

Weekly High Five

November 10, 2009

I was honored to join some of the Ashworth ES staff in San Antonio last night at the Texas Business and Education Coalition's 10th Annual Honor Roll Awards Reception and Dinner. The 2009 Honor Roll recognizes 254 of the most outstanding public schools in Texas. TBEC identifies schools for this honor by analyzing three years of performance data for every public school in Texas. Congratulations Ashworth ES!

Martin HS recently received the 2009 College Readiness Award from the Texas ACT Council. The award is in recognition of a significant increase in the ACT composite score over the past five years while also increasing the number of students taking the ACT Assessment. Less than 5 percent of the high schools in Texas were able to accomplish this feat.

I had a chance to challenge some of the students in the Ferguson JH Titan Knights Chess Club today. There was some tough competition taking place in the after-school game! The students, from seasoned veterans to chess novices, participate in games and tournaments throughout the year. I want to thank sponsor Deanna Moore for the wonderful visit!




Our student athletes are going strong in postseason play. Two students – Jeff Arnier, Lamar HS, and John Valentine, Martin HS – have advanced to the state cross country meet this Saturday. Their race begins at 12:50 p.m. at Old Settlers Park in Round Rock. The Lamar volleyball team will play Amarillo in the regional quarterfinals tonight at Vernon HS. Football playoffs begin Thursday. Arlington, Bowie, Lamar, Martin and Seguin will all play in the bi-district round. The students and coaches always enjoy having fans at the games, cheering the teams on to success. The schedule of games and ticket information is available online. Congratulations to these wonderful athletes and coaches, and good luck in the upcoming rounds!



This week is School Psychology Awareness Week. School psychologists help students succeed emotionally, socially and academically. They collaborate with staff, parents and other professionals to create safe, healthy and supportive learning environments for all students that strengthen connections between home and school. Please recognize your school psychologists this week for all they do to help AISD students achieve academic and personal success.

If you are reading a book on leadership, curriculum or instruction that you think I would enjoy, please e-mail me the title. I am always looking for books to read.


Jerry McCullough
Superintendent

News to Note

There is a called Board meeting this Wednesday.

- The Board will canvass the election returns from the bond election held on Nov. 3, 2009.
- Board meetings are broadcast live on AISD-TV Time Warner Channel 98 and www.aisd.net. You can also view past meetings online anytime.

“The main thing ... is to keep the main thing ... the main thing.”
Student Achievement & Instruction

Bit of Inspiration

“Make it a habit to tell people thank you. To express your appreciation, sincerely and without expectation of anything in return. Truly appreciate those around you, and you'll soon find many others around you. Truly appreciate life, and you'll find that you have more of it.”

-Ralph Marston, Author

“Hard work is the key to success, so work diligently on any project you undertake. If you truly want to be successful ... have faith in yourself. If you come up with a new idea that you believe in, don't allow other people to discourage you from pursuing it.”

-Charles Lazarus, Trumpeter & Composer

Upcoming Dates to Remember

- Nov. 9-13: Youth Appreciation Week
- Nov. 11: Veterans Day
- Nov. 13: End second grading period
- Nov. 15-21: American Education Week
- Nov. 16: Begin third grading period
- Nov. 17: National Community Education Day
- Nov. 18: Education Support Professionals Day
- Nov. 19: National Parental Involvement Day; School board meeting
- Nov. 20: Report cards distributed
- Nov. 22-28: National Family Week



Arlington
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
More Than a Remarkable Education