



School Notes

For Immediate Release
December 10, 2014

NISD School Notes, December 10 – January 22

Beck Elementary Student Named Jr. Chef

Recently, Northwest ISD students participated in a Jr. Chef competition in partnership with Aramark. Students submitted a one-of-a-kind recipe, explained why the recipe is healthy and presented a photo of the prepared meal. Beck Elementary School fifth grader Trinity Hoover has been named this year's Jr. Chef for her original recipe Veggie Quinoa Pasta Salad. Hoover will receive a cookbook and a 17-piece Curious Chef measure and prep kit with kitchen tools. In addition, her dish will be featured in all elementary cafeterias on Tuesday, December 16. Hoover's recipe was selected for its creativity, taste and explanation as to why her dish is healthy.

District Announces Holiday Greeting Card Winner

All Northwest ISD students are encouraged to enter the holiday card art competition. This year's winner is Byron Nelson High School junior Shifah Mohammed. Mohammed's art is featured as the cover artwork on the NISD 2014 holiday greeting card. The card is sent to district staff members, local businesses, state senators, state representatives and many organizations throughout the state of Texas. Runners up include Byron Nelson High School freshman Zoe Young, Tidwell Middle School sixth grader Madison Sky, Wilson Middle School eighth grader Ethan Le and Byron Nelson High School sophomore Devon Sutton.

PHOTO CAPTION [holiday card recognition]: Northwest ISD holiday greeting card winner Shifah Mohammed is pictured with runners-up, campus principals, art teachers, Board President Josh Wright and Superintendent of Schools Karen G. Rue, Ed.D. On December 8, the board honored the students for their creative artwork and design.

Bus Driver Honored at School Board Meeting

Durham School Services bus driver Heather Bowen was one of the four individuals recognized in connection to a bus fire on December 3. Thanks to Bowen's quick thinking, she was able to get all 10 students off the bus before the fire broke. Bowen was recognized by the NISD Board of Trustees and administration. In addition, the Board and district recognized three drivers who rendered aid during the recent fire: Gayla Davidson, Gary Fowler and Lani Jewett.

PHOTO CAPTION [NISD bus recognition]: NISD Board President Josh Wright and Superintendent of Schools Karen G. Rue, Ed.D. are pictured with the Durham bus driver Heather Bowen that saved ten students from the bus fire on December 3. Also pictured are Gayla Davidson and Gary Fowler who stopped to render aid.

We Want Your Feedback! Parent Survey Available December 5-19

Northwest ISD is seeking feedback of parents to identify strengths and areas needing improvement at each campus. A parent survey is 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.

BNHS Theatre Performs The Best Christmas Pageant Ever

The Byron Nelson High School theater department will perform *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* December 18-19 at 7 p.m. at the Byron Nelson High School Performing Arts Center (2775 Bobcat Boulevard, Trophy Club, 76262). Tickets are \$5, and Gold Card members will receive free entry.

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.

NISD to Host EdCamp

Northwest ISD will host EdCamp, a form of unconference designed specifically for teachers and their needs. Unlike traditional conferences, which have schedules set months in advance by the people running the conference, EdCamp has an agenda that is created by the participants at the start of the event. Instead of one person standing in front of the room talking for an hour, people are encouraged to have discussions and hands-on sessions. People could pay hundreds of dollars to attend another conference, or they could go to EdCamp for free.

EdCamps are:

- Free
- Non-commercial and conducted with a vendor-free presence
- Hosted by any organization interested in furthering the EdCamp mission
- Made up of sessions that are determined on the day of the event
- Events where anyone who attends can be a presenter
- Reliant on the “law of two feet” that encourages participants to find a session that meets their needs

NISD’s EdCamp will be held Saturday, January 17 at James M. Steele Accelerated High School (606 North Walnut Street, Ronaoke, 76262) from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Volunteers Needed for NISD’s Annual Northwest Reads

The Northwest ISD Partners in Education program is seeking volunteers for the seventh annual Northwest Reads on Friday, January 23 from 9 to 10 a.m. Participants will choose from a variety of books to read to pre-kindergarten through fifth-grade students at one of the school district’s 17 elementary schools. This event provides community members with an opportunity to inspire young NISD students to become lifelong readers. For more information, call 817-215-0172.

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