

Weekly High Five

February 3, 2009

I hope all of you enjoyed the weather this weekend. It was a welcome change after the days of freezing temperatures and icy roads.

At the Texas Association of School Administrators Midwinter Conference last week, I met with administrators from four of the large Recognized districts. From our discussions, I believe that we are on the right track to become a Recognized district. They share many of the same challenges, but from their experiences, the more focused everyone is on instruction, the more successful we'll be as a district. While I was in Austin last week with a delegation of city leaders, Chamber members and business leaders, I also met with the Texas Education Commissioner and all of the Arlington legislators.

This past weekend, the Academic Decathlon teams competed in the regional meet. I want to congratulate all of our talented students, dedicated coaches and District Coordinator Judith Stringham for their work. Coaches include Tanya Maness and Casey Custer, Arlington HS; Jonah Hanft and Eric McIlrath, Bowie HS; Rodney Bond and Lisa Van Gemert, Lamar HS; Katherine Lambert and Juliann Warner, Martin HS; Pat Watson and Thang Tran, Sam Houston HS; and Amanda Collins and Nguyen Tolerba, Seguin HS.

This week is National School Counseling Week. Sponsored by the American School Counselor Association, the week recognizes counselors as a valuable resource for students and a tremendous support for staff. Please recognize your counselors this week for all of their work with our students. They are instrumental in helping students achieve school success and plan for a career.



My staff and I continue to visit campuses, and I am impressed with the innovative instruction I see during every visit. Continue to work with your staff on utilizing the great resources and tools we provide.


Jerry McCullough
AISD Superintendent

News to Note

There is a regularly scheduled Board meeting this Thursday.

- The Board will recognize the National Merit honorees.
- Also on the agenda is a public hearing for the Academic Excellence Indicator System report.
- Board meetings are broadcast live on Time Warner Channel 98 and www.aisd.net. You can also view past meetings online anytime.

Congratulations



Brent West
Director of Accounting
Formerly Audit Senior at Pickens Snodgrass Koch LLP
B.S. - Ouachita Baptist University, 1998
M.B.A. - University of Texas at Arlington, 2003

Condolences

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

Milton Sisk, father of *Tori Sisk*, PRS/PEP coordinator, passed away Jan. 27.

Sharon Whitt, retired AISD counselor and sister of *Teresa Williamson*, director of professional development, passed away Jan. 29.

Bob Pruett, father of *Melissa Haubrich*, principal of Pearcy ES, passed away Jan. 30.

Bit of Inspiration

"There is a leader inside each one of us. It is up to you to choose the type of leader you want to be – positive or negative. When you realize you're a leader, you begin to live your life differently. Leadership is not just what you do; it's who you are."

-Randy Nathan, *Personal Empowerment Coach*

"Don't tell people what they cannot achieve, what they cannot do. Tell them instead what they can do, what they can achieve"

-Drew Price, *Executive Coach*

Upcoming Dates to Remember

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
Feb. 14: Valentine's Day

Feb. 16: Presidents' Day; Student/staff holiday
Feb. 17: National PTA Founders Day



Arlington

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