



School Notes

For Immediate Release
February 12, 2013

NISD School Notes, February 12 – March 18

WANTED: Reporters to Tell the Story of the State's STAAR/EOC Exams

Members of the media are invited to sit down with five of the state's top school superintendents to learn more about how the state's high-stakes testing could crush post-secondary plans for Texas graduates and how it could lead to an increase in the dropout rate. The meeting will be held Wednesday, February 13 from 2 – 3:30 p.m. at the Northwest ISD Administration Building Board Room (2001 Texan Drive, Fort Worth, 76247). Cameras are welcome. For more information, go to www.nisdtx.org/newsroom.

NISD's Deborah McCune, Ed.D. to Open New Elementary Campus

Deborah McCune, Ed.D. has been named principal of the district's newest elementary school campus, scheduled to open in August 2013. McCune is currently the principal at Samuel Beck Elementary School, where she has led the campus since 2000. Under her leadership, Beck Elementary School earned an "Exemplary" rating from the state for 10 years and was named a National Blue Ribbon School by the United States Department of Education.

The district's new elementary school will be located in Roanoke on Litsey Road near the Seventeen Lakes housing development and will relieve student population growth at Roanoke and Hughes elementary schools. A boundary recommendation was presented to the NISD Board of Trustees at the February 11 school board meeting and includes Chadwick Farms, Seventeen Lakes, Fairway Ranch and Bluffview neighborhoods. The board is expected to vote on the boundary proposal at the February 25 school board meeting. The board is also expected to name the new school at the March 18 meeting.

PHOTO CAPTION [mccune.jpg]: Deborah McCune, Ed.D. has been named principal of NISD's new elementary school located in Roanoke near the Seventeen Lakes housing development. The new campus will open in August 2013.

NEF Awards \$181,000+ in Innovative Teaching Grants

The Northwest ISD Education Foundation Grant Brigade traveled to schools across Northwest ISD via school bus on February 8, with one group covering the eastern portion of the district and another the western portion. The brigade presented 51 innovative teaching grants to 18 campuses totaling \$181,905.88. This is the largest amount of money distributed by NEF to NISD teachers to date. These grants are written by NISD teachers and staff to benefit the students of Northwest ISD.

PHOTO CAPTION [east2.jpg]: NEF presented Byron Nelson High School 10 innovative teaching grants for a total of more than \$32,000.

Three NISD Seniors Named National Merit Finalists

Northwest High School seniors Damon King, Cassidy Knight and Matthew Walker have been named National Merit Finalists in the 58th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. The three finalists were selected from approximately 16,000 semifinalists. More than half of the estimated 15,000 finalists will win a National Merit Scholarship, earning the title of Merit Scholar. Approximately 8,300 students will be selected as Merit Scholars. Students will be notified this spring.

PHOTO CAPTION [nationalmeritfinalists]: Northwest High School seniors (from left to right) Matthew Walker, Kassidy Knight and Damon King have been selected as National Merit Finalists in the National Merit Scholarship Program.

Online Parent Survey Available through February 18

All parents are encouraged to provide valuable feedback by completing the Northwest ISD 2012-2013 Parent Survey. The survey will be online through February 18 at the Your Voice Portal at www.nisdtx.org/yourvoice. A hard copy may be requested by calling 817-215-0171. Computers are available for use at your child's campus.

BNHS Students Receive State Recognition in Photo Contest

Byron Nelson High School Junior Kyla Christopher and senior Adam Gray competed in the state-wide Association of Texas Photography Instructors (ATPI) annual fall photo contest. Submissions include print, video and computer imaging. Christopher placed first in the animal photo category and Gray placed third in sports/action and first honorable mention in sports/action, student life and time exposure.

PHOTO CAPTION [photo.jpg]: Byron Nelson High School junior Kayla Christopher and senior Adam Gray are pictured with certificates from the Association of Texas Photography Instructors annual fall photo contest.

NHS Students Experience Hands-On Art without Sight

Northwest High School fine arts students in ninth through twelfth-grades participated in hands-on activities with local author and artist John Bramblitt. Bramblitt has been blind for more than a decade. He developed a technique using fabric paint to allow him to draw his compositions. Once dry, he is able to feel them and select the color of paint by the viscosity. Students volunteered to be blindfolded and paint to see what life is like for Bramblitt behind his paint brush.

PHOTO CAPTION [artist.jpg]: Northwest High School student Brenna Lane volunteers to paint blindfolded during a presentation from local author and artist John Bramblitt. Bramblitt has been blind for more than a decade and developed techniques allowing him to draw his compositions by use of touch.

Student Holiday

Monday, February 18 is a student holiday for Northwest ISD campuses. Classes will resume on Tuesday, February 19.

NISD School Board Meeting

An NISD School Board meeting will be held February 25 at 7 p.m. in the Board Room at the NISD Administration Building (2001 Texan Drive, Fort Worth, 76247).

NISD Students Showcase Technology Trends at Expo

Northwest ISD parents and community members are invited to attend the third annual NISD Techno Expo at Byron Nelson High School (2775 Bobcat Boulevard, Trophy Club, 76262) on Thursday, February 28 from 5 to 8:30 p.m. Selected students will present and demonstrate their use of technology in the classroom during a series of more than 300 breakout sessions. Dinner will be served by students in the district's Academy of Culinary Arts and Hospitality from 5 to 7 p.m., and musical performances will be provided by NISD fine arts students. From animation and digital video to multimedia and website design, student presentations are scheduled from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Door prizes will be given away at the conclusion of the event.

Volunteers Needed for NISD's Annual Northwest Reads

The Northwest ISD Partners in Education program is seeking volunteers for the fifth annual Northwest Reads on Friday, March 1 from 9 to 10 a.m. Participants will choose from a variety of books to read to pre-kindergarten through fifth-grade students at one of the school district's 16 elementary schools. This event provides community members with an opportunity to inspire young NISD students to become lifelong readers. Register online at <http://tinyurl.com/NorthwestReads> by February 22. For more information, call 817-215-0172.

BNHS Technology Student Association Creates Custom Designs

The Byron Nelson High School Technology Student Association is designing custom note pads. Orders can be made through March 1. Examples of different layouts are available in the online photo gallery at <http://www.nisdtx.org/Page/40985>. For more information, contact Jeff Taylor at jtaylor01@nisdtx.org.

NISD to Host Annual Realtor Luncheon

Northwest ISD is encouraging real estate professionals to join NISD officials on March 7 for the annual Realtor's Luncheon at 11:30 a.m. at the NISD Administration Building (2001 Texan Drive, Fort Worth, 76177). Information on current demographic projections, plans for new schools and the award-winning programs in NISD will be shared. Space is limited. Call 817-215-0175 to reserve a seat.

NISD Closed for Spring Break

All Northwest ISD campuses and offices will be closed for spring break March 11-15. Classes will resume on Monday, March 18.

NISD School Board Meeting

An NISD School Board meeting will be held March 18 at 7 p.m. in the Board Room at the NISD Administration Building (2001 Texan Drive, Fort Worth, 76247).

###