



School Notes

For Immediate Release
April 24, 2013

NISD School Notes, April 24 – May 30

NISD Names Teachers of the Year, Recognizes Employees at Annual Inspire Celebration

Jairia Diggs from O.A. Peterson Elementary School was named *Elementary Teacher of the Year* and Charles E. Cooper, II from Northwest High School was named *Secondary Teacher of the Year* at the third annual Inspire celebration on April 18. NISD brought together retirees, 25-year and 30-year service award recipients, Exemplar Educators from each campus, and its Employees of the Year. The Inspire recognition program was designed to recognize and celebrate dedicated educators and support staff for the important contributions they make to the students and community of NISD. To see a complete list of honorees, go to www.nisdtx.org/newsroom.

PHOTO CAPTION [TOY2013]: Northwest ISD named the 2013 Teachers of the Year at the third annual Inspire Celebration April 18. From left to right: Elementary Teacher of the Year Jairia Diggs, Superintendent of Schools Karen G. Rue, Ed.D., Secondary Teacher of the Year Charles E. Cooper, II and School Board President Mel Fuller.

NISD's Yolanda Wallace Named Principal of Prairie View Elementary

Yolanda Wallace, current assistant principal at Northwest ISD's Clara Love Elementary School in Fort Worth, has been named the new principal of Prairie View Elementary in Rhome. Prior to her assistant principal role, Wallace taught elementary school in Northwest ISD since 2008. She has been a team leader for several grade levels and she was named an Exemplar Educator in 2011, a school's top honor for a classroom teacher. She has also taught in Fort Worth ISD and Aurora, Ill. Wallace has a bachelor's degree from Central Michigan University, a master's from Lamar University and she is currently working toward her doctorate in educational administration.

Wallace will begin meeting with the Prairie View Elementary staff and students this spring and will officially take the helm for the 2013-2014 school year, replacing current principal Sandy Conklin. Conklin was recently named principal of Northwest ISD's Beck Elementary School in Trophy Club.

PHOTO CAPTION [Wallace, Yolanda]: Clara Love Elementary School Assistant Principal Yolanda Wallace has been named the new principal of Prairie View Elementary School in Rhome. Wallace will begin her new role during the 2013-2014 school year.

Board Approves New Director of Research, Assessment and Accountability

Northwest ISD is pleased to announce the hiring of Melissa DeSimone, Ed.D. as the district's new director of research, assessment and accountability. DeSimone has been the program coordinator at Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College at Arizona State University where she organized the secondary education master's program. She has also served as a clinical instructor for the College of Teacher Education and Leadership at Arizona State University. Dr. DeSimone brings 10 years of secondary teaching experience at the middle and high school levels. DeSimone will begin her new position on May 13.

BNHS TSA Wins at State Level

The Byron Nelson High School Technology Student Association (TSA) won the 4A state championship in highest point total and third place for high point average project. This is the first state championship for the BNHS TSA and the team's third year to compete. The team brought home the following medals: 30 best in state/first place, 36 second place, 29 third place, 16 fourth place and 13 fifth place.

BNHS Debate Team Wins Third Consecutive Regional Championship

The Byron Nelson High School speech and debate team won their third consecutive regional championship at Hardin Simmons University in Abilene. Byron Nelson High School students secured five out of nine possible spots advancing to the state tournament. The individual state qualifiers are listed below:

Brendan Gillette and Eryn Mascia – Lincoln Douglas Debate
Race Briggs – Persuasive Speaking
Steven Clark – Persuasive Speaking and Regional Champion
Courtney Pool – Informative Speaking and Regional Champion

The debate team will travel to Austin in May for the state championship. Last year, the team was named the 2012 UIL Speech and Debate State Champions.

Three NISD Principals to Attend Summer Institute at Harvard

Carl E. Schluter Elementary School Principal Kim Caley, Haslet Elementary School Principal Michael Griffin, Ed.D. and Seven Hills Elementary School Principal Stephanie Espinosa have been selected to participate in a cohort of top public school campus leaders this summer. Raise Your Hand Texas has selected 50 Texas principals for this year's program at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. The Institute will provide Caley, Griffin and Espinosa the opportunity to work with renowned educators from across the country and to network with other campus leaders with similar interests and challenges.

AMP Students Receive State Medals

Students from the Academy of Medical Professions traveled to Galveston to compete in the state Health Occupation Students of America (HOSA). Junior Ashley Humphries received first place in clinical specialty and junior Lyndee Crawford placed fifth in medical photography.

BNHS Golf Team Advances to State Championship

The Byron Nelson High School girls' and boys' golf team won the Region 1-4A Championship. This is the fourth regional championship for the girls' team and the first for the boys' team. The Bobcat golf team will advance to the 4A state championship on April 29-30. This is the first time in Bobcat history the girls' and boys' golf team will advanced to the state level in the same year.

PHOTO CAPTION [Boys Team]: For the first time in Bobcat history, the BNHS boys' golf team is traveling to the state championship. The boys will compete on April 29-30.

PHOTO CAPTION [Girls' Regional]: The BNHS girls' golf team is state bound. The Lady Bobcats have four regional championships to their name and will take their shot at the state tournament April 29-30.

NHS Drama Students Star as Extras

On Saturday April 13, Northwest High School Texan theatre arts students Katie Key, Riley Payne, Drew White, Julian Alvarado, Zach Gutierrez, Briana Lopez and Chantil Bounheuanqvialy traveled to Waxahachie, Texas to be extras in the film "Hoovey." The drama students were able to apply what they have learned in the NHS theatre program and experience the life of actors and actresses, while learning more about the components of a feature film.

PHOTO CAPTION [two]: Northwest High School juniors Julian Alvarado, Drew White and Zach Gutierrez are pictured with the real “Hoovey,” a hero who continues to fulfill his dream of playing basketball after being faced with a possible terminal illness.

Enrollment Online Available for New Students

Enrollment Online is available now for students new to Northwest ISD. This will replace the back-to-school packets issued on the first day of school. In order to access the online registration feature, parents of students currently enrolled in the district must have a Home Access Center (HAC) account. Access to the HAC requires an internet connection and a confidential username and password issued to the parent by the school. If you are unsure of your HAC login, you may contact your child’s campus. For more information, go to www.nisdtx.org/enrollment. Parents of returning students can begin the registration process on August 1.

Welcome Class of 2026 - Kindergarten Round-Up Begins April 29

Children who will attend kindergarten this August are asked to register online. To register, kindergarten students must be five by September 1, 2013 and complete online registration at www.nisdtx.org/enrollment. Kindergarten Round-Up is scheduled for April 29-May 3. Round-Up events are specific to each campus. Check school websites for exact times. Even though kindergarten registration begins online, parents and students are encouraged to attend the Round-Up event at their child’s school to meet staff, tour the facility and provide the necessary documents needed to complete the registration process. Please bring the following items in order to complete your child’s enrollment:

- Birth certificate
- Immunization records (immunizations must be up-to-date to attend school)
- Proof of residency (housing contract, rental agreement, etc.)
- Student’s social security card
- License or government-issued ID of the parent/guardian

Computers will be available at the campus during Kindergarten Round-Up for parents unable to register online from home. Find your local school at www.nisdtx.org/attendanceboundaries.

Award-Winning Food Network Chef to Host Cooking Contest at BNHS

As part of a 30-day book tour, celebrity chef Maneet Chauhan will make a stop at Byron Nelson High School on Friday, April 26 from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Chef Chauhan will host a classic cooking competition for culinary arts academy students where they will have 40 minutes to create an entrée that represents contemporary American cuisine. The winning students will travel to Washington, D.C. where they will spend the day cooking with one of the featured chefs of the White House Chef Tour.

Wilson Middle School to Host Spring Community Event

Wilson Middle School is teaming up with Haslet, Sendera Ranch and Thompson elementary schools for a spring community event on Saturday, May 4 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Start the morning with a Wildcat Way 5K Fun Run, enjoy music and food provided by Dickey’s BBQ and take advantage of a vendor fair open to community members. For more information or to sign up to be a vendor, email WildcatWay@nisdtx.org.

NISD to Host Night of No Limits

Northwest ISD kindergarten through twelfth-graders will present their best work in science and problem-based learning at the Night of No Limits on Thursday, May 16 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Northwest High School. Students will share their projects through live presentations and in a gallery format. Families and community members are invited to watch student presentations and engage in hands-on, interactive exhibits from the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History and CBSDFW Meteorologist Jeff Jamison.

NISD High School Student Will Win a Chevy Camaro This Spring

The Northwest ISD Partners in Education will team up with Moritz Chevrolet to give away a 2013 Chevrolet Camaro to one lucky high school student in Northwest ISD for outstanding academic efforts and attendance throughout the year. The car giveaway will take place Friday, May 24 at 10:30 a.m. at Texas Motor Speedway (3545 Lone Star Circle, Fort Worth, 76177).

NISD Closed for Memorial Day

Northwest ISD campuses and administrative offices will be closed Monday, May 27 in observance of Memorial Day. Classes will resume on Tuesday, May 28.

BNHS Football Booster Club Hosts Golf Tournament

The Byron Nelson High School football booster club is hosting a golf tournament on Thursday, May 30 at 2 p.m. at Trophy Club Country Club. For more information, contact Cyndi Huizenga at chuizenga@att.net.

Summer School Opportunities in NISD

Northwest ISD offers a variety of summer programs for elementary, middle school and high school students to enhance their educational experience. Go to www.nisdtx.org and look for a listing of opportunities under Announcements on the right-hand side of the website. Registration deadlines vary by program. For more information, call NISD Student Services at 817-215-0083.

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