



## School Notes

For Immediate Release  
October 3, 2011

### NISD School Notes, October 3 – November 12

#### **Twelve Commended Students in National Merit Scholarship Program**

Northwest ISD has announced twelve students are named Commended Students in the 2012 National Merit Scholarship Program:

- Channing Baisley of Fort Worth, Northwest High School
- Anthony Cava of Haslet, Northwest High School
- Brandon Duley of Roanoke, Byron Nelson High School
- Joseph Dyer of Keller, Byron Nelson High School
- Wyndham Hubbard of Roanoke, Byron Nelson High School
- Kacy Maddox of Trophy Club, Byron Nelson High School
- Laura Mahler of Haslet, Northwest High School
- Matthew Marxer of Trophy Club, Byron Nelson High School
- David Murff of Trophy Club, Byron Nelson High School
- Kristina Rivera of Fort Worth, Byron Nelson High School
- Jacqueline Roberts of Trophy Club, Byron Nelson High School
- Colby Savell of Roanoke, Byron Nelson High School

Approximately 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Commended Students placed among the top five percent of more than 1.5 million students who entered the 2012 competition by taking the 2010 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT). A Letter of Commendation from the school and National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC), which conducts the program, will be presented by the high school principals to these twelve Commended Students at Byron Nelson and Northwest high schools.

Byron Nelson High School senior Lauren Gilmer is one 16,000 semifinalists in the 57<sup>th</sup> annual National Merit Scholarship Program. NISD plans to announce this week the students who earned National Hispanic Recognition through the National Merit Scholarship Program.

#### **Two NISD Elementary Schools Receive Texas Honors Circle Award**

Samuel Beck and J. Lyndal Hughes elementary schools have 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 and Hughes elementary schools are two of 313 campuses in Texas to receive the Texas Honors Circle Award in the 2011 Financial Allocation Study for Texas (FAST).

#### **Three BNHS Choir Students Advance to Phase Two in All State Auditions**

Last Saturday, students from the Byron Nelson High School choir competed in the second phase of All State auditions at Denton High School. In the Tenor 2 section, senior Tyler Donohoo was ranked 7<sup>th</sup> chair and junior Jason Hesslein was ranked 13<sup>th</sup> chair. Donohoo and Hesslein are the first men from BNHS to advance in this contest. Junior Cora Winstead was ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> chair in the Alto 2 section. These students will compete in the pre-area audition in November.

PHOTO CAPTION [phase 2 pic.jpg]: Three Byron Nelson High School students (from left to right: Tyler Donohoo, Cora Winstead and Jason Hesslein) will advance to phase two in the All State Choir Auditions.

**NISD Seeks Feedback on School Calendar Options**

Northwest ISD requests your input on the 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 school calendar options. Go to <http://www.nisdx.org/Page/32243> to share your feedback on the calendar options.

The survey will be available through October and your input will be presented to the NISD District Education Improvement Council in November. The NISD Board of Trustees will vote on the final school calendars in December.

**BNHS Student Wins Art Contest on CustomInk.com**

Byron Nelson High School senior Kenzie Tysl is the winner of the New Year New Gear Design contest. Tysl uses Custom Ink to create templates for many t-shirt designs for different organizations at Byron Nelson High School. Her prize includes prints of her winning design on any materials up to \$1,000 and a \$100 American Express Gift Card. Currently Tysl serves as a photo editor on the Byron Nelson High School yearbook staff. Go to <http://www.customink.com/designs/photograph/zfk0-000k-tppm/retrieve> to view her design.

**Sixth Grade Students Duct Tape Principal to Wall for Literacy Initiative**

Gene Pike Middle School sixth-grade students duct taped Principal Mike Blankenship to the cafeteria wall during lunch as a reward for purchasing the most items at the school's book fair. Many NISD campuses are taking part in a Million Word Challenge this fall. Campus book fairs are one of the many ways literacy is promoted in Northwest ISD.

PHOTO CAPTION [tape.jpg]: Principal Mike Blankenship is duct taped to the cafeteria wall by sixth-grade students as a reward for purchasing the most items at the school's book fair.

**Thompson Elementary Kicks Off Million Word Challenge with Western Day**

J.C. Thompson Elementary students kicked off their Million Word Challenge with a western theme. Students and teachers sported mustaches like the cowboys and participated in a contest with Thompson Elementary fathers. Cowboy Dave Alexander showed off his horse Pistol to students and author of the 'book of the month' *Fandango Stew* David Davis and author Jan Peck spoke to students about the writing process.

PHOTO CAPTION [dad.jpg]: Thompson Elementary School media specialist Jamie Eikenberry poses with David Davis, author of Thompson's 'book of the month' *Fandango Stew*, and author Jan Peck.

PHOTO CAPTION [authors.jpg]: Thompson Elementary dad and winner of the Western Day mustache contest Robert Allsup poses with his daughters, fifth-grader Kaylee and first-grader Reagan at the Million Word Challenge kick-off event.

**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@nisdx.org](mailto:kschultz@nisdx.org).

**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 on Thursday, October 6. For more information, go to <http://maillist.nisdx.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.

**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 Party**

Northwest ISD students and families are invited to the second annual Family Star 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](http://www.nisdtx.org).

**Board of Trustee Meetings**

The October School Board meetings will be held Monday, October 10 and Monday, October 24 at 7 p.m. in the Board Room at the NISD Administration Building (2001 Texan Drive, Justin, 76247).

**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.

**NISD Special Education Department Hosts Information Meeting**

The Northwest ISD Special Education Department is hosting Celebrating Disability and Diversity Awareness: An Introduction to Special Education on Thursday, October 13 from 6 – 7:30 p.m. at the NISD Administration Building (2001 Texan Drive, Justin, 76247). All parents and families are welcome to attend. For more information, contact your child's classroom teacher or the Special Education office at 817-215-0075.

**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](http://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](mailto:hallen@nisdtx.org).

**NEF Hosts Annual Golf Tournament**

The Northwest ISD Education Foundation (NEF) is hosting the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Classic on Wednesday, November 2 at the Marriot Hotel and Golf Club at Champions Circle in Fort Worth. All proceeds will support the NEF Encouraging Excellence Scholarship for Northwest ISD seniors. To register, go to [www.nisdtx.org/nef](http://www.nisdtx.org/nef).

**Vendors Needed for BNHS Dazzlers Holiday Kickoff Bazaar**

The Byron Nelson High School Dazzlers are looking for vendors for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Bobcat Dazzlers Holiday Kickoff Bazaar on November 12. For more information, go to [www.bobcatdazzlers.com](http://www.bobcatdazzlers.com).

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