

Weekly High Five

December 15, 2009

The holidays and the cold temperatures that often accompany them are here. What a difference a day makes when it comes to Texas weather! I hope you took advantage of Sunday's nice weather to finish any outdoor activities and to work on your holiday shopping.



At this time of year, it is more important than ever to remember those less fortunate and the military men and women serving in other countries. It is so gratifying to help others who might not enjoy the season without assistance. Here at the administration building, we adopted angels through Mission Arlington. It was amazing to see all the gifts that will make such a difference in the lives of children. I want to thank the Arlington HS jazz band that performed during our festivities last week.

We just received notice that nine of our campuses – Ashworth, Burgin, Ditto, Farrell, Hale, Key, Pope and Williams elementaries and Bailey JH – have been recognized as 2009 Just for the Kids Higher Performing Schools. This designation is sponsored by the National Center for Educational Achievement and recognizes outstanding performance across multiple grades and years. Congratulations to the students and staff at these campuses!

In other award news, the deadline to submit an Intent to Nominate form for the AWARE Foundation's Award of Excellence is this Friday. More information about the nomination process is available [online](#).

Winter break is almost here, and I want to take this time to thank everyone for the many things you do to ensure the success of our students. We are fortunate to be home to employees at every level who daily give their best for the children. Whether we make repairs, keep facilities clean, dish up tasty treats or directly inspire students inside the classroom, each of us makes a difference. I want to wish you all happy holidays, and I hope that you come back from this break rejuvenated and ready to continue our work.


Jerry McCullough
Superintendent

News to Note

There is a regularly scheduled Board meeting this Thursday.

- The Board will consider the appointment of an assistant principal for Bailey JH.
- Also on the agenda is discussion regarding an interim report from the Citizens Advisory Committee and about paperwork reduction.
- 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*

Upcoming Dates to Remember

- Dec. 15: Bill of Rights Day
- Dec. 17: School board meeting
- Dec. 18: Early dismissal
- Dec. 21: First day of winter
- Dec. 21-Jan. 1: Winter Break
- Dec. 25: Christmas Day
- Dec. 26-Jan. 1: Kwanzaa



Arlington
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
More Than a Remarkable Education

Bit of Inspiration

"A sense of humor ... is needed armor. Joy in one's heart and some laughter in one's lips is a sign that the person down deep has a pretty good grasp of life."

-Hugh Sidey, Journalist

"I've always thought that a big laugh is a really loud noise from the soul saying, 'Ain't that the truth!'"

-Quincy Jones, Producer & Conductor