



School Notes

For Immediate Release
November 14, 2011

NISD School Notes, November 14 – December 30

NHS Receives 2011 College Readiness Award

Northwest High School (NHS) has received the 2011 College Readiness Award from the Texas ACT Council. Only 10 percent of all high schools in Texas were honored for this level of accomplishment. The award is presented to schools that have increased the number of students taking the ACT assessment over the past five years and have significantly increased the level of student achievement and college readiness.

Two NISD Schools Named 2011 NCEA Higher Performing Schools

The National Center for Educational Achievement (NCEA) has named Gene Pike Middle School and Medlin Middle School 2011 NCEA Higher Performing Schools. NCEA identified the Higher Performing Schools based on one or both of two measures: academic growth of students and/or achievement of students on the TAKS Commended standard. NCEA (formerly known as Just for the Kids) began identifying Higher Performing Schools in 1998 and continues to annually release these lists as well as College and Career Readiness Charts for every public school in Texas.

NISD Campuses Celebrate Veteran's Day

Schools throughout Northwest ISD honored and recognized United States' veterans and service men and women during special assemblies, programs and activities in celebration of Veterans Day on November 11. Area veterans and those serving our country were invited to attend and speak at many of the school's events.

PHOTO CAPTION [bnhs.jpg]: Trophy Club Mayor Connie White addresses the Byron Nelson High School student body at the Veterans Day assembly on November 11.

PHOTO CAPTION [justin.jpg]: Fourth-grader Rachel Soye, Private First Class Bill Soye, third-grader Rebecca Soye and pre-kindergarten student Hannah Soye (left to right) pose for a picture at the Justin Elementary School Veteran's Day program on November 11.

Love Elementary and TMS Make Turn 2 in Speeding to Read Challenge, Name Top Readers

Clara Love Elementary students have reached "Turn 2" in the Clara Love Elementary and Texas Motor Speedway (TMS) year-long "Speeding to Read" challenge. "Speeding to Read" is an incentive-based reading program created by TMS to encourage and promote reading. The student body has split into two divisions – kindergarten through second-grade and third through fifth-grade. Classrooms within the two divisions will compete against each other to see who can read the most books and earn the title of "Speeding to Read" champions.

NASCAR Camping World Truck Series championship contender James Buescher and Miss Sprint Cup Monica Palumbo awarded trophies to the classrooms of first-grade teacher Kari Abrams and fifth-grade teacher Heather Baker as the mid-race leaders on November 3. Mrs. Abrams' classroom has read over 3,000 books and Ms. Baker's class has read 378 books since the program began in August. Overall, the entire campus has read over 30,000 books. Each of the students in these two classrooms received a ball cap and bean bag car from TMS as well as autographed hero cards from Buescher and Miss Sprint Cup.

First-grader Katie Lamprecht and third-grader Hailey Baer were recognized as the individual leaders of the competition having read 210 and 37 books. Both received two tickets to the WinStar World Casino 350 NASCAR Camping World Truck Series race on November 4.

The “Speeding to Read” champions will be announced this spring and will receive four frontstretch grandstand tickets to the April Samsung Mobile 500 Sprint cup Series race at Texas Motor Speedway.

PHOTO CAPTION [award.jpg]: Clara Love Elementary first-grader Katie Lamprecht and third-grader Hailey Baer were recognized by NASCAR Camping World Truck Series championship contender James Buescher and Miss Sprint Cup Monica Palumbo as individual leaders in the Speeding to Read contest. Lamprecht has read 210 books and Baer has read 37.

Board of Trustee Meeting

The next School Board meeting will be held Monday, November 14 at 7 p.m. in the Board Room at the NISD Administration Building (2001 Texan Drive, Justin, 76247).

Extreme Sports Entertainers Bring Tobacco-Free Campaign to NHS

Northwest High School will offer two assemblies (10 a.m. and 11 a.m.) on Tuesday, November 15 where students will be entertained by action sports stars in skateboarding, freestyle BMX, inline skating, and more, while hearing valuable messages about the dangers of smoking and tobacco use.

BNHS Football Advances to Area Playoffs

The Byron Nelson High School football team defeated O.D. Wyatt by a score of 49-20 in the Bi-District round of the Texas High School State Playoffs. This is the first football playoff victory in the 62 year history of NISD.

The Area round of the playoffs will be played at Cowboy Stadium on Thursday, November 17 at 7:30 p.m. against Stephenville. Advance ticket prices are \$8 for adults and \$5 for students and \$10 at the gate. Tickets will go on sale Tuesday morning in the NISD Athletic Office and at Byron Nelson High School.

Byron Nelson High School has been named the “Army Strong 4A Team of the Week for the State of Texas.” An army representative will present the team with a plaque this week.

NISD Coaches Named Assistant Coach of the Week

Byron Nelson High School Offensive Coordinator Byron Bode has been named Assistant Coach of the Week. Bode was featured on the NBC weekly high school sports show, *Inside High School Sports*, on Saturday, November 5.

Northwest High School coach Danny Jones has been named *Inside High School Sports* Assistant Coach of the Week. Jones is a football coach at Northwest High School and was featured on the weekly high school sports show on Saturday, November 12.

NHS Cross Country Runners Compete in State Championship

Three Northwest High School (NHS) cross country runners competed in the state meet on Saturday, November 12 in Round Rock. Senior Troy Taylor finished 18th, sophomore Kellee McCann finished 16th and freshman Katherine Chavez finished 17th.

Justin Elementary Student Council Sponsors Food Drive

The Justin Elementary School Student Council is still accepting donations for its Fall Food Drive to benefit the Justin First Baptist Food Bank. Donations can be delivered until Friday, November 18 at Justin Elementary School (425 Boss Range Road, Justin).

NISD Closed for Thanksgiving

Northwest ISD offices and campuses will be closed the week of November 21 – 25 for Thanksgiving break. Classes will resume Monday, November 28.

NISD Hosts 4th Annual Reindeer Romp

Northwest ISD is hosting the 4th Annual Reindeer Romp benefiting the Northwest ISD physical education departments. The 5K race will be held Saturday, December 10 at 8:30 a.m. at Byron Nelson High School (2775 Bobcat Blvd. Trophy Club, 76262). To sign up for the race, go to <http://www.nisdreindeerromp.com/>.

Board of Trustee Meeting

The December School Board meeting will be held Monday, December 12 at 7 p.m. in the Board Room at the NISD Administration Building (2001 Texan Drive, Justin, 76247).

NHS Theater Director and 15 Students Cast to Perform in Local Community Production

The Northwest High School theater department and Tarrant County College Northwest will collaborate in a local community production of Thornton Wilder's *Our Town*. Northwest High School theater director Nick Kougiaris has been cast as the lead role of the Stage Manager.

Fifteen Northwest High School students auditioned for the play, and seven students were selected to be part of the cast. Two Northwest High School students, seniors Tomlyn Borgan and Jordan Mersberger, were cast in the lead roles of Emily Webb and George Gibbs. Junior Taylor Hart was cast as Rebecca Gibbs, sophomore Lincoln Taylor was cast as Wally Webb and freshman Hunter Hart was cast as Joe Crowell. In addition to these principle roles, senior Ahsan Siddiqui and sophomore Drew White were cast in the ensemble. Schedule and ticket information will be available soon. The production will be in December.

NISD Closed for Winter Break

Northwest ISD offices and campuses will be closed December 19-30 for Winter Break. Monday, January 2 is a student holiday. Classes will resume Tuesday, January 3.

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