



## School Notes

For Immediate Release  
August 13, 2014

### NISD School Notes, August 13 – September 2

#### **NISD Welcomes 240+ New Teachers to the District**

Northwest ISD greeted 241 new teachers during the New Teacher Academy this week. Teachers new to NISD spent the week in a series of professional development trainings, visiting with mentor teachers and at a breakfast provided by Title Sponsor the Northwest ISD Education Foundation. Following the breakfast, new teachers completed an Ambassador Training provided by Friends of Texas Public Schools. The training offers a look behind the curtain to learn what is really impacting schools and how the community and staff, as leaders, can advocate for education and make their voice heard.

PHOTO CAPTION [Peterson Elementary]: New teachers at Peterson Elementary School pose for a picture at NISD's New Teacher Breakfast on August 12.

#### **Back to School Fair Provides Assistance to 314 Families**

On Saturday, August 9, 314 families attended Northwest ISD's annual Back to School Fair, hosted by NISD Partners in Education and Communities in Schools North Texas. This year's fair provided supplies and free services (such as physicals, haircuts and health screenings) to approximately 754 students. Thanks to the generations donations and community support, there were 55 volunteers, 30 vendors and a total of 1,445 backpacks and supplies sets for students pre-kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

The Northwest ISD Partners in Education program was created to establish partnerships between our schools, businesses, students, teachers and the community. NISD values the support from our partners in education. Together we are working in community to prepare students to be successful and productive citizens. For more information about NISD Partners in Education (PIE) or to become an official partner, go to [www.nisdtx.org/pie](http://www.nisdtx.org/pie).

PHOTO CAPTION [fair]: Northwest ISD families took advantage of free haircuts provided by NISD cosmetology academy students at the district's annual Back to School Fair on August 9.

#### **NHS Senior Accepted to Rising Star Program**

Last spring, Northwest High School senior Anais Arceneaux Donald gained acceptance to the Rising Star program at the Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD), in Savannah, Georgia. After spending her summer taking two very challenging college courses, Donald successfully completed the five-week program on July 25, earning 10 hours of college credit. Due to her academic excellence in the program, she is eligible for early admission to SCAD. The credits she earned apply directly to a degree at SCAD, but are also transferrable.

Participation in the program provided her the opportunity to study in a very different part of the United States and attend classes with students from all over the world. She describes it as the best experience of her life and made many friends and connections. As a fourth year student in the Academy of Media Arts and Technology (AMAT), Donald will graduate with the class of 2015 and hopes to pursue a degree in film.

#### **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 version nine or higher, Google Chrome or Safari. Please make sure compatibility mode is enabled. Campuses will have computers available for use for households without Internet.

**Register to be a Volunteer in NISD Schools**

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. Volunteers can now submit their volunteer background check forms for the 2014-2015 school year. 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](http://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 Offers Movax Immunization Clinics**

State law requires students attending public schools to have up-to-date immunizations. As a convenience to families, Northwest ISD is hosting Movax Immunization Clinics during the month of August. The cost per child is \$20 for one vaccine, \$25 for two and \$30 for three or more. Children need to bring current shot records, and a parent/guardian must be present. For a list of dates, times and locations, go to [www.nisdtx.org](http://www.nisdtx.org).

**Plan Ahead for the 2014-2015 School Year**

The first day of school is Tuesday, August 26. Get information about campus meet the teacher nights, school supplies and more at [www.nisdtx.org/backtoschool](http://www.nisdtx.org/backtoschool).

**NISD Closed in Observance of Labor Day**

Northwest ISD will be closed Monday, September 1 for Labor Day. Classes will resume on Tuesday, September 2.

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