



## School Notes

For Immediate Release  
May 20, 2015

### NISD School Notes, May 20 – August 15

#### **NHS Debate Students Win 10th in Nation**

Northwest High School junior Austin Hille and Jonathan McNamee placed in the top 10 in the National Individual Events Tournament of Champions in Nebraska. After an intense round of competitions, Hille and McNamee advanced to the semi-finals where they placed 10<sup>th</sup> overall in the nation. The tournament sees hundreds of competitors from across the nation. Because of this national achievement, Hille automatically is qualified to compete in the national tournament next year in Colorado.

PHOTO CAPTION [pic1]: Austin Hille and Jonathan McNamee, Northwest High School speech students, placed 10<sup>th</sup> in the National Individual Events Tournament of Champions in Nebraska.

#### **Two NISD Elementary Schools Receive National Character Award**

Samuel Beck and Lakeview elementary schools are the recipients of a Promising Practices Award from Character.org. The campuses received this award for an effective strategy used to develop good character in young people. Beck is being recognized for their efforts with Beckopoly, an student-led opportunity to showcase their business talents by creating, marketing and selling products or services to their peers and the community. Lakeview was selected for their Bobcat Buddies program, consisting of 24 fifth grade students matched with eight of the self-contained special education students. The students commit to being a peer pal one day a week during their recess to assist their buddy around school. Lakeview and Beck represent two of four schools in the state to achieve this award. Character.org will honor the 2015 Promising Practices recipients at the annual Forum in Atlanta, GA, where they will share their successful strategies with other educators.

#### **STEM Students Receive Third Place in Claycomb Student Architecture Contest**

High school students across the state were charged with designing an ideal career and technical training classroom as part of the 2015 TASB/Claycomb Student Architecture Contest. Northwest High School juniors and Academy of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) students Keellie Quinn, Elizabeth Helfer and Diana Muhametaj received third place for their horticulture classroom building design. The students were judged on the overall design, sustainability and innovation. Representatives from Claycomb and the Texas Association of School Board (TASB) surprised the STEM students with the award and a \$250 check. This is the second year Northwest High School STEM students have placed in the architecture contest. Last year, NISD students received third place and honorable mention.

PHOTO CAPTION [Claycomb\_check]: Northwest High School Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics juniors (left to right) Diana Muhametaj, Elizabeth Helfer and Keellie Quinn received third place in the Claycomb Architecture Contest.

#### **Business Academy Students Receive Hands-on Experience at Multinational Company**

Nationally award winning business academy students from Byron Nelson High School toured Ericsson for a hands-on experience at the multinational communications technology services company. Ericsson employees provided business lessons, with advice and a question and answer session. Students were able to visit the Ericsson technology lab where they could interact with some of the latest technology that will be available in the next five years.

“Students were incredibly engaged throughout the whole time,” said business academy teacher Antonio Banos. “They were blown away by everything that was presented to them.”

Pictures Provided – Image 2 and 3

**NISD FFA Student Selected Area President**

Byron Nelson High School Future Farmers of America (FFA) student Dalton Howard was recently elected president of the Area V FFA Association. Howard will represent more than 12,000 members in 135 FFA chapters being led by 236 agriculture science teachers/FFA advisors. This is the first time a BNHS student has had the Area V president title. To be selected, Howard had to compete and be elected in District VII FFA with a test, interview, written composition, speech and popular vote. After being elected, he once again had to complete the same requirements against the best of Area V FFA.

**I Love NISD**

Share with Northwest ISD your child's achievement, why you selected Northwest ISD, some of your favorite initiatives and programs in the school district and more. We want to hear from you! Go to [www.nisdtx.org/whyilovenisd](http://www.nisdtx.org/whyilovenisd).

**Monday, May 25 is a Bad Weather Make-up Day**

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) is requiring school districts that used days for inclement weather to make up two days in order to apply for a waiver for the third missed day. Northwest ISD used Friday, April 3 as the first make-up day. The second make-up day will be Memorial Day, Monday, May 25. The Texas Education Agency has approved a waiver for the third missed day of instruction. For more information about the district calendar, go to [www.nisdtx.org/calendars](http://www.nisdtx.org/calendars).

**May School Board Meetings**

A Northwest ISD school board meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 26 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 third annual Night of No Limits on May 28 from 6-8 p.m. at Byron Nelson High School (2775 Bobcat Boulevard, Trophy Club, 76262). Kindergarten through high school students will present their best inquiry projects and problem-based learning experiences. Families can experience the Perot Museum's Portable Universe and Meteorologist Jeff Jamison will also showcase the Mobile 11 Storm Chasing vehicle. All of NISD's Academies will be present to highlight their programs as well. Please join us for a night showcasing the extraordinary learning that happens throughout NISD.

**Council of PTA's to Host Vendor Fair**

The Northwest ISD Council of PTA is hosting a Vendor Fair on Saturday, May 30 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at James M. Steele Accelerated High School (606 N. Walnut Street, Roanoke, 76262). There will be free door prizes announced every half hour and free tote bags for the first 200 attendees. If you are interested in operating a booth, please contact Michelle Smith at [bamochev@verizon.net](mailto:bamochev@verizon.net). All vendor fees benefit the four high schools in NISD to provide a Council of PTA scholarship each spring.

**Early Release Days Scheduled for First Week of June**

Thursday, June 4 and Friday, June 5 are scheduled early dismissal days in Northwest ISD. School will dismiss at the following times:

Elementary - 12:15 p.m.

Steele AHS/Special Programs Center - 1:05 p.m.

NHS and BNHS - 1:15 p.m.

Middle - 2 p.m.

The last day of school is Friday, June 5.

**NISD Graduations**

Graduation ceremonies for the Class of 2015 are as follows:

- James M. Steele Accelerated High School's graduation ceremony will be held Thursday, June 4 at 7 p.m. at the Northwest High School Performing Arts Center (PAC).
- Byron Nelson High School's commencement is Tuesday, June 9 at 3 p.m. at the University of North Texas Coliseum in Denton.
- Northwest High School's commencement is Tuesday, June 9 at 7 p.m. University of North Texas Coliseum in Denton.

**District Announces Summer School Opportunities**

NISD offers a variety of programs for pre-kindergarten through high school students to enhance their educational experience in the summer. Registration is now available for summer opportunities for students. To view a listing of courses and for information on how to register, go to <http://www.nisdtx.org/Page/1262>.

**NISD to Host Third Annual Back to School Fair**

Northwest ISD is partnering with United Way of Denton County to host the third annual Northwest Back to School Fair on Saturday, August 15 from 9 a.m. to noon, at Pike Middle School (2200 Texan Drive, Justin, 76247). School supplies will be distributed to families who need extra assistance, based on their financial need (verified by their registration for free or reduced lunch), at the Northwest Back to School Fair where they can also receive free services, community health information and get to know local service providers. By partnering with individuals, businesses, and community organizations, we hope to provide these students in Northwest ISD with a set of age appropriate school supplies and a new backpack.

We Need Your Help! Please consider partnering with us and conducting a school supply drive for loose supplies or participate in our Stuff the Bag Campaign and help us ‘stuff the bus’ on August 6.

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