



School Notes

For Immediate Release
September 24, 2014

NISD School Notes, September 24 – October 14

Pike Middle School Chamber Orchestra Wins National Award

The Gene Pike Middle School Chamber Orchestra has been named a commended winner in the Mark of Excellence Music Competition. The Mark of Excellence Recorded Music Contest offers bands, choirs and orchestras the unprecedented opportunity to earn national recognition for their musical achievement. This is the first time a Northwest ISD musical group has won this national recognition.

PHOTO CAPTION [pike chamber]: The Gene Pike Middle School Chamber Orchestra is a commended winner in the Mark of Excellence Music Competition. This is the first time NISD has achieved this honor.

The Conversation Starts Now!

Throughout the school year, NISD counselors and educators will focus on social/emotional topics to educate our students about awareness and prevention. September is National Suicide Prevention Month. This month, students will focus on how to request help and making healthy choices. As we strive to prepare students for life's challenges, we invite you to join in these same conversations at home by reading NISD's Real Talks. To read Real Talks, go to <http://www.nisdtx.org/Page/54112>.

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

NISD School Board Meetings

The Northwest ISD Board of Trustees will meet on Monday, October 13 and Monday, October 27 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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