

Weekly High Five

March 10, 2009

We had wonderful weather this weekend except for the wind. I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did. With any luck, we'll enjoy sunshine and warm temperatures next week during Spring Break. Spend some time outdoors, and get inspired and refreshed for our last 11 weeks.



Last Friday, members of the Arlington Masonic Lodge recognized several outstanding elementary teachers. Beensee ES Librarian Teresa Brinkerhoff was named the 2009 "Teacher of Excellence" and received the Mirabeau B. Lamar trophy, a plaque, a cash prize and gifts from various Arlington businesses. Runners-up for the honor were Jennifer Bowman, Williams ES; Barbara Keaton, Ashworth, ES; Judy Kirby, Beckham ES; and Leviaanne Mirabelli, Fitzgerald ES.

The Class in the Parks marketing education program hosted Arlington Entrepreneurship Day this past Saturday. More than 850 students and parents attended the event. The highlight of the day was the announcement of the "What's Your Big Idea?" Art and Essay contest winners. Approximately 900 students submitted essays and/or artwork depicting their concepts for new products or businesses. There were 248 semifinalists and 24 overall winners recognized. The Chamber of Commerce helped plan and implement the contest and event. Thanks to our other sponsors – Walmart, Hatala Systems Group and Medical Center of Arlington. I would like to give a special thanks to Ami Motsenbocker and Deborah Blackner, Class in the Parks teachers, for making the day such a success!

I want to congratulate all of our talented athletes and dedicated coaches involved with basketball, swimming and wrestling on the completion of very successful seasons. In boys basketball, Bowie and Martin both went two rounds deep in the playoffs. Bowie, Martin and Seguin all advanced in girls basketball playoffs. Martin lost in the first round, Bowie lost to Duncanville in the Region I semifinal, and Seguin lost to Timberview in the Region I championship. In swimming, Martin's Benjamin Donald competed in the 500 yard freestyle at the state meet. Twenty-seven AISD students competed in the state wrestling tournaments, with nine placing in the top six of their respective weight classes. Lamar's Francis Efiogwon won first place in the 138-pound weight class. Outstanding job!

There is a principals' meeting scheduled for Thursday with sessions on Response to Intervention and staff development. I look forward to another opportunity to share ideas and best practices. Keep up the good work, and remember to stay focused on your campus goals.


Jerry McCullough
AISD Superintendent

News to Note

There is a regularly scheduled Board meeting this Thursday.

- The Board will consider the appointment and charge for the 2009-2010 Financial Futures Committee and for the Bond Advisory Committee.
- Also on the agenda is the appointment of the executive director of plant services.
- Board meetings are broadcast live on AISD-TV Time Warner Channel 98 and www.aisd.net. You can also view past meetings online anytime.

Did you know?

March is National Youth Art Month, when schools across the nation display artwork throughout their schools and community. Student artwork is currently displayed at the administration building, the Mac Bernd Professional Development Center and the Arlington Museum of Art.



Bit of Inspiration

"If you're trying to achieve, there will be road blocks. I've had them; everybody has had them. But obstacles don't have to stop you. If you run into a wall, don't turn around and give up. Figure out how to climb it, go through it or work around it."
-Michael Jordan, Retired NBA Player

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader."
-John Quincy Adams, U.S. President

Upcoming Dates to Remember

- March 9-13: Texas Public Schools Week
- March 10: Junior high open house
- March 12: Elementary open house; School board meeting
- March 14: SAT
- March 16-20: Spring Break
- March 17: St. Patrick's Day
- March 19: Absolutely Incredible Kid Day
- March 20: First day of spring
- March 21: Persian New Year's Day



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