

Weekly High Five

November 11, 2008

Let me begin by telling you how overwhelmed I've been by the outpouring of support from the AISD family and community these last few weeks. I have read the many e-mails and letters, and I want to thank you for your kind words. The many statements and high fives reaffirmed my belief that if we stay focused and work toward set goals, the AISD can be a Recognized school district. As many of you know, the Board committee appointed to gather proposals from potential superintendent search consultants gave its report to the Board in closed session last Thursday. At that time, the Board made a decision to direct the administration to post the position and not move forward with a national search. In accordance with the Texas Education Code, the position must be posted for at least 10 days before it is offered to a candidate. The dedication and passion we share for the students and families of the AISD was evident in the open forum portion of the meeting.



Last Wednesday we delivered five pallets of school supplies and \$7,475 in cash donations from AISD students, staff and families to the Pasadena ISD. After Hurricane Ike swept through the area on Sept. 13, the damage to Pasadena campuses kept school out of session for almost two weeks. The donations we sent will go a long way toward their recovery effort. Thank you for your generosity and support. I'd like to give a special thanks to Jeff White and Spence for delivering the donations.

In addition, the Board has scheduled a work session for 7:30 p.m. this Thursday. They will discuss scheduling options for secondary schools, as well as consider appointing a bond committee and approving the charge to the committee. There is no open forum item on the agenda for this meeting, but there will be an opportunity to speak at a future meeting.

After last week's historic election and the many innovative lesson plans that led up to that moment, we must remember how important it is to be sensitive to opposing viewpoints, especially in the classroom. We must respect our students, families and colleagues with differing views while staying focused on classroom instruction.

Lastly, I would like to thank teachers and principals for complying with the STaR Chart timelines. Your cooperation allows the AISD to meet additional reporting requirements for the district's technology plan and eRate application. I appreciate all you do to make this a remarkable district!

Jerry McCullough
AISD Interim Superintendent

Congratulations



Debbie Williams
Executive Director of Elementary Instruction
Formerly Principal at Dunn ES
B.S. - UT, 1977
M.Ed. - UTA, 1996

Upcoming Dates to Remember

- Nov. 10-16: Youth Appreciation Week
- Nov. 11: Veterans Day; National Community Education Day
- Nov. 13: Called school board meeting
- Nov. 14: End second grading period
- Nov. 16-22: American Education Week
- Nov. 17: Begin third grading period
- Nov. 19: Education Support Professionals Day
- Nov. 20: School board meeting; National Parental Involvement Day
- Nov. 21: Report cards distributed
- Nov. 23-29: National Family Week

Bit of Inspiration

"The highest compliments leaders can receive are those that are given by the people who work for them."

-James Barksdale, Chairman and President, Barksdale Management Corporation

"Infinitely more important than sharing one's material wealth is sharing the wealth of ourselves – our time and energy, our passion and commitment, and, above all, our love."

-William E. Simon, Former US Secretary of Treasury



Arlington

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

More Than a Remarkable Education