



## School Notes

For Immediate Release

May 14, 2014

### NISD School Notes, May 14 – June 6

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

The NISD community has elected to fill three seats on the NISD Board of Trustees. Incumbent Devonna Holland was elected to Place 5. Lillian Rauch was elected to Place 6. Incumbent Mel Fuller was elected to Place 7. Elected board members will be sworn in at the May 27 school board meeting.

#### **NISD's Ron Myers, Ph.D. Named Principal of Byron Nelson High School**

Ron Myers, Ph.D. has been named the principal of Byron Nelson High School. Currently, Myers is the associate principal at BNHS. Prior to, he was the principal of NISD's O.A. Peterson Elementary School. Dr. Myers replaces Linda Parker, Ed.D. who was named NISD's Executive Director of Secondary Education. He will begin to transition into his role as principal this spring.

PHOTO CAPTION [ron\_myers]: At the May 12 school board meeting, Ron Myers, Ed.D. was named the principal of Byron Nelson High School.

#### **NISD's Mary Seltzer Named Principal of Lakeview Elementary School**

Mary Seltzer will take the lead as principal of Lakeview Elementary School. Currently, Seltzer serves as the assistant principal of NISD's Samuel Beck Elementary School. She has been in Northwest ISD since 2007 and has taught at Chisholm Trail and Medlin middle schools, as well as W.R. Hatfield Elementary School. Seltzer replaces Stephanie Espinosa, Ed.D. who was named NISD's Executive Director of Curriculum and Staff Development earlier this spring. She will transition into her new role as principal this spring.

PHOTO CAPTION [mary\_seltzer]: Mary Seltzer will take the lead as principal of NISD's Lakeview Elementary School.

#### **NISD Culinary Team Places Seventh in the Nation**

For the third consecutive year, the Academy of Culinary Arts advanced to the National ProStart Invitational. The culinary team took seventh place in the nation. This is the third year the team has placed in the top ten. Earlier this year, the culinary team placed first and the management team placed second in the state competition.

#### **NISD's Linda Parker, Ed.D. Named Jostens Renaissance Educator of the Year**

On Friday, May 9, Jostens recognized NISD's Linda Parker, Ed.D. as a Jostens Renaissance 2014 Educator of the Year. Parker has been the principal of Byron Nelson High School since the opening in 2009. Most recently she was named the Executive Director of Secondary Education. Jostens honors educators, counselors and administrators who have demonstrated superior performance and achievement in the operation of their school's Jostens Renaissance program, a program designed to improve K-12 school culture and climate, boost morale and increase graduation ranks. Dr. Parker is one of five educators to receive this national award and will be recognized at the Jostens Renaissance National Conference in July.

PHOTO CAPTION: Linda Parker, Ed.D. has been recognized by Jostens as the Jostens Renaissance 2014 Educator of the Year.

**BNHS French Students Earn National Recognition**

Byron Nelson High School's Merryl Kibibi and John-Stephanie Kouam received two national medal awards in the National French contest. Kibibi received a bronze medal level three (second year to achieve national recognition) and Kouam received a bronze medal level five (third consecutive year to achieve national recognition). Three students, Musela Lecane, Elle Langley and Teresa Assama, received an 'honors certificate' for placing higher than the 80<sup>th</sup> percentile in their level. Approximately 18 students received 'merit certificates' for placing higher than the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile. This is a new record for the BNHS French students. Teacher, Kyle Blonde, was recognized as an AATF National Laureate Teacher based on the number of students ranking at high levels in the contest. This is the second year Blonde has achieved this national honor.

**NHS Speech and Debate Students Receive State Awards**

Northwest High School's Ashleigh Allison competed in the state finals of the Rotary Club Four Way Test Speech and won first place. In addition, she received a \$1,000 scholarship and will be a guest speaker for the Rotary this summer. This is the second year a Northwest High School student has won first place.

The NHS speech and debate team competed in Lubbock at the 5A UIL Academic meet and sophomore Andy Smith was undefeated in LD Debate and won regionals advancing him to the state tournament on May 19-21 in Austin. Junior Alexa Dilone competed in Poetry and won third place overall in the region and will also advance to state. Sophomore Austin Hille competed in Prose and placed fourth overall in the region and is a state alternate.

**NISD Student Councils Receive Awards**

The Texas Association of Student Councils (TASC) has recognized Northwest High School's student council for the following awards:

- Outstanding Student Council Award
- DASH (Drugs, Alcohol, Safety and Health) Award
- Energy and Environment Award
- Pride and Patriotism Award
- Community Service Award
- Sweepstakes Award

The TASC outstanding school recognition program is designed to set a standard of excellence for Texas student councils. Northwest High School is one of 20% of TASC member schools recognized in one or more areas.

In addition, Kay Granger Elementary School has received the Honor Student Council School of Excellence Award from the National Association of Elementary School Principals. Granger's student council received this award based on their student leadership and community service.

**NISD Awarded a \$3,000 Grant from TASB**

Northwest ISD is the recipient of a \$3,000 grant as part of the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Lost Prevention Grant Program. In January, a grant was submitted to purchase portable automated external defibrillator (AED) unites for the maintenance vehicles that work in the district's Outdoor Learning Center. TASB will present NISD a with a plaque for the award.

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

Northwest ISD recognized 27 Leadership NISD participants at a reception and graduation at the School Board meeting on May 12. 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 2014-2015 school year, please call 817-215-0175.

PHOTO CAPTION [leadership\_grad]: NISD Superintendent Karen G. Rue, Ed.D. and Board President Mel Fuller recognized 27 Leadership NISD graduates at the May 12 meeting.

**District to Host Presentation on College for Spanish Speakers and First Generation Students**

Northwest ISD and North Central Texas College will host a presentation about college for Spanish speakers and first generation college bound students on May 19 from 6-7:30 p.m. in the Northwest High School Lecture Hall. All middle school and high school parents are encouraged to attend. NCTC's Bilingual Parent College Seminar will provide parents and interested students with information on admissions, financial aid and more. For more information, call Norma Garcia at 817-698-1324.

**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 20 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 22 at 7 p.m. at the Vernon Solomon Performing Arts Center at Northwest High School (2201 Texan Drive, Justin, 76247).

**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 Now for New Students**

Enrollment Online is 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.

**District Campuses and Offices Closed**

NISD district offices and campuses will be closed on Monday, May 26 for Memorial Day. Classes will resume on Tuesday, May 27.

**May School Board Meeting**

A Northwest ISD budget workshop is on Tuesday, May 27 at 7 p.m. All board meetings are held at the NISD Administration Building (2001 Texan Drive, Justin, 76247).

**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.

**BNHS Football Booster Club Hosts Golf Tournament**

The Byron Nelson High School football booster club is hosting a golf tournament on Thursday, June 12 at 2 p.m. at Trophy Club Country Club. For more information, contact Barry Huizenga at [blhuizenga@duininck.com](mailto:blhuizenga@duininck.com) or at 817-223-9102.

**Early Release Days and Last Day of School**

Thursday, June 5 and Friday, June 6 are scheduled early dismissal days in Northwest ISD. School will dismiss at the following times:

Elementary - 12:15 p.m.

Steele AHS - 1:05 p.m.

NHS and BNHS - 1:15 p.m.

Middle - 2 p.m.

The last day of school is Friday, June 6.

**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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