



## School Notes

For Immediate Release  
September 17, 2014

### NISD School Notes, September 17 – October 14

#### **Three NISD Schools Compete in Speeding to Read Challenge**

J.C. Thompson, Sonny and Allegra Nance and Roanoke elementary schools traveled to Texas Motor Speedway on September 10 to kick off the 2014 Speeding to Read Challenge. Northwest schools will compete against elementary campuses in Denton, Eagle Mountain-Saginaw and Fort Worth ISD in this year's reading incentive program. The Dollar General Literacy Foundation and NASCAR Spring Cup Series star Matt Kenseth donated \$1,000 and a case of books during last week's kickoff assembly.

The Speeding to Read program began four years ago as an incentive to encourage elementary school students to read more frequently throughout the school year. This year's contest will have three divisions, each based off of enrollment size and student body demographics, to determine a champion for kindergarten through second grade and third through fifth grade.

PHOTO CAPTION [SpeedingtoReadKickoff]: Roanoke Elementary School fourth grader Natalie Burraston asks NASCAR Spring Cup Series star Matt Kenseth a question during the Speeding to Read kickoff assembly on September 10.

#### **Shears of Steele Salon Opens to the Public**

On September 16, the Shears of Steele Salon, located at James M. Steele Accelerated High School, officially opened its doors for business. Construction finished and the salon was revealed to students and community members in August 2013. After a year of state-mandated training, the salon is officially open and ready for customers. To schedule an appointment, call the salon at 817-698-5820 or email [shearsofsteel@nisdtx.org](mailto:shearsofsteel@nisdtx.org). An updated price list is posted at: [http://moodle.nisdtx.org/pluginfile.php/494551/mod\\_resource/content/1/Price%20Board%202014-2015.pdf](http://moodle.nisdtx.org/pluginfile.php/494551/mod_resource/content/1/Price%20Board%202014-2015.pdf).

PHOTO CAPTION [hairdry]: Cosmetology Academy student Tommy Bryson styles Steele Accelerated High School graduate Stephanie Coffman's hair on opening day at the Shears of Steele Salon.

#### **PIE Shares Ways to Connect with NISD at United for Kids Rally**

PIE hosted a rally to engage community members on ways to get connected with NISD on September 16. Attendees listened as organizations shared their experiences volunteering in NISD schools and received an opportunity to speak with a campus representative to learn how to get plugged in.

PHOTO CAPTION [luncheon]: Northwest ISD parent Anthony Luedicke shares why he mentors in NISD schools at the United for Kids Luncheon on September 16.

#### **NISD's Rory Peacock Named Director of Instructional Technology**

Northwest ISD is proud to announce Rory Peacock as the district's new director of instructional technology. Peacock has been the district's coordinator of instructional technology for the past year. He has also served as an instructional technology specialist and a fifth grade math and science teacher in Northwest ISD. Peacock has already begun the transition into his new role as director of instructional technology in Northwest ISD.

PHOTO CAPTION [Rory Peacock]: NISD's Rory Peacock has been named the new director of instructional technology.

**NISD to Offer Free ACT to Seniors**

On September 30, Northwest ISD will offer the ACT test to senior students at no cost. The ACT test consists of four multiple choice tests: English, mathematics, reading and science. In addition, there is also a writing test. For more information on registration, students are encouraged to see their campus counselor. Tips for taking the ACT can be found here: <http://www.nisdtx.org/Page/53251>.

**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 Middle Schools Present Disney's "The Little Mermaid, Jr."**

Northwest ISD is proud to present its seventh annual middle school musical Disney's "The Little Mermaid Jr." Performances will be held September 19-20 at 7 p.m. and September 20 at 2 p.m. at Vernon Solomon Performing Arts Center (2301 Texan Drive, Justin, 76247). Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. To make reservations, call 817-215-0268.

**Annual 'Run in the Dark' to Benefit Local Families**

The Community Storehouse is hosting the annual Run in the Dark 5K/1-Mile Fun Run Saturday, September 20 at 7 p.m. This year's race will be held at Alliance Airport. Your participation will benefit NISD and other area families. The Storehouse Cup will be awarded to the campus with the largest school team participation. For more information, go to <http://www.runinthedarkdfw.com/>.

**NISD School Board Meetings**

The Northwest ISD Board of Trustees will meet on Monday, September 23 at 7 p.m. at the NISD Administration Building (2001 Texan Drive, Fort Worth, 76177).

**NISD Sets Early Release Times for October 10**

Northwest ISD will dismiss early on Friday, October 10 at the following times:

- Elementary Schools: 12:15 p.m.
- Steele Accelerated High School: 1:05 p.m.
- Northwest and Byron Nelson High Schools: 1:15 p.m.
- Middle Schools: 2 p.m.

Monday, October 13 is a student holiday. Classes will resume Tuesday, October 14.

**NISD Offers Gold Card Program**

To show appreciation for years of support, Northwest ISD provides senior citizens living in the district the opportunity to be part of the district's Gold Card program. In addition to a free annual luncheon, Gold Card members receive free entry into district-sponsored events, performances, and athletic competitions. If you are 65 years of age or older, become a member of the NISD Gold Card program today. To join and reserve your seat at the luncheon on October 14, please call 817-215-0175.

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