



## School Notes

For Immediate Release  
March 5, 2014

### NISD School Notes, March 5 – May 2

*Note: NISD campuses and offices will be closed March 10-14. There will not be an issue of School Notes this week.*

#### **Board Approves New Strategic Plan**

At the February 24 School Board Meeting, the NISD Board of Trustees approved the district's new strategic plan. The plan includes the district's core beliefs, vision, mission and goals. Based on the recommendations of the Strategic Summit participants, this plan establishes the direction of the district for the next four years. A team of approximately 75 participants made up of students, parents, community members and staff, served to develop this plan that will set the tone for NISD's future. The new strategic plan will go into effect for the 2014-2015 school year. For more information, go to [www.nisdtx.org](http://www.nisdtx.org).

#### **NISD Employees Named Finalists at State Technology Conference**

At the 2014 TCEA conference, NISD Coordinator of Instructional Technology Roy Peakcock was chosen as a finalist in the Instructional Technology Specialist of the Year category and Director of Technology Carl Shawn was chosen as a finalist for Technology Administrator of the Year. Peacock and Shawn were recognized by their peers, and exemplify the role of an innovative educator. TCEA is a member-based organization devoted to the use of technology in education.

PHOTO CAPTION [Carl Shawn]: NISD's Director of Technology Carl Shawn has been named a finalist for Technology Administrator of the Year by TCEA.

PHOTO CAPTION [Rory]: Rory Peakcock, NISD's Coordinator of Instructional Technology, was selected as a finalist for Instructional Technology Specialist of the Year by TCEA.

#### **Academy of Cosmetology Sends Students to State**

In its first year, the Academy of Cosmetology located at James M. Steele Accelerated High School will send two students to the state contest in March. Cosmetology students competed in a Skills USA District 4 contest in February. Junior Keaton Jones received a first place gold medal in Employment Application Process, and junior Jessica Wyles received a first place gold medal in Job interviewing. Juniors Brittany Jackson, Tommie Bryson, Jayleen Aracena, Keaton Jones, Amy Whitehorn, Jessica Wyles and sophomores Reva Killough, Carmen Granados, Maria Galvan, Mary Delgadillo and Ilse Martinez all received first place ribbons in Photo Panel exhibits, and Mary Delgadillo also brought home a second blue ribbon in Nail Art.

PHOTO CAPTION [cosmo\_2012]: In its first year of competing, the Academy of Cosmetology students received high marks at the district Skills USA contest and will send two students to state in March.

#### **Students Showcased Best Work at Techno Expo**

More than 1,800 students presented their best technology work at the third annual Techno Expo on February 27. Selected students presented and demonstrated their use of technology in the classroom during a series of more than 300 breakout sessions. Dinner was served by students in the district's Academy of Culinary Arts and Hospitality Services.

PHOTO CAPTION [doorprize\_love]: Director of Instructional Technology Karla Burkholder, Ed.D. presents a door prize to Clara Love Elementary School student Gabrielle Purdy at the Techno Expo. Purdy won a Dell 8" tablet.

**Stay Informed – House Bill 5 Foundation High School Program Changes Graduation Requirements**

As part of the House Bill 5 passed in the 83<sup>rd</sup> Legislature, new graduation requirements are mandated under the new Foundation High School Program for students entering ninth grade in the 2014-15 school year and thereafter. The core coursework in English language arts, math, science and social studies is still required but now requires students to align their focus of study in a specific field by obtaining at least one endorsement. The new requirements are optional for current students graduating in 2015, 2016 and 2017. Guidance counselors will provide current and incoming high school students with information of the many options under the new graduation requirements. For more information, go to [www.nisdtx.org](http://www.nisdtx.org) and click on the Quick Link HB 5 Foundation High School Program.

**NISD Closed for Spring Break**

All Northwest ISD campuses and offices will be closed for spring break March 10-14. Classes will resume on Monday, March 17.

**NISD School Board Meeting**

An NISD School Board meeting will be held March 17 at 7 p.m. in the Board Room at the NISD Administration Building (2001 Texan Drive, Fort Worth, 76247).

**NISD Announces District Fitness Fun Fest**

Byron Nelson and Northwest high school student councils present the first NISD Fitness Fun Fest on Saturday, March 22 from 4-9 p.m. at Texas Motor Speedway. Families can expect an evening of live music, food and drinks, carnival fun, a 1.5 mile walk around the speedway, as well as free health screenings. Admission is \$10 per person or \$30 per family. Tickets include the walk, music and carnival. All proceeds will go to MD Anderson Cancer Center, American Heart Association and Project Orange Out. For more information, go to <http://www.nisdtx.org/Domain/5477>.

**NHS to Host Big Event**

Northwest High School will host the third annual Big Event on Saturday, April 5. Each year, Northwest High School students participate in one of the largest community service projects in the area. Students assist six surrounding communities with projects for residents and community organizations. Requests for service can be made through March 7 at [thebigeventnorthwest@nisdtx.org](mailto:thebigeventnorthwest@nisdtx.org) or at 817-215-0206. For more information go to, <http://bigevent.nisdtx.org>.

**District Sets Dates for Kindergarten Round-Up**

Children who will attend kindergarten this August are asked to register online beginning April 21. To register, kindergarten students must be five by September 1, 2014. Kindergarten Round-Up is scheduled for April 28-May 2. Parents and students are encouraged to attend this event 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, utility bill etc.)

- Student's social security card

- License or other suitable photo ID of the parent/guardian.

If parents do not have access to a computer at home, computers will be available at the campus during this time.

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