

Weekly High Five

September 9, 2008



The AISD Education Foundation StarMaker Breakfast this morning was a huge success; it is always a great kickoff to the campaign. Immediately after the breakfast, the Prize Posse surprised classroom teachers with grant awards, and I was lucky enough to tag along on one stop. I would like to congratulate all those teachers on their outside-the-box thinking on the grant applications. With the help of our friends on the Foundation, it's going to be a great year in the AISD!

We have a principals' meeting scheduled for this Thursday, and our focus will be curriculum and instruction, with an emphasis on math and science. Together with the curriculum team, we will look at campus plans and best practices. Part of the success of these meetings is due in great part to the planning and teamwork that

takes place before the meetings. This meeting format allows for greater productivity during our short time together. I'd like to thank everyone that has helped prepare for this month's meeting.

We are currently collaborating with the City, the Arlington Alliance of Youth, United Way, Eyes on Youth, area school districts and other local service organizations on the Success in Schools Summit scheduled for Nov. 1. This summit will focus on dropout prevention programs and initiatives. We are fortunate to live in a community where other service organizations are eager to work with us to meet the changing needs of our students. Many of these organizations previously partnered with us on the Gang Summit, held in May. As a result of that summit, the Gang Task Force has been working on recommendations to share in the near future.

The Arlington Libraries recently started a new initiative for area students, a library card just for pre-k to sixth grade students. They want every student to have a library card to promote the value of literacy. The GOcard campaign includes AISD students in a public service announcement. The cards feature artwork by three winning students, who were recognized at the Arlington City Council meeting last week. Get the word out, and let's support literacy in Arlington!

Jerry McCullough
AISD Interim Superintendent

Campus Goals for 2008-2009

Many of you have heard me share my vision for this school year, and I have collaborated with my staff to set five goals that I know we can all work toward.

- To develop and implement a system of academic interventions
- To improve course/subject failure rates
- To develop subject area vertical alignment
- To engage parents and the community in the educational process
- To prevent campus violence and ensure appropriate methods of intervention

Council of PTAs

The 2008-2009 Council of PTAs had their first general council meeting last Thursday, and I was honored to give them an update on the district and to once again praise the outstanding community we live in. I shared the above goals and thanked them for all of their hard work and commitment to our AISD family.

Celebration for Coach Eddy Peach

Friday, Sept. 12

Pep Rally: 7:15 a.m.

Kick Off: 7:30 p.m.

On-the-field Ceremony:
Immediately after the game

Reception: After the ceremony for all players, coaches and immediate family members

Bit of Inspiration

"The measure of success is not whether you have a tough problem to deal with, but whether it is the same problem you had last year."

-John Foster Dulles

"When a leader reaches out in passion, he is usually met with an answering passion."

-John C. Maxwell

Upcoming Dates to Remember

Sept. 11: Principals' meeting; Board meeting; Patriot Day

Sept. 12: Bowie HS Homecoming

Sept. 15–Oct. 15: Hispanic Heritage Month

Sept. 17: Citizenship Day

Sept. 18: Board meeting

Sept. 19: Arlington HS, Martin HS and Sam Houston HS Homecomings

Sept. 21: International Day of Peace



Arlington

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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