



School Notes

For Immediate Release
September 26, 2011

NISD School Notes, September 26 – October 22

BNHS Senior Named National Merit Semifinalist

Byron Nelson High School (BNHS) senior Lauren Gilmer is one of 16,000 semifinalists in the 57th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Gilmer will have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 8,300 Merit Scholarships, worth more than \$34 million, offered next spring. About 90 percent of the semifinalists are expected to achieve finalist standing, and approximately half of the finalists will win a National Merit Scholarship, earning the title of Merit Scholar.

Lauren Gilmer, a resident of Trophy Club, is a member of the national honor society and color guard. Byron Nelson High School will graduate its first senior class in June, and Gilmer is the school's first semifinalist in history.

BNHS Speech and Debate Team Earns National Recognition

The National Forensics League has ranked the Byron Nelson High School Speech and Debate team in its Top 10 percent of nationally ranked programs. The team competed in the Mansfield High School tournament over the weekend and placed third overall out of 25 teams. Seven students have qualified for the state championship and the team is only in its first month of the season.

Beck Elementary School Receives Texas Honors Circle Award

Samuel Beck Elementary School has received the Texas Comptroller's 2011 Texas Honors Circle Award. This honor recognizes schools and districts that are achieving academic success through cost-effective operations. Beck Elementary is one of 313 campuses in Texas to receive the Texas Honors Circle Award in the 2011 Financial Allocation Study for Texas (FAST).

Ten NHS Students Selected for All Region Jazz Band, Most in the Area

For the fourth consecutive year, Northwest High School (NHS) had the most chairs at the All Region Jazz Band competition in the area. This year, 10 Northwest High School students were chosen for the All Region Jazz Band.

Board of Trustee Meeting

The next School Board meeting will be held Monday, September 26 at 7 p.m. in the Board Room at the NISD Administration Building (2001 Texan Drive, Justin, 76247).

Northwest ISD Hosted Annual Gold Card Luncheon

Northwest ISD hosted more than 170 senior citizens at the annual Gold Card Luncheon last Wednesday. The NISD Gold Card program allows individuals 65 years of age or older living in the district to receive free entry into district-sponsored events, performances and athletic competitions. For more information about the Gold Card membership in Northwest ISD, call 817-215-0175.

PHOTO CAPTION[goldcard_luncheon.jpg]: NISD Superintendent Karen G. Rue, Ed.D. greets NISD Gold Card member Don Holloway at the annual Gold Card Luncheon last Wednesday.

NISD Education Foundation Annual Drive Underway

The Northwest ISD Education Foundation (NEF) invites the community to join in efforts to provide the best education for NISD students and prepare them for their futures through the Annual Fund Drive. These dollars are the main source of

funding for NISD teacher grants awarded by NEF. Your tax-deductible gift will help NEF give back to NISD teachers. To make a donation or request information, please contact NEF Executive Director Kim Schultz at 817-215-0174 or kschultz@nisdtx.org.

NEF Funds Provide Unique Music Opportunities for Peterson Elementary Students

Students at O.A. Peterson Elementary School participated in an interactive drumming session thanks to funds from the Northwest ISD Education Foundation. Peterson Elementary School music teacher Ashley Calderon was a Northwest ISD Education Foundation grant recipient last year. As part of the grant, African drum facilitator David Cox with Rhythm Path Inc. visited the campus last Friday. Cox met with each grade level during specials, provided a drum for every student and taught students how to play the musical instruments.

PHOTO CAPTION[drums.jpg]: O.A. Peterson Elementary School fifth-graders (left to right) Randy Encarnacion and Ben Vaquiz participated in an interactive drumming session last Friday. This activity was made possible from a grant through the Northwest ISD Education Foundation.

NISD eGrades – Progress Reports and Report Cards Now Online

This year, Northwest ISD will provide parents or guardians with electronic report cards and progress reports. Report cards and progress reports will be emailed using the district's Home Access Center. For more information, go to <http://maillist.nisdtx.org/t/205561/228925/191/0/>. For parents or guardians who wish to receive printed report cards and progress reports, please contact your child's campus.

First Annual Learning Fair Held in Dallas for Hispanic Families

The first annual Dallas/Fort Worth Feria Para Aprender will be held Saturday, October 1 from 12 – 4 p.m. at Dallas Market Hall (2200 North Stemmons Freeway, Dallas). The fair will offer free books, educational exhibits and steps to guide students from preschool to college. For more information, go to www.TheLearningFair.com.

NISD Early Release Schedule for October 7, Student Holiday October 10

Friday, October 7 is a scheduled early dismissal for Northwest ISD students:

Elementary Schools – 12:15 p.m.
Middle Schools – 2 p.m.
High Schools – 1:15 p.m.

Monday, October 10 is a student holiday. Classes will resume Tuesday, October 11.

NISD Hosts Second Annual Family Star Watching Party

Northwest ISD students and families are invited to the second annual Family Star Watching Party Saturday, October 8 from 6-9 p.m. at the district's Outdoor Learning Center (7773 Mulkey Lane, Northlake, 76247). Representatives from the Fort Worth Astronomical Society will be on site with telescopes to guide students and families while viewing constellations. Families may bring lawn chairs, flashlights and telescopes from home. For more information, go to www.nisdtx.org.

Blue Bell Treats Granger Elementary to Free Ice Cream, Celebrates Region XI Elementary Teacher of the Year

On Wednesday, October 12 at 1:15 p.m., a Blue Bell ice cream truck will arrive at Kay Granger Elementary School (12771 Saratoga Springs Circle, Keller, 76244) and treat the entire campus to free ice cream in honor of Region XI Elementary Teacher of the Year Christina Buce. Buce is a second-grade teacher at Kay Granger Elementary School and was recognized with the honor of Region XI Elementary Teacher of the Year in August. In addition, Blue Bell will present Buce with a cooler of her favorite Blue Bell flavor and a congratulatory letter from Blue Bell Creameries, L.P. President Paul Kruse.

Official Dedication for Carl E. Schluter Elementary School

The Northwest ISD Board of Trustees, school administrators and the Carl E. Schluter Elementary staff invite the community to celebrate the official dedication of Carl E. Schluter Elementary School on Thursday, October 13 at 7 p.m. (1220 Mesa Crest Drive, Fort Worth, 76052).

The school's namesake, Carl E. Schluter, was a 1943 graduate of Rhome High School. Schluter served on the NISD Board of Trustees and later taught at Northwest High School. His son, Mark Schluter, currently serves as president of the NISD Board of Trustees.

Schluter Elementary opened in August in the Parks at Willow Ridge development to relieve student enrollment growth at Nance and Peterson elementary schools.

BNHS Dazzlers Host Dance Clinic

The Byron Nelson High School Dazzlers drill team is hosting a dance clinic on Saturday, October 15. For more information and to register, go to www.bobcatdazzlers.com.

NISD to Host Musical Group Barrage at Northwest High School

Northwest High School will host a performance from the high-octane string group Barrage on Tuesday, October 18 at 7 p.m. (2301 Texan Drive, Justin, 76247). Middle and high school students will have the opportunity to perform alongside Barrage at the concert. Tickets for the show are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students/seniors. Contact the NISD Fine Arts Office at 817-215-0159 for more information.

NHS Sidekicks Host Dance/Kick Clinic

The Northwest High School Sidekicks is hosting a dance clinic on Saturday, October 22. For more information about registration, email Heather Allen at hallen@nisdtx.org.

Vendors Needed for BNHS Dazzlers Holiday Kickoff Bazaar

The Byron Nelson High School Dazzlers are looking for vendors for the 3rd Annual Bobcat Dazzlers Holiday Kickoff Bazaar on November 12. For more information, go to www.bobcatdazzlers.com.

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