



School Notes

For Immediate Release
Dec. 14, 2016

NISD School Notes, Dec. 14-Jan. 9

Northwest ISD schools on winter break Dec. 19 to Jan. 2

All Northwest ISD schools will be closed for winter break from Monday, Dec. 19, to Monday, Jan. 2.

The two days preceding winter break – Thursday, Dec. 15, and Friday, Dec. 16 – will serve as early-release days for students. On these days, students will be released at the following times:

- **Elementary Schools:** 11:40 a.m.
- **Middle Schools:** 12:50 p.m.
- **High Schools:** 12:40 p.m.
- **Steele Accelerated High School & Special Programs:** 12:30 p.m.

Northwest ISD's staff calendar largely mirrors the student calendar, though Monday, Jan. 2, is a staff development day, meaning teachers and personnel will return to their campuses and offices on that day.

To view the entire 2016-17 Northwest ISD academic calendar, [click here](#). For more information about the 2016-17 Northwest ISD academic calendar, [click here](#).

Trustees approve Leo Adams Middle School name

Northwest ISD trustees unanimously voted to approve naming the district's next middle school, currently under development near Eaton High School, after Leo Adams, an instrumental figure in the school district's formation.

Mr. Adams is best known as a former mayor of Justin, but he was also a founder of Northwest ISD as well as a school board trustee. The school being named after Mr. Adams also serves as symbolism for his close relationship with fellow former trustee V.R. Eaton, as the two schools are located across the street from each other. Their close family link also extends to their children, as one of Mr. Adams' daughters, Jeannine, married the son of Mr. Eaton, Roy.

While serving as mayor of Justin for more than 10 years, Mr. Adams helped oversee the creation of Northwest ISD in 1948 when several smaller school districts – in Haslet, Justin, Rhome and Roanoke – consolidated into the single district. Mr. Adams made multiple trips to the state capitol in Austin to meet with legislators regarding the establishment of the district.

Without Mr. Adams' involvement, Northwest ISD would unlikely exist today, and he also helped steer its formative years. He was an inaugural member of the Northwest ISD Board of Trustees, serving multiple stints, including as board president.

In his professional life away from politics, Mr. Adams was the owner of Justin Lumber Company, where he built more than 300 buildings in the area, including homes, churches and banks.

A groundbreaking ceremony for Leo Adams Middle School is scheduled for 2 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 14. The school is anticipated to open in 2018.

HEADSHOT INCLUDED [Leo Adams.jpg]

Parent survey extended to Thursday

Northwest ISD's survey for parents and guardians, available at www.nisdtx.org/parentsurvey, has extended its deadline from the planned date of Tuesday, Dec. 13, to now end on Thursday, Dec. 15.

The survey, available in both English and Spanish, allows parents and guardians to provide their anonymous feedback about their children's schools. Respondents are asked to identify strengths and areas needing improvement on topics such as campus climate, safety, communications, instruction and support services.

Those who prefer to complete a paper copy of the form can obtain one by calling 817-215-0171.

Parents and guardians are vital to a school's success, as they serve as a support system for a school. Having a better completion percentage from your parent population provides more accurate results, which in turn gives schools the best and most accurate information possible. Please consider completing the survey to provide school administrators with valuable information to improving their campuses.

Panda Express fundraiser benefits Byron Nelson guide dog program

A fundraiser at Panda Express of Roanoke will benefit Byron Nelson High School's guide dog program, which allows the school's students to raise dogs that will eventually benefit the visually impaired.

The fundraiser will last from 4-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15, at the Panda Express located at 1345 U.S. Highway 377 in Roanoke. To contribute to the fundraiser, customers must present [this flyer](#) – either printed out or on a smartphone or other device – at the cash register when ordering.

Byron Nelson's Lone Star Guide Dog Raisers program, part of the school's FFA organization, allows students to raise puppies that are trained to serve as guide dogs for those with visual impairments. The dogs can regularly be seen in the school as students raise them to be comfortable in various environments as training for the future careers.

For more information about the guide dog program at Byron Nelson or any of its FFA programs, please contact Mark Goggins, agricultural science teacher and program coordinator, by phone at 817-698-5842 or via email at mgoggins@nisdtx.org.

PHOTO INCLUDED [Byron Nelson Guide Dog.jpg]: Byron Nelson High School's Lone Star Guide Dog Raisers program operates as part of the school's FFA organization and allows students to raise puppies that are trained to serve as guide dogs for those with visual impairments. A fundraiser at Panda Express of Roanoke on Thursday will benefit the program.

FLYER INCLUDED [Panda Express Flyer.jpg]

Byron Nelson hosting 'A Christmas Carol' performances Dec. 15, 16

Byron Nelson High School's theatre department will host performances of the classic play "A Christmas Carol" on Dec. 15 and 16 at the school's performing arts center.

In the play, students will tell the story of Mr. Scrooge, a miserable man who resents generosity and is known for his "bah humbug" attitude. Mr. Scrooge is visited by the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Christmas Present and Christmas Future. Byron Nelson's performance is student-directed by Maclaine Bolden and stars Joey Witten as Mr. Scrooge.

Tickets to performances, which take place in the schools performing arts center at 7 p.m. both days, are \$5 each, and Northwest ISD employees receive free admission.

For more information about the performances, please contact Wendy Bramlett, Byron Nelson theatre director, by phone at 817-698-5680 or via email at wbramlett@nisdtx.org.

Northwest ISD community donates nearly 10,000 pounds of food to those in need

Thanks to the generosity of Northwest ISD students, families and community members, 9,823 pounds of food will go to struggling families this holiday season.

The food was raised as part of the "Fill the Bus" competition sponsored by Durham Transportation and Aramark, and it will go to local food pantries to provide families in need. Roanoke Elementary School won the campus competition by donating an average of 4 pounds of food per student.

PHOTO INCLUDED [Fill the Bus.jpg]: Staff members pose in front of one of the buses that Northwest ISD students, families and community members filled with food for families in need this holiday season. In all, 9,823 pounds of food were collected to provide to local food pantries benefiting those in need.

School board meeting taking place Jan. 9

The Northwest ISD Board of Trustees will hold its next regular meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 9, in the Board Room at the NISD Administration Building, located at 2001 Texan Drive in Fort Worth.

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