

# Weekly High Five

January 27, 2009

Despite my dreaded allergies in the Hill Country, I am in Austin most of the week attending the 2009 Texas Association of School Administrators Midwinter Conference. Midwinter is a time for superintendents and other educational leaders from across the state to focus on professional learning and creating more meaningful educational opportunities for all students. I am also spending two days visiting with state legislators and Texas Education Agency officials with Team Arlington (including City Council members, Chamber of Commerce representatives, business leaders, the UTA president and the TCC president) to give our input on issues of interest to Arlington. I will return Thursday evening.




I would like to thank everyone that attended the Public Hearing on School Finance Saturday. The forum drew more than 150 people with 26 speakers sharing their views on funding problems with the state legislators in attendance – Sens. Wendy Davis and Royce West; Reps. Diane Patrick, Paula Pierson and

Chris Turner; and representatives from the office of Sen. Chris Harris. The legislators said they are committed to ensuring schools have the necessary resources and encouraged everyone to continue to give lawmakers input as the legislative session continues. Take the time to download the FAQ in District Announcements to learn more about our financial challenges.



The submissions for Teacher of the Year and First-Year HERO are due soon. You should receive a memo from the public information office in the Green Bag today with more information. Please remember how very important these honors are. We will not only honor our teachers of the year with a banquet, a certificate and recognition in the *Star-Telegram*, but they will also be honored by the Kiwanis.

  
Jerry McCullough  
AISD Superintendent

## Principals' Meeting

The PAC has set the agenda for the next principals' meeting. At the meeting Friday there will be a session on positive communication led by Marilyn Evans, Rhonda Clark, Linda English, Celina Kilgore, Nancy Simko, Rashel Stevens and David Tapia. Thank you to everyone who volunteered to lead these sessions. It will be a great opportunity for us to continue to share ideas and best practices. Improved communication with teachers will lead to a thorough understanding of the campus and district goals. If we all consistently work toward the same goals, we can continue to improve the quality of education provided to our students. I look forward to another productive meeting.

## Bit of Inspiration

"Real leadership isn't about trying to make people do things perfectly. It's about helping your team have personal impact on others."

-Lisa Earle McLeod, Speaker and Author

"The major theme on which all of this hangs is about bringing your heart to work. I'm not talking about just emotions. What I'm saying is that we have to bring our compassion, we have to bring our humanity to work!"

-Laura Lopez, Motivational Speaker

## Upcoming Dates to Remember

Feb. 1: National Freedom Day

Feb. 2: Groundhog Day

Feb. 2-6: National School Counseling Week

Feb. 5: School board meeting

Feb. 7: ACT

Feb. 8-14: National Family, Career and Community Leaders of America Week



# Arlington

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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