



School Notes

For Immediate Release
November 19, 2014

NISD School Notes, November 19 – January 6

Please Note: Northwest ISD offices and campuses will be closed the week of November 24-28 for Thanksgiving break. There will not be an issue of School Notes on November 26. Classes will resume and offices will open on Monday, December 1.

Superintendent Rue Selected to Represent NISD at National White House Summit

Northwest ISD's Superintendent of Schools Karen G. Rue, Ed.D. is one of 100 selected for the national Connected Superintendents Summit at the White House. Rue will travel to D.C. to participate in this first-ever summit on Wednesday, November 19. She is among exemplary local school chiefs who will be recognized for their leadership in helping their school districts transition to digital learning. The White House summit will be followed by a series of 12-15 regional summits that will focus on the digital progress both made and possible by local school districts.

Steele Accelerated High School Wins \$40K to Flip This Class

Steele Accelerated High School is the recipient of a \$40,000 grant from BKM to 'flip a classroom.' The Flip this Classroom contest is sponsored by BKM and provides classroom furniture. Any sixth through 12 grade classroom in the Dallas/Fort Worth area is eligible. Students in Rachele Cooper's elective class at Steele explained why their class needed a new layout and how it could help students do what they need to do better. BKM representatives presented the grant during a surprise school wide assembly on November 19.

PHOTO CAPTION [Steele Grant BKM]: Steele Accelerated High School yearbook students pose with the \$40,000 check presented by BKM to "Flip a Classroom."

NHS Student Selected to All State Jazz Band

Ben Drinkwater, Northwest High School band senior, was selected to perform in the Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA) All State Jazz Band. This is the highest honor a high school student musician can receive in the state, and Ben is the first student from Northwest ISD to be selected to this prestigious ensemble. Out of thousands of students who auditioned, Ben was selected as one of only four bass trombonists in the state. He will perform a concert with other all state students from across the state in February at the TMEA annual convention in San Antonio.

PHOTO CAPTION [JAZZBAND]: Northwest High School senior Ben Drinkwater is the first NISD student to be selected to the All State Jazz Band.

Steele Accelerated High School Teacher Selected for Social NASA's Johnson Space Center Visit

James M. Steele Accelerated High School's Stacy Miles has been selected to participate in a Social NASA Johnson Space Center Visit. On December 3-4, Johnson will host up to 30 social media followers to NASA Johnson to highlight the first launch of the Orion Spacecraft and discuss Johnson's role in NASA's Journey to Mars. NASA social guests will tour the center and get behind-the-scenes visits to the Orion Spacecraft mockup, the iconic Mission Control Centers and the Neutral Buoyancy Laboratory, which simulates zero gravity for astronaut training. Guests will also have the chance to explore the International Space Station mockups and learn how that unique research platform contributes to our future exploration goals. Orion experts will discuss the main objectives for the first flight test and the future of the program. Also, astronauts, scientists and managers will make appearances throughout the day to share their unique perspectives.

Northwest ISD Angel Tree Program Underway

This year's Northwest ISD Partners in Education Virtual Angel Tree has more than 780 children who need assistance this holiday season. To adopt an angel, please contact Phil Beckman at PBeckman@nisdtx.org or 817-215-0172 or go to <http://angeltree.nisdtx.org/> to make an online selection. Please deliver the Angel Tree items to the NISD Administration Building (2001 Texan Drive, Fort Worth, 76177) by Friday, December 5. Partners in Education is looking for volunteers to assist with sorting and distributing gifts. If you are interested in serving, please call Phil Beckman at 817-215-0172.

We Want Your Feedback! Parent Survey Coming Soon

In the 2014-2015 parent survey, Northwest ISD is seeking feedback of parents to identify strengths and areas needing improvement at each campus. The survey will be available December 5-19 online and will focus on topics regarding campus climate, safety, communications, instructional programs and support services. Answers will remain confidential and anonymous. A parent without Internet access may access the survey at any NISD campus. A paper survey may be requested by calling 817-215-0171. Thank you in advance for your participation in helping the district work toward achieving its mission of providing all students a premier education.

NISD Closed for Thanksgiving

Northwest ISD offices and campuses will be closed the week of November 24-28 for Thanksgiving break. Classes will resume Monday, December 1.

NISD to Host 7th Annual Reindeer Romp

Northwest ISD will host the seventh annual Reindeer Romp at Byron Nelson High School (2775 Bobcat Boulevard, Trophy Club, 76262) on Saturday, December 6. The one mile fun run begins at 8:30 a.m. and the 5K race begins at 9 a.m. Proceeds benefit the NISD physical education department. For more information, go to <http://www.nisdreindeerromp.com/>.

December School Board Meeting

The December Northwest ISD school board meeting is Monday, December 8. School board meetings are held at 7 p.m. in the NISD Administration Building Board Room (2001 Texan Drive, Justin, 76247).

NISD Closed for Winter Break

Northwest ISD offices and campuses will be closed December 22 – January 2 for Winter Break. Monday, January 5 is a student holiday. Classes will resume Tuesday, January 6.

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