



School Notes

For Immediate Release
April 8, 2014

NISD School Notes, April 8 – May 29

NHS Sidekicks Named National Champions

The Northwest High School Sidekicks drill team competed in a national competition at the Fort Worth Convention Center on March 21-22. The team received the following awards:

Officers

National Champions in jazz, contemporary, modern and team winners circle

Team

National Champions in jazz, kick, contemporary, third place in hip hop and team winners circle

PHOTO CAPTION [drill team]: The Northwest High School Sidekicks drill team received nine awards at the national competition in March along with the title ‘National Champions.’

NISD Art Students Named Finalists in Congressional Art Contest

Three of the 17 Congressional Art Contest finalists are Northwest ISD students. Byron Nelson High School students Audrey Vincenzo received the Best of School Award and Mia Dessi received the Juror’s Choice Award. Northwest High School student Vanessa Kantaphone received the Best of School Award. All submissions were posted in a virtual gallery on Congressman Burgess’ website from March 26-30, and the public was able to vote online for their favorite pieces. See the student’s artwork here: <http://burgess.house.gov/2014-art-contest/>. All finalists will be honored at a reception at the Center for Visual Arts in Denton on April 23 where the Grand Prize and First Place winners will be announced.

Cosmetology Students Receive State Awards

In its first year, the Northwest ISD Academy of Cosmetology students competed at the Skills USA State Leadership and Skills Conference in Corpus Christi and brought home several awards. Junior Keaton Jones won a third place bronze medal in the Employment Application Process and Interview Leadership Contest. In addition, Jones and junior Jessica Wyles received a first place blue ribbon for a Photo Panel project on Arm/Hand Massage and Wet Set Demo. The Academy of Cosmetology is located at James M. Steele Accelerated High School.

NHS Student Receives Character Counts Scholarship

Northwest High School senior Rachel Smith has been chosen as Northwest High School’s recipient for the Character Counts Scholarship through Stephens, Bastian and Cartwright, LLP. Smith was nominated by NHS faculty and elected by a committee on the basis of outstanding character. She will be recognized during a presentation on April 24 and will receive a \$2,500 scholarship.

PHOTO CAPTION [Rachel]: Rachel Smith, Northwest High School senior, has been selected as a Character Counts Scholarship recipient through Stephens, Bastian and Cartwright, LLP.

Roanoke Elementary School Wins the Speeding to Read Challenge

Roanoke Elementary School won the Texas Motor Speedway Speeding to Read Challenge. Clara Love, Kay Granger, Samuel Beck, Sendera Ranch, Roanoke, J.C. Thompson, Prairie View, Haslet and Carl E. Schluter elementary schools competed with an elementary campus in Denton and Eagle Mountain-Saginaw ISD in this year’s reading incentive program. Each of the 11 schools were split into divisions. More than one million books have been read by students at the 11 campuses.

The Speeding to Read program began three years ago as an incentive to encourage elementary school students to read more frequently throughout the school year. This year’s contest had three divisions, each based off of enrollment size and student body demographics, to determine a champion for kindergarten through second grade and third through fifth grade.

PHOTO CAPTION [Roanoke]: NASCAR star Kyle Busch presents the winning Speeding to Read trophy to Roanoke Elementary School Principal Kristi King.

PHOTO CAPTION [winning car design2]: Samuel Beck Elementary School fourth grader Whitney Thomason wins the design a die-cast competition. Thomason's artwork is featured on the car behind her.

NISD Announces New Summer Camp Opportunity

Northwest ISD is proud to present a new summer camp, Camp ECO, at the Outdoor Learning Center. Camp ECO (Experiencing the Challenges of Outdoors) is targeted for current NISD students entering first through fifth grades. From archery and rock climbing to geocaching and fishing, students will explore hands-on activities that will enhance their leadership and survival skills. Camp ECO is June 11-13 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at NISD's Outdoor Learning Center. The cost of the camp is \$155, and sibling discounts are available. Early drop-off is available, and shuttles will be available from Northwest and Byron Nelson high schools. To register, go to <https://nisdtx.revtrak.net>. Registration closes April 30.

Camp ECO is looking to employ student workers for this year's camp. Applicants must be 15 years old at the time of employment and must not have graduated. Applications can be found at https://ats1.searchsoft.net/ats/app_login?COMPANY_ID=00005672. For more information, contact cbraswell@nisdtx.org.

April School Board Meetings

A Northwest ISD budget workshop is scheduled at 5:45 p.m. on Monday, April 14 followed by a school board meeting at 7 p.m. The next school board meeting will be held on Monday, April 28 at 7 p.m. All board meetings are held at the NISD Administration Building (2001 Texan Drive, Justin, 76247).

NISD to Host Suicide Awareness and Prevention Meeting

Northwest ISD is hosting a suicide awareness and prevention meeting on Monday, April 28 from 6-6:45 p.m. at the NISD Administration Building (2001 Texan Drive, Justin, 76247). Parents of students PreK through 12th grade are encouraged to attend. Phyllis Finley from the Denton County MHMR Center will present parents with a working knowledge of how to identify signs and symptoms of a youth in crisis or at risk for suicide. Interventions as well as community resources will be shared at the meeting.

Gen TX Day in NISD

GenTX Day is a statewide promotion that encourages everyone to wear a college T-shirt to celebrate the students of Generation TX. On Friday, May 2, NISD is encouraging students at all campuses to wear a college T-shirt to promote higher education.

NISD to Host TechnoPalooza – A Summer Conference for Educators

NISD's TechnoPalooza promises to teach educators how to integrate learning with technology. On July 30-31, educators across the state have an opportunity to attend the TechnoPalooza conference at Byron Nelson High School (2775 Bobcat Boulevard, Trophy Club, 76262). The conference will feature:

- presentations for the first-time educator to the veteran teacher,
- keynote speaker Dr. Sheryl Absire, Chief Technology Officer, Calcasieu Parish Schools,
- giveaways,
- t-shirts,
- food trucks
- and the opportunity to pre-register for the 2015 TechnoPalooza Conference featuring keynote speaker Dave Burgess.

For more information and to register, go to <http://palooza.nisdtx.org/>. More details about the conference will be featured on the conference mobile app and will include session descriptions, a map and more.

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.

Enrollment Online Begins April 21 for New Students

Beginning April 21, Enrollment Online will be available for students new to Northwest ISD. This includes incoming kindergarten students. Kindergarten Round-Up is April 28-May 2. 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. Parents of returning students can begin the registration process on July 14.

Enrollment Online is available for use on a laptop or desktop computer using Internet Explorer. Please make sure compatibility mode is enabled. Campuses will have computers available for use for households without Internet. Beginning April 28, an Enrollment Online help desk will be set up at the NISD Administration Building (2001 Texan Drive, Justin, 76247) from the hours of 8-5.

Please note, a child should be enrolled by a parent, guardian or a person with control under a court order. If someone other than a parent, guardian or person with control under a court order is listed on enrollment forms, a Power of Attorney form must be notarized, signed and returned. A Power of Attorney is a written document in which the student's parent/guardian authorizes a third party to make decisions for the student on behalf of the parent/guardian.

NISD Presents the Night of No Limits

NISD proudly presents the second annual Night of No Limits on May 29 from 6-8 p.m. at Byron Nelson High School (2775 Bobcat Boulevard, Trophy Club, 76262). Kindergarten through high school students will present their inquiry projects and problem-based learning experiences. Families can engage in hands-on, interactive exhibits from the Perot Museum. Meteorologist Jeff Jamison will also showcase the Mobile 11 Storm Chasing vehicle.

NISD to Host Second Annual Back to School Fair

Northwest ISD is partnering with Communities in Schools to host the second annual Back to School Fair on Saturday, August 9 from 9 a.m. to noon at Northwest High School (2301 Texan Drive, Justin, 76247). This year's fair will provide school supplies and assistance to families who need extra assistance based on their financial need (verified by their registration for free or reduced lunch). To register, go to <http://tinyurl.com/back2schoolfair>. To make a tax-deductible donation, an in-kind contribution or to sponsor a family, go to www.cisnt.org.

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