

Weekly High Five

September 30, 2008



It is hard to imagine that another week has passed, and we are sending out another issue of the *Weekly High Five*. So much happens in just seven days! I would like to begin with information on how we are reaching out to the Pasadena ISD to provide much needed support with Hurricane Ike relief efforts. With more than 60 damaged campuses and an insurance estimate that will cause them to reach the \$5 million maximum deductible, the PISD has considerable needs. Their most immediate need is replacing school supplies for their more than 50,000 students. Many of you have already started

your own fund-raisers and drives to help with relief efforts and the housing of evacuees staying in our local communities. Thank you for your initiative. We urge you to continue your programs and fulfill the commitments already in place. In today's green bag, there was a memo with instructions on how to implement a school supply drive, if your campus would like to contribute. In addition, I encourage all of you to visit district2district.org – a new Web site the AISD has developed to connect districts in need with districts that would like to offer their assistance.

As I continue my campus visits, I usually arrive early. This allows me to spend a few minutes getting to visit with teachers as they prepare their classrooms for the day. I am impressed with the extensive preparation and instruction that takes place at all grade levels.

I also had an opportunity to meet with the cafeteria managers during their inservice earlier this week. I enjoyed the chance to share my goals with the group and thank them for their service.

Share with your staff the importance of first impressions. When someone walks into the building, make sure that your staff is prepared to greet them warmly and acknowledge their presence. Your frontline staff has a unique opportunity to set the tone for a parent or community member's visit. Remember, a smile goes a long way!

Jerry McCullough
AISD Interim Superintendent

News to Note

There is a regularly scheduled board meeting this Thursday.

- We will recognize our third Exemplary school, Ditto ES. During the past two board meetings, Little and Ashworth elementaries were recognized and awarded a plaque for the building and individual certificates for faculty and staff members.
- Also on the agenda is the appointment of the new assistant superintendent of personnel and a presentation to the board regarding the facilities/buildings update.
- Board meetings are broadcast live on Time Warner Channel 98 and www.aisd.net. You can also view past meetings online anytime.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

- Sept. 30-Oct. 1: Rosh Hashanah
- Oct. 2: Id al-Fitr; National Custodial Workers Day; School board meeting
- Oct. 3: End first grading period
- Oct. 5-11: Fire Prevention Week
- Oct. 6: Begin second grading period
- Oct. 8: International Walk to School Day
- Oct. 9: Yom Kippur
- Oct. 10: Report cards distributed; Lamar HS Homecoming
- Oct. 12-18: National Educational Professionals Career Awareness Week
- Oct. 13: Columbus Day; Staff development/student holiday
- Oct. 13-17: National School Lunch Week



Arlington

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Bit of Inspiration

"The first rule of holes:
When you're in one, stop
digging."

-Molly Ivins, Columnist

"No person was ever
honored for what he
received. Honor has been
the reward for what he
gave."

-Calvin Coolidge, American
President