



## School Notes

For Immediate Release  
April 30, 2014

### NISD School Notes, April 30 – May 29

#### **Students Recommend Colors and Mascot for High School Three**

In preparation for the opening of V.R. Eaton High School, Northwest ISD has been working with a committee made up of students, parents, community members and staff to begin establishing a vibrant and tradition-based culture that is vital for any school. At the April 28 school board meeting, students recommended the mascot, the eagle, and the colors green and blue. Northwest ISD will open V.R. Eaton High School, the district's third comprehensive high school, in August 2015.

#### **NISD's Linda Parker, Ed.D. Named Executive Director of Secondary Education**

At the April 28 school board meeting, Superintendent Karen G. Rue, Ed.D. recommended Linda Parker, Ed.D. as the Executive Director of Secondary Education. Parker is currently the principal of Byron Nelson High School and had led the student and staff at Byron Nelson High School since the doors opened in 2009. She has worked in Northwest ISD since 2001 and has previously served students and staff in Boyd and O'Donnell ISDs. Parker will finish the school year as principal at Byron Nelson High School. A new principal will be named before the end of the current school year.

PHOTO CAPTION: Linda Parker, Ed.D. has been named NISD's Executive Director of Secondary Education.

#### **NISD Educators and Community Are Changing the Conversation about Public Schools**

At the April 28 school board meeting, the NISD Board of Trustees recognized a group of roughly 39 community members and 74 staff members for participating in the school district's first community and staff ambassador training academy. NISD partnered with Friends of Texas Public Schools to offer this unique training opportunity. The academy provided a look behind the curtain to learn what is really impacting schools and how the community and staff, as leaders, can advocate for public education.

PHOTO CAPTION: The Northwest ISD Board of Trustees recognized community members for being a part of the first ambassador training academy.

PHOTO CAPTION: Northwest ISD staff members participated in the district's first staff ambassador training academy this year. Graduates were recognized at the school board meeting on April 28.

#### **BNHS Named Among Top Schools in Texas**

Byron Nelson High School is one of eleven Tarrant County area high schools in the top 150 schools in Texas. The U.S. News and World Report 2014 Best High School rankings were released last Friday, and Byron Nelson High School ranks 105. There are approximately 1,492 reviews on high schools in Texas.

"We are so excited," said Principal Linda Parker, Ed.D. "We have high standards for teaching and learning in Northwest ISD. This is affirmation of what we can do when we have a focused approach to teaching and learning."

#### **Elementary Schools Partner to Clean Up the Town**

During the month of April, NISD students have learned about Earth Day, the importance of recycling, saving energy, cleaning up litter and more. On April 25, kindergarten students from Samuel Beck Elementary School and Trophy Club Mayor Connie White met kindergarten students from Lakeview Elementary School along the town's bike path for a picnic lunch. After discussing the importance of picking up trash to improve the community, the students picked up trash along the path as they walked back to their campuses.

PHOTO CAPTION [trash pickup]: Samuel Beck Elementary School kindergartners teamed up with students from Lakeview Elementary School to pick up trash along the Trophy Club bike paths.

**NISD Announces STEM Showcase**

The Academy of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) invites community members to the annual STEM Showcase on Thursday, May 15. From engineering to mathematics projects, watch as students showcase their best work from the 2013-14 school year. The event will be held at Northwest High School (2301 Texan Drive, Justin, 76247, east entrance) from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

**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.

**Enrollment Online Available for New Students**

Enrollment Online is now available for students new to Northwest ISD. This includes incoming kindergarten students. . 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 is 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 of North Texas 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](http://www.cisnt.org).

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