



## School Notes

For Immediate Release  
May 10, 2017

### Northwest ISD School Notes, May 10-June 2

#### **Beck Elementary named 2017 National School of Character**

Beck Elementary School has received the 2017 National School of Character distinction, a recognition awarded to just 83 schools across the United States and only nine in Texas.

The distinction honors schools across the nation that exemplify character-focused educational standards for the betterment of students. Beck, which has already been named a 2017 Texas School of Character this year, took part in a rigorous evaluation process with awarding organization Character.org to receive the distinction.

Schools that receive the recognition must demonstrate how they use Character.org's 11 principles for effective character education (including education initiatives focused on ethics, values, challenging academics and more). Committees from the organization then visit with schools to score their character-focused measures.

To read more about the honor, [click here](#).

PHOTO [Beck Elementary School.jpg]: The front entrance of Beck Elementary School.

#### **Steele named 2016 Texas Honor Roll School**

Steele Accelerated High School has received distinction as a 2016 Texas Honor Roll awardee, recognizing the school's leadership status in student achievement across a diverse enrollment population.

Educational Results Partnership and the Institute for Productivity in Education recognized Steele as a Scholar Honor Roll School, a distinction awarded to public schools that demonstrate consistently high levels of student academic achievement, student improvement over time and a reduction in achievement gaps. As a high school, Steele was also chosen for its college preparedness.

The two organizations used national research and test scores to determine placement in the 2016 Texas Honor Roll list. This year, they honored 727 high-performing Texas schools with diverse socioeconomic student populations.

PHOTO [Steele Accelerated High School.jpg]: The front entrance of Steele Accelerated High School.

#### **Tuition-based pre-K application process now open**

Northwest ISD will begin offering tuition-based pre-kindergarten during the 2017-18 school year, and the application process for the program is now open.

Tuition-based pre-K is available for children who live within Northwest ISD boundaries and will be 4 years old by Sept. 1 but do not meet the eligibility requirements to enroll in state-funded pre-K. Those who are accepted into the tuition-based program will have the opportunity to attend half-day pre-K. Tuition for the program is \$419.77 per month over nine months.

Because class space is limited, tuition-based pre-K will select students through a lottery system. Lottery registration for the program will be available until Thursday, June 8, when the application process will close. On Monday, July 31, students will be selected for the program based on available classroom spaces at Hughes, Justin, Lakeview, Love, Nance, Prairie View, Seven Hills and Thompson elementary schools.

Parents and guardians of applicants will be notified of their position by 5 p.m. selection day and will have 48 hours to complete online registration and schedule a document review session with their campus.

To begin the tuition-based pre-K application process or learn more about the program, [click here](#). For information about the state-funded program – available free to those who meet language, educationally disadvantaged, active-duty military parent, foster care or homeless requirements – [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](http://technocamp.nisdtx.org).

### **Middle school musical auditions begin May 13**

Auditions for Northwest ISD's 2017-18 districtwide middle school musical, "Beauty and the Beast Jr.," will begin on Saturday, May 13, with callbacks scheduled for the following Saturday, May 20.

All auditions will be held in the Byron Nelson High School performing arts center, located at 2775 Bobcat Blvd. in Trophy Club. Auditions will be assigned by groups, and sign-up times can be scheduled by [clicking here](#). Each performer will be asked to sing and speak at his or her audition.

Rehearsals for the play will begin in August and run through September, culminating with shows on Friday, Sept. 29, and Saturday, Sept. 30.

For more information about the rehearsal process or the play, [click here](#).

### **Next school board meeting taking place May 22**

The Northwest ISD Board of Trustees will hold its next regular meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, May 22, in the boardroom at the Northwest ISD Administration Building, located at 2001 Texan Drive in Fort Worth. A budget workshop will precede the regular meeting at 5:30 p.m.

### **High school graduations take place in late May**

Northwest ISD's graduation ceremonies will begin Thursday, May 25, with Steele Accelerated High School, followed by Byron Nelson and Northwest high schools on Tuesday, May 30.

Steele's graduation ceremony will take place at 7 p.m. in Northwest High School's Vernon Solomon Performing Arts Center, located at 2301 Texan Drive in Fort Worth (GPS devices may require Justin to be entered). The PAC is located at the rear of the campus, near the west entrance.

Byron Nelson and Northwest will both hold their graduation ceremonies at the University of North Texas Coliseum, located at 600 Ave. D in Denton. Byron Nelson will hold its ceremony at 3 p.m., while Northwest will hold its ceremony at 7 p.m.

Attendees of Byron Nelson and Northwest's graduation ceremonies are recommended to leave early, as some roads may be blocked off for the ceremony and areas of I-35 near the university campus are under construction. Parking is available across from the UNT Coliseum in lot 20. For information about road closures near UNT, [click here](#). To see a map of UNT that displays the Coliseum and lot 20, [click here](#).

Information on live streams of the graduation ceremonies for those unable to attend in person will be available closer to each event.

For more information about a graduation ceremony, please contact the appropriate school's front office. Byron Nelson can be reached at 817-698-5600, Northwest can be reached at 817-215-0200 and Steele can be reached at 817-698-5800.

**Texas Rangers hosting Northwest ISD Night on June 2**

Northwest ISD and the Texas Rangers will host a special community night for the school district's students, staff and families, and tickets to the night's game are now on sale.

The Texas Rangers will host Northwest ISD Night on Friday, June 2, when the team faces the Houston Astros beginning at 7:05 p.m. An exclusive voucher to receive a free Texas Rangers baseball cap branded with one of Northwest ISD's three comprehensive high schools (Byron Nelson, Eaton or Northwest) will be provided to the first 300 registrants for each school. Additionally, all Northwest ISD students registered as part of the community night will receive a free whiffle ball set.

Prior to the game's start, the Rangers will also celebrate Northwest ISD education through a special video recording and announced information.

All tickets purchased for the event will receive a discounted price. For more information about the event, [click here to download a PDF flyer](#). To purchase tickets in one of the nine seating areas included for the event, visit [www.texasrangers.com/schools](http://www.texasrangers.com/schools).

FLYER [Texas Rangers Northwest ISD Night.pdf]

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