a problem, parents said they have individuals at the school they can contact to discuss the matter. These results are consistent for the past seven years.

Highlights from the survey include:

- 94 percent feel welcome at their child's school
- 95 percent agree their child feels safe at school

- 98 percent believe their child's school is clean and well-maintained
- 91 percent feel their child receives instruction preparing them for the next level of education

"I would like to thank everyone who participated and shared their thoughts with us," said Superintendent Ryder Warren, Ed.D. "This survey is a necessary part of NISD's efforts in continuous improvement. Your voices will be heard as we share these results with our district leadership team and staff. Thank you for your continued partnership."

The survey consisted of six categories (school climate, communications, safe and orderly environment, instructional programs, student services, and support services) and a district section with general questions and demographic data. All parents, guardians and caregivers of children attending an NISD school had the option to participate in the online survey.

"As one of the fastest growing school districts in the metroplex, the feedback is crucial as we plan for very important years ahead," Dr. Warren said. "The results provide us with key areas in which we can improve and the needs that are most important to our parents."

Each principal and department head will review survey results for insight on how to be more responsive to the necessities of all our parents. To view the full results, including results by school, visit www.nisdtx.org/parentsurvey.

Student holiday scheduled for Feb. 20

Monday, Feb. 20, will serve as a student holiday and staff development day. This day was scheduled as a bad weather make-up day, but inclement weather has not caused schools to close this year.

To view the full 2016-17 Northwest ISD academic calendar, [click here](#).

Student technology projects highlighted at Techno Expo on Feb. 23

Northwest ISD will host its annual Techno Expo on Thursday, Feb. 23, at Northwest High School, where visitors can see innovative projects that rely on unique technology uses.

The event will display the technology skills students use to improve upon their natural capabilities. Combined with culinary arts, photography, orchestra and other groups, the Techno Expo will allow visitors to see students fine-tuning their presentation skills and communicating innovative ideas.

Light food will be served from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., with student presentations from 6 to 8 p.m. For more information, [click here](#).

LOGO INCLUDED [Techno Expo.jpg]

Next school board meeting taking place Feb. 27

The Northwest ISD Board of Trustees will hold its next regular meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 27, in the Board Room at the NISD Administration Building, located at 2001 Texan Drive in Fort Worth.

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