



## School Notes

For Immediate Release  
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### Northwest ISD School Notes, April 26-June 2

#### **Steele named a top high school by U.S. News & World Report for second straight year**

Steele Accelerated High School, Northwest ISD's career-focused campus, has received U.S. News & World Report's Best High Schools bronze distinction for the second consecutive year, placing it in the top third of schools across the nation in the publication's rankings.

Rankings in the publication's annual list are determined based on a mix of state-required tests and college preparedness. According to the U.S. News & World Report's scorecard, Steele achieved a 96 percent English proficiency and a 94 percent mathematics proficiency. The publication similarly found that the school outperformed the state average.

Steele is located in Roanoke and serves students focused on their future on an application-only basis, though any middle school student entering high school is eligible to apply during the application period, as are approved high school students. The non-traditional school offers a wide variety of opportunities for its students, such as an accelerated graduation plan and dual-credit course options.

It is also home to two of the district's academies, the Collegiate Academy (which allows enrollment in a range of dual-credit courses in coordination with North Central Texas College) and Cosmetology Academy (which includes in-school salon for training).

#### **Byron Nelson celebrates 15 student-athletes signing for collegiate sports**

Byron Nelson High School hosted its final signing day festivities for the 2016-17 academic year on Wednesday, April 19, honoring its 15 newest student-athletes to sign letters of intent to play collegiate sports.

Students from baseball, basketball, cross country, football, golf, softball, swimming, and track and field were recognized at the event, which added to the 14 student-athletes who signed letters of intent earlier in the school year. Byron Nelson's 29 signees for the year and Northwest's 30 signees for the year give Northwest ISD a total of 59 student-athletes who have signed letters of intent to play collegiate sports.

From the baseball team, four students signed to play in college. Kevin Banks signed with Oklahoma Panhandle State University (in Goodwell), Jacob Frisbie signed with Texas Lutheran University (in Seguin), Colby Maddox signed with Oklahoma Christian University (in Edmond) and Ricky Rivera signed with Ranger College (in Ranger). The baseball team's four signings tied with football for the most of today's signing day.

The boys basketball team was represented by Nils Huizenga, who will play for the University of Texas at Arlington at the Division I level going forward.

From the cross country and track teams, Ryan Teuscher signed with the University of Oklahoma. Ryan recently set the school record in the 3,200-meter run and has competed in regional and state cross country meets in his four years with the Bobcats.

Football's four signees will be off to three locations. Zach Collins signed with Central Methodist University (in Fayette, Missouri) and Bryson Davis signed with Lyon College (in Batesville, Arkansas), while Mohammad Osman and Jahshua Stokes signed with Doane University (in Crete, Nebraska).

Golf was represented by two signees: Brandon LaRosa with William Jessup University (in Rocklin, California) and Matt Perez with the University of Rochester (in New York).

The softball team, which is still currently playing its regular season, was represented by two student-athlete signees. Karly Girod signed with the University of Dallas, and Savannah McCoy signed with Schreiner University (in Kerrville).

Finally, from the swimming team, Madeline Wilson, who holds four school records, will compete for Truman State University (in Kirksville, Missouri) after signing her letter of intent.

PHOTO [Byron Nelson Signing Day.jpg]: Byron Nelson High School's final collegiate sport signing class poses for a photo on Wednesday, April 19. Top row, from left: Zach Collins, Colby Maddox, Nils Huizenga, Mohammad Osman and Jahshua Stokes. Middle row, from left: Ricky Rivera, Kevin Banks, Jacob Frisbie, Matt Perez and Brandon LaRosa. Bottom row, from left: Bryson Davis, Karly Girod, Savannah McCoy, Madeline Wilson and Ryan Teuscher.

### **Three Destination Imagination teams qualify for Global Finals**

Three of Northwest ISD's Destination Imagination teams have qualified for the Global Finals following the recent statewide tournament, sending several students to Knoxville, Tennessee, to test their problem-solving abilities against the nation's best.

Teams from Chisholm Trail and Medlin middle schools qualified, as well as a team from Thompson Elementary School. The Chisholm Trail team qualified in the "top secret" category, while the Medlin team qualified in "project outreach" and Thompson qualified in "show-n-tech." Each category saw the teams use problem-solving abilities for specific tasks, and the students placed among the top seven in the state to advance to Global Finals.

This year, more than 4,000 Destination Imagination teams competed across the state, with 900 teams qualifying and competing at the state tournament.

Chisholm Trail's advancing students include Ayden Lalani, Carter McClure, Poppy McMaster, Ria Nair, William Thornell and Riley Tucciarone; they are led by team manager Tim McClure. Medlin's advancing students include Gwen Baxter, Reagan Ellis, Ryder Fine, Andrew Golden, Ian Hill and Kurt Ippolito; they are led by team manager Laurie Baxter. Thompson's advancing students include Chloe Goad, Nick Hebert, Evelyn Kinney, Angel Lira, Kylee Smith, Clarisa Strong and Aiden Stover.

The teams will travel to Knoxville next month to compete in the Global finals, which takes place May 24-27.

### **Registration for district's summer TechnoCamps now open**

Registration for five summer technology camps hosted by Northwest ISD is now open, providing students with opportunities to learn about popular topics at all elementary and middle school grade levels.

Three robotics camps are available for \$95 per student: CampWeDo 1.0 Robotics, CampWeDo 2.0 Robotics and Camp EV3 Robotics. These camps vary by grade level, with at least one course offering available for all kindergarten to eighth-grade students. For students in second to eighth grades, Camp Makey Makey/Stop Motion Animation comes with a take-home kit for \$150 per student. Camp Raspberry Pi also comes with a take-home kit and costs \$150 per student, providing each attendee with introductory coding tutorials with a small computer system.

Each camp takes place Monday to Thursday over the summer, with dates varying by camp and session. All campers will receive a free T-shirt as part of their participation in a TechnoCamp.

All camps will be held at Pike Middle School, located at 2200 Texan Drive in Fort Worth, featuring both morning and afternoon sessions. To learn more about each camp or register for a camp, visit [technocamp.nisdtx.org](http://technocamp.nisdtx.org).

### **Viewing of documentary about children growing up in digital atmosphere to take place April 26**

Northwest ISD will host a free public screening of the documentary "Screenagers" at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 26, in Byron Nelson High School's performing arts center. The documentary highlights how to empower children to best navigate the digital world.

“Screenagers” discusses the struggles and relationships between social media, video games, academics and internet addiction. The viewing of the 67-minute-long documentary is aimed at parents, guardians and school staff members, though anyone is welcome to attend.

Byron Nelson High School is located at 2775 Bobcat Blvd. in Trophy Club. For directions in Google Maps, [click here](#).

For more information about “Screenagers,” visit the documentary’s website by [clicking here](#). To view a brief trailer of “Screenagers,” [click here](#).

### **Final bond information meeting taking place April 27**

Northwest ISD will host its final bond information meeting on Thursday, April 27, providing families and community members with the opportunity to learn more about the district’s proposed bond package.

The final meeting – on Thursday, April 27 – will take place from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the district administration building’s board room, located at 2001 Texan Drive in Fort Worth. At the meeting, attendees will have the opportunity to learn about projects included as part of the proposed \$399 million bond package, which include new schools, school expansions, safety and security additions, and curriculum upgrades (including athletics, career and technology, and fine arts upgrades). Dr. Ryder Warren, district superintendent, will provide information and answer questions along with Northwest ISD administrative staff.

Early voting for Northwest ISD’s bond referendum is now underway and will last until Tuesday, May 2. Election Day is Saturday, May 6.

For more information about the 2017 Bond, a closer look at the specific recommendations, tax information and more, visit [www.nisdtxbond.org](http://www.nisdtxbond.org). If you are interested in setting up a presentation from the school district to learn more about the proposed bond, call 817-215-0171.

### **Kindergarten Roundup to take place districtwide first week of May**

Northwest ISD’s annual Kindergarten Roundup will take place the first week of May, providing parents of incoming kindergarteners with the opportunity to learn about their future campuses.

Children who are 5 years old by Sept. 1 are eligible for enrollment in kindergarten. Following enrollment, each school will host incoming students as part of Kindergarten Roundup.

Though enrollment takes place online, parents and guardians must still bring appropriate documents – including birth certificates, immunization records and proof of residency – for the campus to review. Both online registration and document review can be completed at the campus during Kindergarten Roundup.

Each of Northwest ISD’s 17 elementary schools serves kindergarteners, and exact dates and times for each school’s Kindergarten Roundup can be seen by clicking the corresponding school link at [www.nisdtx.org/kroundup](http://www.nisdtx.org/kroundup).

### **Next school board meeting taking place May 8**

The Northwest ISD Board of Trustees will hold its next regular meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, May 8, in the board room at the NISD Administration Building, located at 2001 Texan Drive in Fort Worth.

### **Middle school musical auditions begin May 13**

Auditions for Northwest ISD’s 2017-18 districtwide middle school musical, “Beauty and the Beast Jr.,” will begin on Saturday, May 13, with callbacks scheduled for the following Saturday, May 20.

All auditions will be held in the Byron Nelson High School performing arts center, located at 2775 Bobcat Blvd. in Trophy Club. Auditions will be assigned by groups, and sign-up times can be scheduled by [clicking here](#). Each performer will be asked to sing and speak at his or her audition.

Rehearsals for the play will begin in August and run through September, culminating with shows on Friday, Sept. 29, and Saturday, Sept. 30.

For more information about the rehearsal process or the play, [click here](#).

**Texas Rangers hosting Northwest ISD Night on June 2**

Northwest ISD and the Texas Rangers will host a special community night for the school district's students, staff and families, and tickets to the night's game are now on sale.

The Texas Rangers will host Northwest ISD Night on Friday, June 2, when the team faces the Houston Astros beginning at 7:05 p.m. An exclusive voucher to receive a free Texas Rangers baseball cap branded with one of Northwest ISD's three comprehensive high schools (Byron Nelson, Eaton or Northwest) will be provided to the first 300 registrants for each school. Additionally, all Northwest ISD students registered as part of the community night will receive a free whiffle ball set.

Prior to the game's start, the Rangers will also celebrate Northwest ISD education through a special video recording and announced information.

All tickets purchased for the event will receive a discounted price. For more information about the event, [click here to download a PDF flyer](#). To purchase tickets in one of the nine seating areas included for the event, visit [www.texasrangers.com/schools](http://www.texasrangers.com/schools).

FLYER [Texas Rangers Northwest ISD Night.pdf]

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