



Press Release

For Immediate Release

April 19, 2013

NISD Names Elementary and Secondary Teachers of the Year, Honors 49 Employees at the Annual Inspire Celebration

More than 400 people watched as Northwest ISD recognized retirees, 25-year and 30-year service award recipients, Exemplar Educators from each campus, and its Employees and Teachers of the Year at the district's annual Inspire Celebration last night. The Inspire recognition program was designed to recognize and celebrate dedicated educators and support staff for the important contributions they make to the students and community of NISD.

Jairia Diggs from O.A. Peterson Elementary School was named *Elementary Teacher of the Year* and Charles Cooper from Northwest High School was named *Secondary Teacher of the Year*.

NISD Exemplar Educators were selected from all 25 campuses based on their leadership, motivation and effectiveness in the classroom.

Northwest ISD's 2013 Exemplar Educators:

Kaila Bach, W.R. Hatfield Elementary School
Lori Baird, J.C. Thompson Elementary School
*Courtney Baker, Sendera Ranch Elementary School
Heather Baker, Clara Love Elementary School
Linda Braddock, Chisholm Trail Middle School
Jennifer Brauen, Carl E. Schluter Elementary School
Michele Chidester, Prairie View Elementary School
*Charles E. Cooper, II, Northwest High School
*Jairia Diggs, O.A. Peterson Elementary School
Sherry Embry, Denton Creek
*Shawntay Hammonds, Kay Granger Elementary School
Tricia Hanson, Roanoke Elementary School
Terry Harris, Gene Pike Middle School
*Beverly D. Hill, Hughes Elementary School
Missy Hutson, Haslet Elementary School
Ashley Kahler, John M. Tidwell Middle School
Catherine Kirkendall, Justin Elementary School
Tanya Ledger, Seven Hills Elementary School
Tricia McIntosh, James M. Steele Accelerated High School
Gene Moore, Sonny and Allegra Nance Elementary School
*Jeff Oster, Truett Wilson Middle School
Kelly Quaglieri, Samuel Beck Elementary School
Andrea Roach, Medlin Middle School
Dena Saunders, Byron Nelson High School
Gailanne Smith, Lakeview Elementary School

*Designates Teacher of the Year Finalist

NISD Honored Employees at Inspire Celebration

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Northwest ISD also recognized its three Employees of the Year, who were nominated by their co-workers and selected by a committee.

Northwest ISD's 2013 Employees of the Year:

Amy Davis, Instructional Support Employee of the Year, Chisholm Trail Middle School
Thelma Graves, Administrative Support Employee of the Year, Finance Department
James Monroe, Support Services Employee of the Year, Maintenance Department

The Northwest ISD Board of Trustees and administration also recognized 10 retirees, who had a combined 342 years of service.

Northwest ISD 2013 Retirees:

Sue Cobb, Sonny and Allegra Nance Elementary School
Sharon Gifford, Sonny and Allegra Nance Elementary School
Amy Gilleland, Administration
Lisa McCrief, Roanoke Elementary School
Linda Miller, Curriculum and Instruction Department
Evelyn Newby, Chisholm Trail Middle School
Lindale Nichols, Gene Pike Middle School
Wayne Parker, Northwest High School
Lillian Rauch, W.R. Hatfield Elementary School
Peggy Rowe, Justin Elementary School
Tessa Solomon, Support Services
Tom Solomon, Byron Nelson High School
Tonya Taylor, Chisholm Trail Middle School
Mary Teel, Roanoke Elementary School
Terri Van Gorp, Roanoke Elementary School

Northwest ISD desires to recruit and retain highly motivated staff. At the Inspire Celebration, the district honored its 25-year and 30-year service award recipients – individuals who have experienced the successes and fast growth in Northwest ISD over the years.

Northwest ISD 25-Year Service Award Recipients:

Cindy Clement, Justin Elementary School
Darlene Jones, Seven Hills Elementary School
Melody Jones, Hatfield Elementary School
Linda Ruhs, Kay Granger Elementary School
Sandra Smith, Curriculum and Instruction Department

Northwest ISD 30-Year Service Award Recipient:

Karen Finnigan, Gene Pike Middle School

“These honorees are truly an inspiration to us all, said Superintendent Karen G. Rue, Ed.D. “They serve tirelessly, share their talents daily and continue to engage students in the joy of learning and meeting new challenges.”

Media Note: Please contact Emily Conklin at econklin@nisdtx.org for specific requests of photos.

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PHOTO CAPTION [TOY2013]: Northwest ISD named the 2013 Teachers of the Year at the third annual Inspire Celebration April 18. From left to right: Elementary Teacher of the Year Jairia Diggs, Superintendent of Schools Karen G. Rue, Ed.D., Secondary Teacher of the Year Charles E. Cooper, II and School Board President Mel Fuller.

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