

FWISD Adopt-A-School Newsletter

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Statewide Organization Honors Fort Worth Chamber and FWISD Partnership

The Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce was recently named by the Texas Association of Partners in Education as a Gold Star Award winner for their partnership with the FWISD. Quoted from the conference program, "The relationship between the Fort Worth Chamber and the FWISD is solidly rooted in a deep mutual understanding that together, public education and commerce form the foundation of a vibrant and growing city." Congratulations to the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce!

The **U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing** will host students from **O.D. Wyatt HS** for a career mentoring week in which 30 Career and Technology students will spend half days with employees from six departments. The Bureau will also host **Diamond Hill-Jarvis HS** students for career exploration and the demonstration of robotics used in the production process. In August, the Bureau will provide the venue for part of the teachers' in-service training.

The **Renaissance Worthington Hotel** sponsored Ground Hog Shadow Day for nine students from **Riverside MS** and six students from **North Side HS** on Feb. 4. Students shadowed employees from event management, operations, technology, front office, housekeeping, human resources, loss prevention and the hotel restaurant. Approximately 25 employees from the hotel recently met their Riverside MS sixth grade pen pals at a breakfast held at the school. The hotel also hosted a writing camp to enhance writing skills for 75 students utilizing five conference rooms during most of the day.

Freese and Nichols, Inc. provided their office training facility as the venue for a **South Hills ES** staff training meeting in January. The company welcomed the staff after the winter break with a catered Mexican food buffet.

City of Fort Worth Environmental Management hosted and coordinated Career Day at **Paschal HS** on Feb. 21 that included approximately 20 exhibitors who talked about their professions and the educational background necessary to do their jobs. Participants also provided takeaways that highlighted information for future reference.

Crescent Real Estate Equities donated new gift items for a mock store at **Versia Williams ES** for parents to select holiday gifts for their children. In addition, the company recently donated furniture to the school. One of the school's families lost their home and their belongings in a fire during this school year, and company employees donated furniture to be used throughout the house, along with new mattresses, televisions, two new outfits of school clothing to meet the standardized dress codes for the three school-aged children, new shoes and a \$750 Wal-Mart gift card.

MWH is providing t-shirts for an attendance incentive program at **Eastern Hills HS**. In addition, they will sponsor the speaker for an Honors Assembly. The company donated office supplies, chairs and overhead projectors to the school.

Frost Bank is sponsoring the attendance incentive program at **McLean MS** to promote excellent attendance for all students. **Jason's Deli** served as a sponsor of the 5K run at the school held to provide funds for school improvements. The company has also provided treats for meetings. The **Rotary Club of Fort Worth – South** hosts two teachers every week for their weekly lunch meetings at Colonial Country Club. The luncheon is mutually beneficial, as teachers enjoy the community speakers and entertainment, and Rotary members hear about McLean's highlights in education.

OmniAmerican Bank branches at University Drive and at Bryant Irvin Road participated as a sponsor in the **Ridglea Hills ES** walk-a-thon and displayed student art projects in the bank lobbies. Employees served as judges for Invention Convention and as Junior Achievement teachers to support learning in social studies.

Bell Helicopter presented a check for \$10,000 to **Dunbar HS** for the sponsorship of the Robotics Team in the two-day First Robotics Competition (FRC). Company employees are very interested in supporting the development of students' interest in science as a future career.

Oakhurst Presbyterian Church hosted the fourth graders at **Springdale ES** on Feb. 13 for the Annual Young Authors' Symposium. The church pastor served as the keynote speaker, and students completed activities to enhance writing skills.

Tres Jose's sponsored and served a holiday luncheon for all the teachers and staff at **Burton Hill ES**.

Johnston Legal Group PC and students from **I.M. Terrell ES** were included in a photo at the school highlighting their partnership that was featured in the December issue of *Fort Worth* magazine. In addition, students created the artwork for Thanksgiving cards used and distributed by the firm. The company held a fundraiser at their office on March 3 to provide financial support for items needed by the school.

Rotary Club of Fort Worth – Downtown sponsored speakers and field trips for **Riverside MS** students. Speakers included a POW from the Vietnam War who shared information with 300 eighth graders who were beginning the study of a novel written with a setting in southeast Asia. A chemistry professor from Texas Wesleyan University presented the "Mad Chemist," including the demonstration of various chemical reactions when mixing an assortment of chemicals. Members arranged for 31 students in the Math and Science Club to have a guided tour of Lockheed Martin and sponsored a math workshop for 100 students at the UTA campus in downtown Fort Worth, where math and science professors and graduate students worked with students during a four-hour period.

First Investors presented classroom presentations at **Rosemont MS** entitled, "Mr. and Mrs. Bling" to include how to be a millionaire (using math and financial planning) and goal planning sessions for Life Skills classes. They will also conduct mock interviews with students. A teacher appreciation luncheon is planned, as well as attendance incentives for students.

Kincaid's Hamburgers provided **South Hi Mount ES** fourth and fifth graders who met their Accelerated Reader goals with a hamburger lunch on Feb. 18.

The **South Area Council of the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce** will provide nine classroom speakers for **South Hills HS** in Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) classes for juniors in March, April and May. Some of the careers represented include banking, engineering, event planning and directing non-profit agencies. Students will have the chance to ask speakers about what they do in their jobs and skills and education needed.

Krystal's Hamburgers served as a sponsor for Family Reading Night at **Natha Howell ES**, including a financial donation, t-shirts for drawings and a mascot to distribute pencils, balloons and coupons. The company provided a staff breakfast and is providing hamburgers as attendance and Accelerated Reader incentives for students. Employees served as judges for academic fairs. Natha Howell Night is held periodically at the store as a fundraiser to benefit the school.

Handley United Methodist Church is providing 33 **D. McRae ES** students with non-perishable, nutritional food items that are packed into backpacks to be taken home every Friday. The church has the support of many members and has dedicated a room at their facility for the organization of the backpack program.

Weatherford International and **Brookshire's** employees and customers were entertained by the **Westpark ES** Choir. Brookshire's donated ice cream and toppings for the four classes that collected the most food items during the annual canned food drive.

University United Methodist Church members are serving as Reading Buddies at **Westcliff ES**. Reading Buddies attended a workshop at the school in January regarding skills used to increase comprehension and read with first and second graders weekly.

TALEM, Inc. employees and their families staffed the food booth at the **Richard J. Wilson ES** carnival to support family and community engagement. Company projects also included participation in the school's canned food drive and purchasing clothing, coats, shoes and toys for children in need during the holiday season.

Welcome to the following new Adopt-A-School partnerships: **Edgecliff Village Fire Department** and **Greenbriar ES**, **EECU – N.W. 28th Street** and **Kirkpatrick ES**, **Greater Mount Tabor Christian Center** and **Maude Logan ES**, **Handley United Methodist Church** and **D. McRae ES**, **Kincaid's Hamburgers – Overton Ridge Boulevard** and **Woodway ES**, **Tres Jose's** and **Burton Hill ES**, **Wal-Mart Super Center – Oakmont Boulevard** and **J.T. Stevens ES**, **Washington Mutual – La Gran** and **Oaklawn ES**, **Washington Mutual – South Hulen** and **Woodway ES** and **Worth Heights Neighborhood Association** and **Worth Heights ES**.

The **FWISD Outstanding Teacher Recognition Dinner** was held February 28 honoring 131 teachers who were elected by their peers on each campus. Over \$20,000 was donated by 54 businesses and organizations (including 43 Adopt-A-School partners) that served as sponsors for the recognition dinner. In addition, 51 businesses contributed items for 13 fabulous door prize packages, including trips, shopping sprees and weekends full of entertainment.