



School Notes

For Immediate Release
April 19, 2017

Northwest ISD School Notes, April 19-May 5

District names Teachers of the Year, honors other top staff

Northwest ISD announced its Elementary Teacher of the Year and Secondary Teacher of the Year at its recent Inspire Celebration, a ceremony to honor the district's top teachers and staff for the school year.

Thompson Elementary School's Ashley Mooneyham earned Elementary Teacher of the Year honors, while Medlin Middle School's Julie Hinshaw earned Secondary Teacher of the Year honors at the seventh annual Inspire Celebration on Thursday, April 13. Both teachers will now advance to the Region XI Teacher of the Year competition, where finalists will be chosen in elementary and secondary categories to advance to the state competition. In addition to these overall district winners, each campus honored its Exemplar Educator for his or her leadership, motivation and effectiveness in the classroom.

On the support side, the district recognized its Employees of the Year for their contributions to Northwest ISD, ensuring the district functions efficiently. Both teachers and staff who have been with the district for 25 or 30 years were also honored, as were recent retirees.

To see the full list of Inspire honorees, [click here](#).

PHOTO [Ashley Mooneyham.jpg]: Ashley Mooneyham of Thompson Elementary School was named Northwest ISD's Elementary Teacher of the Year for 2016-17.

PHOTO [Julie Hinshaw.jpg]: Julie Hinshaw of Medlin Middle School was named Northwest ISD's Secondary Teacher of the Year for 2016-17.

Northwest holds final signing day festivities for 10 student-athletes

Northwest High School hosted its final signing day festivities for the 2016-17 academic year on Wednesday, April 12, honoring its 10 newest student-athletes to sign letters of intent to play collegiate sports.

Students from cross country, football, soccer, and track and field were recognized at the event, which added to the 20 student-athletes who signed letters of intent earlier in the school year. The 30 total signees comes during a strong sports year for the school, which has seen tremendous playoff success and school firsts.

From the cross country and track and field team, Lindsay Klasek signed to compete for Southeastern Oklahoma State University (in Durant), while classmate Jarred O'Connor signed with the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

The football team added three new signees, bringing its number of student-athletes committed to play in college to nine. Jordan Ames signed to play football at Texas Lutheran (in Seguin), while twins Kasey and Koby Belcher signed with Graceland University (in Lamoni, Iowa).

Boys and girls soccer were represented by five total signees – one boy and four girls. From the boys soccer team, Trey Williams signed with Richmond, the American International University in London. Girls soccer was represented by Victoria Brown, who signed with Western Texas College (in Snyder); Mackenzie Haislet, who signed with the University of Texas at Dallas; Lexi Ihbrig, who signed with Schreiner College (in Kerrville); and Tayler Schott, who signed with Texas A&M International University (in Laredo).

PHOTO [Northwest Sports Signees.jpg]: Northwest High School's final collegiate sport signing class poses for a photo on Wednesday, April 12. From left are: Jared O'Connor, Lindsay Klasek, Jordan Ames, Mackenzie Haislet, Koby Belcher, Lexi Ihbrig, Kasey Belcher, Tayler Schott, Trey Williams and Victoria Brown.

Byron Nelson senior Jarrod Clark earns Congressional Award Gold Medal

Byron Nelson High School senior Jarrod Clark recently received the Congressional Award Gold Medal, a top honor presented by the U.S. Congress to young Americans who meet rigorous standards across community service, personal development, physical fitness and exploration categories.

Jarrod received the award after nearly four years of work, totaling 400 hours of community service, 200 hours of personal development and 200 hours of physical fitness. Additionally, the Byron Nelson senior planned and completed a five-day, four-night trip. Because he is a gold medalist, he also received the program's bronze and silver awards.

Young Americans don't receive the award based on a competition, but rather based on achieving their own challenging goals after registering for the program. The foundation that runs the non-partisan program is the only congressional charity.

Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson, who represents the 30th district of Texas in the U.S. House of Representatives, presided over the statewide ceremony for Congressional Award Gold Medal winners, giving Jarrod his honor on April 8. The event, held at Southern Methodist University, was the first time Texas has held a statewide ceremony for the award.

Jarrod will be further honored at Capitol Hill in Washington D.C. in June, when all gold medalists will be honored. Following the ceremony, he will have the opportunity to meet fellow medalists and members of Congress.

PHOTO [Jarrod Clark.jpg]: Byron Nelson High School senior Jarrod Clark poses with his Congressional Award Gold Medal at Southern Methodist University. Jarrod received the medal, awarded for personal development and community service, at the statewide ceremony at SMU, but he will travel to Washington D.C. to be honored at Capitol Hill, where he will meet members of Congress and fellow award winners.

School board candidate forum being hosted by PTA on April 19

The Northwest ISD Council of PTAs will host a forum for school board candidates on April 19, where community members can hear candidate views before they cast ballots for the May election.

At the forum, candidates will receive questions from a professional moderator, who will provide each with up to three minutes to respond. Primary topics for discussion include academics, policies, parents' rights and background/experience. Pike Middle School, located at 2200 Texan Drive in Fort Worth, will serve as host of the candidate forum, which will take place in the cafeteria and last from 6-7 p.m. Wednesday, April 19. The event is free to attend.

Three trustee places for the school board are on the ballot this year. Incumbent Mel Fuller is running unopposed for Place 7, while incumbent Lillian Rauch is running against Carissa Barrett for Place 6. Five candidates have filed to run for Place 5, which will see a new face after incumbent Devonna Holland decided not to seek re-election. Running for her seat are Tammy Eck, Taylor Harrington, Matthew Hooper, Steve Sprowls and Jennifer Zazula. For information about the school board election, [click here](#).

Early voting for the election will take place from Monday, April 24, to Tuesday, May 2. Election Day is Saturday, May 6. In addition to the school board contests, a referendum for Northwest ISD's proposed \$399 million bond package will be on the ballot. For more information on the proposed bond package and information on voting locations, [click here](#).

Registration for district's summer TechnoCamps now open

Registration for five summer technology camps hosted by Northwest ISD is now open, providing students with opportunities to learn about popular topics at all elementary and middle school grade levels.

Three robotics camps are available for \$95 per student: CampWeDo 1.0 Robotics, CampWeDo 2.0 Robotics and Camp EV3 Robotics. These camps vary by grade level, with at least one course offering available for all kindergarten to eighth-grade students. For students in second to eighth grades, Camp Makey Makey/Stop Motion Animation comes with a take-home kit for \$150 per student. Camp Raspberry Pi also comes with a take-home kit and costs \$150 per student, providing each attendee with introductory coding tutorials with a small computer system.

Each camp takes place Monday to Thursday over the summer, with dates varying by camp and session. All campers will receive a free T-shirt as part of their participation in a TechnoCamp.

All camps will be held at Pike Middle School, located at 2200 Texan Drive in Fort Worth, featuring both morning and afternoon sessions. To learn more about each camp or register for a camp, visit technocamp.nisdtx.org.

Bond information meetings taking place April 20, 27

Northwest ISD will host bond information meetings on April 20 and 27, providing families and community members with the opportunity to learn more about the district's proposed bond package.

The Thursday, April 20, meeting will take place 6-7 p.m. at Byron Nelson High School, located at 2775 Bobcat Blvd. in Trophy Club. The final meeting – on Thursday, April 27 – will take place from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the district administration building's board room, located at 2001 Texan Drive in Fort Worth.

At each meeting, attendees will have the opportunity to learn about projects included as part of the proposed \$399 million bond package, which include new schools, school expansions, safety and security additions, and curriculum upgrades (including athletics, career and technology, and fine arts upgrades). Dr. Ryder Warren, district superintendent, will provide information and answer questions along with Northwest ISD administrative staff.

Early voting for Northwest ISD's bond referendum will take place from April 24 to May 2. Election Day is May 6.

For more information about the 2017 Bond, a closer look at the specific recommendations, tax information and more, visit www.nisdtxbond.org. If you are interested in setting up a presentation from the school district to learn more about the proposed bond, call 817-215-0171.

Next school board meeting taking place April 24

The Northwest ISD Board of Trustees will hold its next regular meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, April 24, in the Board Room at the NISD Administration Building, located at 2001 Texan Drive in Fort Worth.

Viewing of documentary about children growing up in digital atmosphere to take place April 26

Northwest ISD will host a free public screening of the documentary "Screenagers" at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 26, in Byron Nelson High School's performing arts center. The documentary highlights how to empower children to best navigate the digital world.

"Screenagers" discusses the struggles and relationships between social media, video games, academics and internet addiction. The viewing of the 67-minute-long documentary is aimed at parents, guardians and school staff members, though anyone is welcome to attend.

Byron Nelson High School is located at 2775 Bobcat Blvd. in Trophy Club. For directions in Google Maps, [click here](#).

For more information about "Screenagers," visit the documentary's website by [clicking here](#). To view a brief trailer of "Screenagers," [click here](#).

Kindergarten Roundup to take place districtwide first week of May

Northwest ISD's annual Kindergarten Roundup will take place the first week of May, providing parents of incoming kindergarteners with the opportunity to learn about their future campuses.

Children who are 5 years old by Sept. 1 are eligible for enrollment in kindergarten. Following enrollment, each school will host incoming students as part of Kindergarten Roundup.

Though enrollment takes place online, parents and guardians must still bring appropriate documents – including birth certificates, immunization records and proof of residency – for the campus to review. Both online registration and document review can be completed at the campus during Kindergarten Roundup.

Each of Northwest ISD's 17 elementary schools serves kindergarteners, and exact dates and times for each school's Kindergarten Roundup can be seen by clicking the corresponding school link at www.nisdx.org/kroundup.

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