



School Notes

For Immediate Release
July 23, 2014

NISD School Notes, July 23 – August 26

Media Note: NISD Communications Department/Administration Building Summer Hours

The Northwest ISD Administration Building is operating under summer hours. The building will be open from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday. The regular five-day work schedule will resume on Monday, August 11.

NISD Partners with Eight DFW School Districts to Transform Public Education

With a mission to transform schools, nine Dallas/Fort Worth area school districts, including Northwest ISD, attended the first North Texas Visioning Conference in Allen ISD on July 22-23. The conference hosted North Texas educators from the North Texas Regional Consortium. These nine school districts have a vision to move the education system into a forward-thinking system that prepares students for their futures. The Consortium formed as a result of the Visioning Institute, a group of school district superintendents brought together by the Texas Association of School Administrators and the Texas Leadership Center.

The conference featured keynote speakers and educational leaders Diane Ravitch and Young Zhao and included breakout sessions featuring topics such as community-based accountability, digital learning, multiple measures of assessment, designing learning, capacity building and more.

PHOTO CAPTION [conference.jpg]: Superintendent Karen G. Rue, Ed.D. discusses the history of the Visioning Institute during a presentation with three other DFW superintendents at the first North Texas Visioning Conference on July 22.

PHOTO CAPTION [conference2.jpg]: NISD administrators collaborate and engage in discussions during a breakout session at the first North Texas Visioning Conference in Allen ISD on July 22.

Returning Student Registration Available on District's Website

Returning student registration is now available for current NISD 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.

An Enrollment Online help desk is available at the NISD Administration Building (2001 Texan Drive, Justin, 76247) from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call 817- 698-1099. 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.

NISD Volunteer System Receives Enhancements

Volunteers can now submit their volunteer background check forms for the 2014-2015 school year. Parents and other volunteers who plan to work with children in NISD schools must pass a criminal background check prior to volunteering. The Northwest Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS) system is a one-stop-shop for district stakeholders. The newly improved system includes background checks and captures complete volunteer interest profiles. This web-based, interactive contact center enables volunteers to update contact details, preferences and match volunteer opportunities to parents and the community.

Access the new VIPS system at www.nisdtx.org and click the VIPS link under Quick Links. For more information, contact NISD Partners in Education Specialist Phil Beckman at 817-215-0172.

NISD Summer Camps Underway

Northwest ISD offers a wide variety of summer school and sports camps and enrichment classes during the summer.

The following photo opportunities are available for the week of July 28 – August 1:

- ***Theatre Camp***
July 21-August 8, 10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. (grades 6-11)
Byron Nelson High School
This two-week intense acting/technical camp is designed for students interested in acting and being involved in the scenic/technical elements of theatre. Students will explore advanced acting techniques and will work on a full-length production.
- ***Technical Theatre: To Infinity and Beyond***
July 21-August 8, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. (grades 6-8)
Northwest High School
Students will become familiar with every aspect of technical theatre, while receiving hands-on training from the student facility crew and facility manager for the Vernon Solomon Performing Arts Center. Students will work with state-of-the-art lighting and sound equipment, learn the fundamentals to stage rigging and will leave ready and prepared to be the main operation crew for the NISD middle school musical *The Little Mermaid Jr.* This is a new camp NISD is offering for middle school students.

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 support based on their financial need (verified by their registration for free or reduced lunch). To make a tax-deductible donation, an in-kind contribution or to sponsor a family, go to www.cisnt.org.

Plan Ahead for the 2014-2015 School Year

The first day of school for the 2014-2015 school year is Tuesday, August 26. All registration information and back to school news can be found at www.nisdtx.org/backtoschool.

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