

# Weekly High Five

August 5, 2008

Welcome to the first issue of the *Weekly High Five*. This is a new publication developed by the Public Information Office for principals. First and foremost, I want to personally express my gratitude for your tireless dedication and ongoing commitment to our children and community. The stability you bring to our community is invaluable, especially through this time of transition. I am honored to serve as your interim superintendent, and I look forward to great successes this coming school year. I would like to thank our Principal Advisory Committee for their insight and recommendations for the *Weekly High Five*. Please feel free to let us know if we can improve upon our communications with you and the community.



## PAC Meeting Overview

We had a very successful PAC meeting on July 30. We were able to spend time making sure that we were all on the same page and to identify the focus for the AISD. We will carry on with our work toward vertical alignment. We also discussed building relationships on your campus. That focus will allow us to build a sense of unity. Our main goal for the year is to improve instruction. We want all students to do their very best on whatever task they are given. Other things discussed at the meeting include an appreciation of the AISD family emphasis, continuing the data analysis format and supporting principals sharing ideas with the group at principals meetings. We will continue to address the chain of communication to the superintendent and the outreach of the superintendent's office to campuses, specifically campus visits, will remain. Central office is here to support campuses. We will work together on parental concerns and how they are addressed from central office and will support principals when they enforce policies, mandates or directives. We want all the principals to get to know each other so you will be asked to sit with people that you do not know at principals meetings, in addition to the team-building activities.

## Welcome New Principals



Jennifer Young  
Arlington HS  
Formerly AP at  
Arlington HS  
B.S. - UNT, 1991  
M.Ed. - UTA, 2004



Cynthia Harbison  
Duff ES  
Formerly AP at  
Key ES  
B.S. - Texas  
Wesleyan, 1991  
M.Ed. - UTA, 1996



Melinda Reeves  
Martin HS  
Formerly principal  
at Decatur HS  
B.S. - TCU, 1977  
M.Ed. - TCU, 1984

## Business Updates

As you all are aware, we are working to finalize the budget this month. At the Board's direction, the Financial Futures Committee (FFC) has reviewed the preliminary budget and has recommended several reductions. One of the recommendations made by the FFC is a 5 percent reduction in department budgets other than payroll and certain contracts. The FFC will report their recommendations to the Board of Trustees at the August 7 Board meeting. The Board will discuss the recommendations and will determine whether to enact the recommended cuts.

## Condolences

We would like to express our condolences to the following employees in the loss of a loved one over the summer:

*Jeff and Michelle Provence* lost their baby on Aug. 3.

Mary Elizabeth Smithson-Craighead, mother of *Lynn Allen*, passed away July 10.

Bobbie D. Mitchell, mother of *Cheryl Rose* and mother-in-law of *James Rose*, passed away July 9.

Bonnie Ruth Aycock, mother of *Betty Knox*, passed away on June 10.

Richard Sprott, father-in-law of *John DeMore*, passed away June 9.

## Bit of Inspiration

"In a hundred years from now it will not matter what my bank account was, the type of house I lived in, or the kinds of clothes I wore, but the world may be much different because I was important in the life of a child."

-Anonymous

## Upcoming Dates to Remember

- Aug. 6-7: Summer Leadership Institute
- Aug. 7: Board meeting
- Aug. 12: First year teachers report
- Aug. 14: New AISD teachers report
- Aug. 15-17: State sales tax holiday



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