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Beaumont Independent School District
A Weekly Employee Publication



September 11, 2009

ACEs open across district as part of \$8+ million grant

Officials are excited to announce the kick off of it's new after school program, the 21st Century Community Learning Center which launched this week. Funded with an eight million dollar five-year grant, the program is designed to boost academic achievement across the district.

"We are excited about this new program," explains Project Director Dr. Lona Alexander-Mitchell "It will give us an opportunity to spend more time with our children, and that is what BISD is all about. There are so many fun and exciting things that teachers want to do in the classrooms but don't have enough time during the regular classroom day. It will give these teachers a chance to work with students in a different environment and in a different way that will enhance their educational experience."

The program has five main objectives to improve: academic, attendance, behavior, promotion rate, and the graduation rate. The centers are focusing on math, science and technology. Activities include hands on science experiments, math manipulative activities and other educational experiments. Throughout the year, students will also go on field trips as part of the program.



Dr. Lona Alexander-Mitchell

"One of the big features we want to teach our students is that character counts," adds Alexander-Mitchell "we are focusing on addressing behavior, attendance and character," she said.

Students are tested when they enter the program, and given a post test at the end of each semester. Alexander-Mitchell states the testing process is a way to track the progress of each student, and determine how effective the programs are in enhancing student's education.

The Learning Centers are open 4-7 p.m. on weekdays, every other week, for students in the third through eighth grade. An evening snack is also provided.

continued on page 4

Flu Shots

September 23rd
2:30- 6:30 P.M.

Central Office
Conf. Room A \$25.00

ANNUAL ENROLLMENT for CANCER INSURANCE

All employees not currently enrolled with American Heritage Cancer Insurance will have an opportunity to apply for a Cancer Policy from:

September 8 – 25, 2009.

Cancer Agent, Donald Wise will be available at the

Admin. Building cafeteria:

Wed., Sept. 16, 2009 3-6 pm

Wed., Sept. 23, 2009 3-6 p

For more info call 617-5028

617-5034 or 617-5029

Our Vision: Striving for excellence.

Our Mission: The mission of the Beaumont Independent School District, as the unifying force of the community, is to guarantee that our graduates possess the necessary skills, values and knowledge to compete successfully as productive citizens in a diverse global society through an educational system characterized by:

- Expectation of success for each person;
- Optimum application of technology;
- An appreciation of various cultures;
- Full involvement of parents, teachers and the community;
- Respect and care for each other.

September 2009 Calendar of Events

7

- National Grandparents Day
- Labor Day Holiday

8

- DEIC Meeting 2008-2009 Members
4:30 BISD Board Room

9

- Appraisal Period Begins

14

- High Schools Goals Night
- Substitute Teacher Appreciation Week

15

- Elementary Schools Goals Night
- DEIC Meeting 2009-2010 Elections -
Nominations Closed
- Hispanic Heritage Month

- DEIC Campus Election and Tally-Election Results announced

17

- Constitution Week
- Board Meeting 7:15 PM BISD Board Room 3395 Harrison Ave

21

- Middle Schools Goals Night
- Progress Report Grades Due

22

- Beaumont A & M Club - Outstanding Teacher Awards
- Administrative Staff Meeting BISD Board Room

24

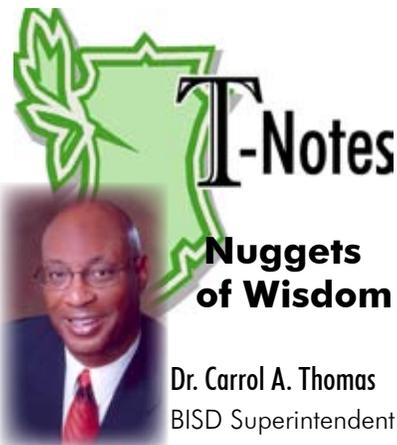
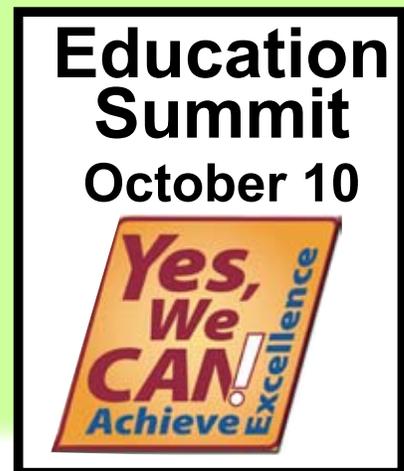
- Progress Reports Issued

25

- Campus Plans Due Before Noon

28

- DEIC Meeting 2008-2009



Don't drop the ball

An administrator recently asked me how I manage to keep all the balls in the air while attacks are occurring all about me. Consider academics, student affairs, employee relations, facilities, parents, taxpayers and government affairs as some of the balls he was describing. Visualize a magician tossing three balls in the air at a solid tempo.

Imagine four or five more balls being tossed into the flow of the balls floating from hand

to air. The magician has to be patient and aware enough to manage the tempo and flow of keeping all the balls in the air. For the average magician, maintaining three balls in the air at one time is tough.

Triple the number of issues, activities, situations, programs and/or groups interacting and to be maintained, there becomes a strong possibility that the average manager or magician would drop at least one ball.

While the magician may have a strong position with feet planted or rooted on solid ground, his or her position can be undermined.

I can clearly see the nine balls circulating in the air and momentarily touching one hand or the other for a momentum boost. Sometimes the balls are in danger of tumbling to the ground if a donkey is kicking the magician's feet, a bully is swinging a bat at the back of his

knees or a snake is biting at her ankles.

With all the distractions going on at the base of the manager's feet, most likely, a ball will be dropped. That is, unless-- unless we keep our eyes on all the balls. The distractions can often times be dangerous, even deadly. The best thing we can do is to be prepared – protect our base. Having a good team about is one of the best ways to keep on task, even in the face of tough challenges. I'm grateful for the great team of colleagues who help me to keep each and every ball in the air. I am not a magician, but hopefully a leader who has the good sense to recognize that team support is essential to every success, especially in an organization as large and diverse as BISD.

Kudos and Congratulations

by Georgia C. Antoine

Michelle Kibbles, parent involvement coordinator at the Woodrow Annex, along with her husband Jessie, assistant principal at West Brook High School, announce the recent graduation of their daughter Jessica Michelle from the Pennsylvania State University (Penn State) in State College, Pennsylvania. Jessica received a Bachelor of Science in Labor and Employment Relations.

Laura Scott, art teacher at Central Medical Magnet High School. Two pieces of Laura's artwork are on exhibition at the Museum of the Gulf Coast at 700 Procter Street in Port Arthur.

Beverly M. Johnson, homebound teacher from Smith Medical and Science Magnet Middle School, on completing her masters' of administration and supervision degree from the University of Phoenix.

Shelia Bryant, special education aide at Vincent Middle School, performed the national anthem on the steps of the courthouse in honor of Patriot Day and in memory of 9-11 victims.

Jennifer Smith, ESL/Bilingual teacher at Caldwell Elementary, on the birth of her second child, Karson Matthew. Karson was born on July 23.

CONDOLENCES

Sonja Brown, attendance clerk at the Paul Brown Center, in the loss of her mother Geraldine Monroe.

Dawoni Djato, teacher at Central Medical Magnet High School, in the loss of his Therese Nadjindo Nouko Djato, in West Africa.

Shante Phillips, language arts teacher at Austin Middle School, in the recent loss of her father Johnny E. Scott.

FOR SALE OR RENT

8500W Generator, (7000 Continuous). New, gasoline powered, 12 hours running time at 50% load, 7 gallon tank. Electric start with battery, wheel/handle kit included. Quiet (67 db), asking \$875.00 Call John at 658-7666.

Reed Jones, Jr., a retired music and history teacher, died earlier this week. He worked in

BISD for 36 years.

110 Gas 4-Wheeler; New. Never used. Asking \$600. Please call 893-0513.

13" color television, three languages, APEX digital, side/rear AV inputs, rear AV outputs, full feature remote, three picture mode; channel recall, scan; parental control – best offer. For more information, contact Ann Jones at 899-4376.

Residential lot in the Woodland Acres, size 115 X 70, corner of cul-de-sac, MAKE AN OFFER by contacting Mrs. Young @ 898-4595 or jyoung3@beaumont.k12.tx.us.

OneVision:

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Teacher of the Year nominee

Sue Ellen Ware, English teacher at the Pathways Learning Center, is a 2009 Reaud Excellence in Education Award nominee for Teacher of the Year. Pictured with Michael Ryals, principal of Pathways Learning Center.

Teachers attend Math and Science Academy

Several BISD teachers attended the Mickelson Academy this summer. The Academy was conducted recently at The Woodlands Resort and Conference Center in Houston. Ten math and science educators in grades 3-5 attended.

Phil and Amy Mickelson and ExxonMobil Corp., in conjunction with the National Science Teachers Association and Math Solutions, created the Academy to provide teachers with the opportunity to hone their mathematics and science teaching skills, and discover new ways to motivate their students.



The teachers attending this year were: Thomasine Buesing, Math, Amelia; Stephanie Garrett, Science, Amelia; Cecile McDonald, Science, Curtis; Regina Booker, Science, Homer Dr.; Kimberly Franklin, Math, Lucas; Deborah DuBose, Math, Pietsch-MacArthur; Melissa Weiblinger, Science, Pietsch-MacArthur; Jennifer Lyons, Math, Regina-Howell; Sharon Yee-TEAM Captain, Science, Regina-Howell

President speaks to students



The following comments are excerpts from President Barak Obama's national address to students and educators on Tuesday:

That's why today I'm calling on each of you to set your own goals for your education -- and do everything you can to

meet them. Your goal can be something as simple as doing all your homework, paying attention in class, or spending some time each day reading a book. Maybe you'll decide to get involved in an extracurricular activity, or volunteer in your community. Maybe you'll decide to stand up for kids who are being teased or bullied because of who they are or how they look, because you believe, like I do, that all young people deserve a safe

environment to study and learn. Maybe you'll decide to take better care of yourself so you can be more ready to learn. And along those lines, by the way, I hope all of you are washing your hands a lot, and that you stay home from school when you don't feel well, so we can keep people from getting the flu this fall and winter.

Now, your families, your teachers, and I are doing everything we can to make sure you have the education you need to answer these questions. I'm working hard to fix up your classrooms and get you the books and the equipment and the computers you need to learn. But you've got to do your part, too. So I expect all of you to get serious this year. I expect you to put your best effort into everything you do. I expect great things from each of you. So don't let us down. Don't let your family down or your country down. Most of all, don't let yourself down. Make us all proud.

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ACEs now open continued from page 1

Sites for the After School Centers for Education (ACE) are:

- Caldwell Elementary
- Dishman Elementary
- Fletcher Elementary
- Homer Elementary
- Lucas Elementary
- Pietsch-MacArthur Elementary
- Austin Middle
- King Middle
- Smith Middle
- Vincent Middle

The program is also open to

parents. There are computers and staff on hand at each site to help interested parents prepare and pass the G.E.D. (General Education Diploma). English classes for Spanish speaking parents are also available.