



## School Notes

For Immediate Release  
May 14, 2013

### NISD School Notes, May 14 – June 11

#### **Granger Elementary Named National School of Character**

Kay Granger Elementary School has been named a National School of Character by the Character Education Partnership (CEP). Granger is among 29 schools and districts across the nation to receive this honor. The campus is recognized for its commitment to character education and for fostering a positive environment for social and academic learning. Granger Elementary School will be featured at the National Forum on Character Education in Washington, DC in October.

#### **Lakeview Elementary School Destination Imagination Team Advances to Global Finals**

Lakeview Elementary's Team RAD will advance to the Destination Imagination Global Finals on May 22-26 in Knoxville, TN. Team members include fourth graders Olivia Carter, Jordan Sarmento, Tess Winkler, Riley Scott and Eden Fussleman. The team will compete in an open-ended challenge called Wind Visible, where students apply science, technology, engineering and math skills in addition to improvisation, theater arts, writing, project management and communication.

#### **NISD Community Elects Board Members**

On May 11, the Northwest ISD community elected Anne Davis-Simpson and Judy Copp to fill two seats on the Northwest ISD Board of Trustees. On the ballot were Kyle Morris (Haslet), Edward R. Mergenthal, Jr. (Fort Worth) and Dr. Anne Marie (Davis) Simpson (Northlake) for Place 3 and Judy Copp (Justin) unopposed for Place 4. Anne Davis-Simpson was elected to Place 3 with 62 percent of voter approval. Judy Copp received 100 percent of voter approval for Place 4. Copp has served on the board since 2012. Results will be official when canvassed later this month. Newly elected members will be sworn in at the May 28 board meeting.

#### **NISD Track and Field Athletes Excel at State Meet**

On May 10-11, six NISD track and field athletes (four from Northwest High School and two from Byron Nelson High School) competed in the 4A and 5A state tournament in Austin. Results are shown below:

##### Northwest High School

Desiree Freier, junior – State Champion for two consecutive years in pole vault, set a state meet record of 13 feet and nine inches

Zach Kirkland, junior – seventh place in 800m

Kellee McCann, junior – fourth place in 3200m

Kiarra Simpson, senior – seventh place in discus

##### Byron Nelson High School

Leilyn Miles, freshman – fifth place in shot put

Rana Ryan, senior – sixth place in 800m

PHOTO CAPTION [pole vault]: Northwest High School junior Desiree Freier is pictured with her state championship medal after winning the pole vault for two consecutive years.

**NISD Names New Executive Director for Elementary Education**

Northwest ISD is pleased to announce the hiring of Michael Griffin, Ed.D. as the new executive director of elementary education. Griffin has been the principal of NISD's Haslet Elementary School since 2009. She received a doctorate in educational leadership from Nova Southeastern University in 2012. She holds a bachelor degree in elementary education from Texas Tech University and a master's in education from the University of Arizona. Griffin will begin her new role in July as the district begins a search to replace her current position at Haslet Elementary.

PHOTO CAPTION [griffin\_michael\_2013]: Michael Griffin, Ed.D., current principal of NISD's Haslet Elementary School, has been named the new executive director of elementary education.

**NISD Seeks Feedback to Rename Center**

The NISD Board of Trustees and administration invites the community to submit nominations to rename the Agricultural Sciences Learning Center. An electronic nomination form is available on the district's website at [www.nisdtx.org/schoolnames](http://www.nisdtx.org/schoolnames), or a hard copy may be requested by calling 817-215-0171. Nominations received through June 14 will be reviewed by a naming selection committee and recommended to the Board at the June 25 meeting.

**Leadership NISD Participants Recognized at School Board Meeting**

Northwest ISD recognized 23 Leadership NISD participants at a reception and graduation at the School Board meeting on May 13. Parents and community members involved in the year-long Leadership NISD program were given an opportunity to go behind the scenes for an in-depth look at Northwest ISD. If you are interested in participating in Leadership NISD for the 2013-2014 school year, please call 817-215-0175.

PHOTO CAPTION [leadership\_grad]: NISD Superintendent Karen G. Rue, Ed.D. congratulates one of the 23 Leadership NISD participants at the May 13 recognition ceremony.

**Enrollment Online Available for New Students**

Enrollment Online is now available for students new to Northwest ISD. 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](http://www.nisdtx.org/enrollment). Parents of returning students can begin the registration process on August 1. This will replace the back-to-school packets issued on the first day of school.

**Steele Accelerated High School Opens Enrollment to Students Across the Metroplex**

Northwest ISD is opening the enrollment for James M. Steele Accelerated High School to students across the metroplex. Steele Accelerated High School provides an avenue for students to accelerate their studies. Thanks to a partnership with North Texas Community College, students can take expanded dual credit classes. Steele is home to the district's fifth career academy, The Cosmetology Academy. Shears of Steele will debut in August, providing a year of state-mandated training for cosmetology students prior to opening for business in 2014. Since opening its doors in 2010, every Steele Accelerated High School graduate is either employed, serving in the military or enrolled in college. To submit an application, go to [www.nisdtx.org/sahs](http://www.nisdtx.org/sahs). Applications are due by July 24. For more information, contact 817-698-5800.

**NISD Recognizes Leadership NISD Participants at Board Meeting**

NISD recognized 23 Leadership NISD participants during the May 13 school board meeting. Parents and community members involved in the year-long Leadership NISD program were given an opportunity to go behind the scenes for an in-depth look at NISD. If you are interested in participating in Leadership NISD for the 2013-2014 school year, please call 817-215-0175.

**Operation Don't Bug Me**

Granger Elementary fourth grade students participated in a service project, Operation Don't Bug Me from the Adopt a Platoon Organization, to assist with troops overseas. The program helps to provide bug spray, suntan lotion, sunglasses, eye drops, anti-itch creams and other items to different platoons stationed around the world. The campus donated approximately XX items to troops.

PHOTO CAPTION [bug]: Lieutenant Commander Clifton Johnson spoke to Kay Granger Elementary School fourth grade students about the importance of the service project Operation Don't Bug Me. The service men and women visiting Granger Elementary wanted to extend their appreciation for the support and donations that have been provided by families at the campus.

**Elementary Robotics Club Students Tour UNT Medical Center**

Fort Worth City Councilmember Dennis Shingleton arranged for the Clara Love Elementary School robotics club to visit the UNT Medical Center on May 3 for a hands-on field trip to experience the medical robots used for training medical students. Students had the opportunity to experiment with robots and examine the complexity of the programs used in operations.

PHOTO CAPTION [group]: The Clara Love Elementary School robotics club is pictured with Fort Worth City Councilmember Dennis Shingleton during a field trip to the UNT Medical Center on May 3.

**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 CBS11 Meteorologist Jeff Jamison.

**NISD Fine Arts to Hold Middle School Musical Auditions**

Northwest ISD middle school students have an opportunity to audition to perform in the 2013-2014 NISD Middle School Musical *Willy Wonka Jr.* The musical will feature students from all five NISD middle schools. Auditions will be held Saturday, May 18 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Northwest High School (2301 Texan Drive, Justin, 76247) and are open for current fifth through seventh graders. Callbacks are scheduled for Monday, May 20 at 5:30 p.m. at Chisholm Trail Middle School (583 FM 3433, Rhome, 76078). Rehearsals will be held August 12-30 at Chisholm Trail Middle School and performances are scheduled for September 13-14.

**NISD to Host Dual Language Informational Meeting**

During the 2013-2014 school year, Northwest ISD is offering a two-way dual language program of English and Spanish instruction for English-speaking students entering kindergarten and Spanish-speaking students (eligible as Limited English Proficient) in grades K-5. NISD will host a meeting targeted for parents of currently enrolled dual language students and potential incoming students on Monday, May 20 at 6 p.m. at Roanoke Elementary School (1401 Lancelot, Roanoke, 76262). Dual language students receive grade level instruction in the core content areas using NISD's curriculum for math, science, social studies and language arts/reading.

**Board of Trustees Host Award Ceremony at BNHS**

The Northwest ISD Board of Trustees will recognize top students in the Byron Nelson High School feeder pattern for their achievements in regional, state, national and international competitions on Tuesday, May 21 at 7 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center at Byron Nelson High School (2775 Bobcat Boulevard, Trophy Club, 76262).

**Board of Trustees Host Award Ceremony at NHS**

The Northwest ISD Board of Trustees will recognize top students in the Northwest High School feeder pattern for their achievements in regional, state, national and international competitions on Thursday, May 23 at 7 p.m. at the Vernon Solomon Performing Arts Center at Northwest High School (2201 Texan Drive, Justin, 76247).

### **STEM to Host Annual Showcase**

The Academy of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) is hosting the third annual STEM Showcase where ninth through twelfth grade students will showcase their best work from the 2012-2013 school year. The showcase is Thursday, May 23 from 6:30-8 p.m. at Northwest High School east entrance (2301 Texan Drive, Justin, 76247).

### **NISD High School Student Will Win a Chevy Camaro This Spring**

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.

### **NISD School Board Meeting**

A Northwest ISD School Board Meeting will be held Tuesday, May 28 at 7 p.m. at the NISD Administration Building Board Room (2001 Texan Drive, Justin, 76247).

### **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 [ch Luizenga@att.net](mailto:ch Luizenga@att.net).

### **Last Day of School**

Friday, June 7 is the last day of school for Northwest ISD students. A list of summer school opportunities are posted at [www.nisdtx.org/summerschool](http://www.nisdtx.org/summerschool).

### **NISD Graduations**

Graduation ceremonies for the Class of 2013 are as follows:

- James M. Steele Accelerated High School's graduation ceremony will be held Thursday, June 6 at 7 p.m. at the Northwest High School Performing Arts Center (PAC).
- Byron Nelson High School's commencement is Tuesday, June 11 at 3 p.m. at the University of North Texas Coliseum in Denton.
- Northwest High School's commencement is Tuesday, June 11 at 7 p.m. University of North Texas Coliseum in Denton.

### **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/summerschool](http://www.nisdtx.org/summerschool) 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.