

Weekly High Five

February 10, 2009

I hope you are managing to stay well. Between the flu, other viruses and allergies, staying healthy is no easy task this time of year. Remember to wash your hands frequently, and to encourage your staff to do the same.

We had a lengthy discussion at last week's Board meeting regarding school finance and some of the board members' legislative agendas. If you missed the Board meeting last week, be sure to take a few minutes to watch it online. You will be hearing more and more about the financial situation of the district and what must be done locally and at the state level for the situation to improve. I encourage you to correspond with your state legislators about the issue of school finance. To find your legislator, visit www.fyi.legis.state.tx.us. Legislators are faced with many decisions this session, but none are more important to the future of the state than providing students with a quality education.

I enjoyed seeing many of you at the Council of PTAs Founders Day Banquet last week. The PTA is such an important partner to the district, and the thousands of hours they contribute to our campuses make a big difference in our success. I would like to congratulate all of the Local PTA Life Members honored and a special congratulations to the AISD Council of PTAs Life Members – Torie Deremo, Kecia Mays and Tenya Tallon.



The new TEAMS system training on how to input your 2009-2010 budget requests began today. The business office is here to help you with this process. Be sure to call them for any assistance you may need.

As I continue my campus visits, don't be surprised if I ask about the five campus goals – subject area vertical alignment, a system of academic interventions, lower course/subject failure rates, community/parental engagement and a safe/secure environment. I won't be taking grades, but it is important that we are all on the same page to ensure our success at becoming a Recognized school district.

I hope you have a happy Valentine's Day!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jerry McCullough".

Jerry McCullough
AISD Superintendent

Principals' Meeting

There is a principals' meeting scheduled for Thursday. At the meeting there will be sessions on vertical alignment and cultural competency. It will be a great opportunity for us to continue to share ideas and best practices. I look forward to another productive meeting.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

- Feb. 8-14: National Family Week, 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
- Feb. 19: School board meeting
- Feb. 21-28: National FFA Week



Arlington

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
More Than a Remarkable Education

Bit of Inspiration

"In this small world, we must realize that our neighbor's troubles are also our own."

-Oscar Arias Sanchez,
President of Costa Rica and
Winner of the Nobel Prize

"The world of knowledge takes a crazy turn when teachers themselves are taught to learn."

-Bertolt Brecht, German
Dramatist and Poet