Pearland Independent School District The preditation independent of the preditation independent of the prediction of the











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District News

Superintendent's Message



Our newsletter is aptly titled "The Progress" given the spectacular accomplishments of our students and staff in 2014. For example, in December, a national school district rating service proclaimed Pearland ISD as the No. 2 district in the greater Houston area and the 17th best district in Texas (out of more than 1,000 such districts). And there's more. Among the top 20 best middle and junior high schools in greater Houston, all eight of ours are listed.

We continue to have our high schools named as among the 500 best in the U.S. by still other publications. Our College Board Advanced Placement courses, participation figures and test results continue to skyrocket — as do our SAT and ACT scores. In addition, the number of our students earning dual credit doubled

in 2014 compared to four years ago. Now in its second year, Turner College and Career High School deserves much of the credit -- and gets rave reviews from parents and community members.

The accomplishments in the fine arts area as well as in career and technical education are regularly pictured in our local newspapers. With both bands (PHS and DHS) earning trips to the state marching finals, our dramas/musicals winning awards in both Houston and Austin and students winning unprecedented ribbons and medals, the "trophy hardware" coming back to Pearland is impressive.

Our financial picture is strong despite recession and state funding cuts experienced over the past four years. During that same timespan, the Texas Comptroller's Office rated school districts on a combination of financial efficiency and student achievement. We received some of the highest marks in Texas, again placing us among the top dozen school districts (out of over 1,000). The district recently sold \$30 million worth of school bonds made available through an election back in 2007. Through wise long-term stewardship by our board, the sale of those bonds was accomplished without raising the tax rate.

I'd also like to mention the group of really dedicated community members who helped launch the Pearland ISD Education Foundation this past year -- already netting teacher grants for innovative ideas/projects. There are many other such fundraising groups in our district, ranging from booster clubs to PTAs and robotic club enthusiasts. All go substantially beyond the "call of duty."

Perhaps the Grit Initiative launched over the past two years is a good way to describe the accomplishments of our children and staff. Essentially, that district-wide effort proclaims to all the benefits of hard work, perseverance and a "growth mindset." Great things lie ahead for those who put the time and effort into the accomplishments they desire. Those lesson plans, themes and reminders have now received attention from places as far away as London and Egypt. School districts in Texas have come our way to learn about what we're doing here -- and have had us present at statewide conferences.

Our goal is nothing short of becoming "world-class" in what we do. The effort is gaining momentum. . . .



John P. Kelly, Ph.D.

Pictured on the cover are (clockwise, from top left) Sablatura Middle School's Megan Campos, Pearland High School's Drew Bezner, Shadycrest Elementary's Emma Merritt, Rogers Middle School's Makenzie Bowman and Kennedi Walker and Rustic Oak Elementary's Peyton McBride, Nicholas Lara-Winter and Eric Ramirez.



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Finding our niche

District, schools rank among area's best in academics, public opinion

Pearland ISD and 11 campuses made top-20 spots in the Houston metro area for excellent academics and student culture according to 2015 Niche ratings.

The district not only ranked No. 2 in the area but also landed in the No. 17 spot in Texas.

Niche uses government/public data and parent and student surveys to rank districts and schools.

All Pearland ISD middle and junior high schools made the list of top schools in the Houston area.

In the school district category, Niche ranked 8,738 districts nationwide based on key statistics and 4.6 million opinions from 280,000 students and parents.

For the full district and campus ratings, visit www.niche.com.

All factors considered

What goes into a high Niche rating? Niche ranks districts and schools based on these factors:

- Academics
- Health and safety
- Student culture and diversity
- Parent and student surveys
- Teachers
- · Resources and facilities
- Extracurricular and activities
- Sports and fitness
- District overall experience

Gourmet feast fit for a trustee



During School Board Recognition Month in January, Dawson High School culinary art students, under the leadership of Chef Sean Dunn, prepared a five-course meal to honor trustees. Afterward, the board members were treated to a sneak preview of DHS's "Beauty and the Beast" spring musical.

Mark your calendars: Board election is May 9

Positions 3 and 4 will be on the ballot for the Pearland ISD Board of Trustees election on May 9.

If you plan to vote or run for office, be aware of these important dates.

Election Calendar Feb. 27 (5 p.m.):

- Deadline for candidates to file application for place on ballot
- Deadline for write-in candidate to file for trustee election
- Drawing for place on ballot

March 4 (5 p.m.): Deadline for candidate to withdraw from election April 9: Last day to register to vote

April 27 - May 5: Early voting
May 9: Election Day (polls open 7
a.m. - 7 p.m.)

For more information, visit www. pearlandisd.org » Board of Trustees » Election Information.

District News

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District ranks as FAST success

Consistency is the key for Pearland ISD, now celebrating yet another high rating from the Texas Comptroller for academic success combined with fiscal responsibility.

"We are fortunate to have administrators and board members who keep student success at the forefront in the most economical manner," Superintendent Dr. John Kelly said.

Released in December, the Financial Allocation Study for Texas gave Pearland ISD 4.5 out of 5 stars for "very low" spending compared to its fiscal peers and for academic progress in the top 25 percent of all Texas districts. The state has approximately 1,140 public school districts.

The district has earned high marks each year since the FAST program began in 2010.

Want to learn more about FAST? Visit www.FASTexas.org.

How does Pearland ISD measure up?

According to the new FAST rankings, Pearland ISD continues to outperform the state in academics and college readiness*:

Students passing any STAAR test:

- Pearland ISD 87 percent
- Texas 77 percent

Students with advanced performance on STAAR:

- Pearland ISD 22 percent
- Texas 13 percent

Graduates meeting college-readiness criteria in language arts and math:

- Pearland ISD 64 percent
- Texas 57 percent

*Academic data not from current school year

Sweet success: Lesmeister, Gigee earn state kudos



As a Texas Teacher of the Year finalist, Dawson High School's Mark Lesmeister (right) received a case of his favorite Blue Bell ice cream delivered to his classroom.

Pearland ISD has more reason to be proud of its own: two individuals have been recognized at the state level this fall.

For the first time, the district claimed a Texas Teacher of the Year finalist.

Dawson High School teacher **Mark Lesmeister** advanced to the state competition after winning the Region 4 Secondary Teacher of the Year Award. He ranked as one of the top educators in the Houston area.

The former Marine officer has taught pre-Advanced Placement and AP physics for eight years in Pearland ISD and considers his favorite part of the job to be getting students who don't "do science" excited in his class.

"As teachers, we should always remember that our small actions can have big consequences -- that what we do every day could impact a life forever," Lesmeister said. Advanced Academics director

Margo Gigee also earned a spot
among the state's best with the Texas
Association for the Gifted & Talented
Gulf Coast Area Administrator of the
Gifted Award.

Gigee numbers among the top five gifted administrators statewide.

Her passion is researching best practices for gifted education and seeking new ways to meet the needs of every student seeking advanced coursework.

Leading the Advanced Academics Department since 2006, Gigee has

helped Massey Ranch Elementary become authorized as an International Baccalaureate World School and open the GT Academy for grades 5-8.



Margo Gigee

She has also encouraged complete open enrollment in advanced, pre-AP and AP courses for grades 5-12 as well as SAT elective courses at all high schools.

"It is the responsibility of all educators to nurture their students' love of learning, set high expectations and provide a stimulating learning environment for all children," Gigee said.

Moody takes on new role; Palombo comes to PACE

Pearland ISD announced two changes in command this school year -- in its Human Resource Services Department and at PACE Center.

In January, former Dawson High School principal



David Moody

David Moody took over as HRS executive director.

Moody led DHS since it opened in 2007. During his time there, he built a solid team of administrators and teachers and a strong family atmosphere while fostering award-winning athletic, fine arts and academic programs.

Pearland ISD is working

to ensure a smooth transition for DHS students, faculty and staff, with associate principal Kelly Holt serving as interim principal.

The district has begun the search/selection process for the new principal and intends to select the best candidate by summer, if not earlier.

This August, PACE Center welcomed **John Palombo** as its new leader.

Palombo has six years of campus administrative experience and a master's degree in midmanagement.

As leader of PACE -- the district's nontraditional campus -- he strives to create an environment



John Palombo

where students see beyond earning a high school diploma to leading a fulfilling career and life.

Previously, he served as an assistant principal and math teacher in Clear Creek ISD and Lafayette.

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Campus News

Early Kindergarten Enrollment

Save time. Enroll online.

Beginning March 30, Pearland ISD is offering parents the option to begin early kindergarten enrollment online. (Pre-K enrollment is available in August.)

Check the zoned campus webpage to begin the enrollment process. Everyone -- whether enrolling online or in person -- must bring the required documents to the campus on the dates below.

Kinder Enrollment at Campus: April 6-9: 8-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m. April 7 (late night): 5-7 p.m.



www.pearlandisd.org Information » Parent Information » Kindergarten/PreK Enrollment

Patriotism runs high on Veterans Day



Sam Jamison Middle School student Hailey Beck celebrates Veterans Day with her brother Matthew Adams (U.S. Marines), principal Sharon Bradley (second from left) and assistant principal Martha Beaman.

A theme of red, white and blue linked schools district-wide as students celebrated Veterans Day.

Honoring veterans has been a tradition for Pearland ISD students each November.

From walls of honor displaying photos

of family heroes past and present to patriotic programs and assemblies, students paid tribute to veterans who have sacrificed to promote freedom.

At Dawson High School, veterans as far back as World War II regaled students with stories about their wartime service.

Despite rain, Turner College and Career High School students filled the bleachers for a flagpole dedication ceremony in memory of a fallen Air Force veteran from Pearland.

Magnolia Elementary students marched for freedom, waving U.S. flags, while Sam Jamison Middle School students ate breakfast with veteran family members.

At all grade levels, students paused to remember the selfless service of thousands of Americans protecting our nation and freedoms.

Canvas and beyond

From rodeo art to choir, students celebrate fine arts success

Pearland ISD's canvas displays many bright splashes this school year.

From art to music, students are making their mark in fine arts competitions.

After judging on Jan. 14, seven students will display their art at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, where approximately 60 pieces go to auction:

Best of Show:

- Andy Liu (Dawson High School)
- Helen Wang (Pearland Junior High West)
- Joe Fleming (Shadycrest Elementary)

Gold Medal:

- Priya Kass (DHS)
- Matthew Wu (DHS)
- Jennifer Li (PJH West)
- Michelle Moeller (C.J. Harris Elementary)

Competing in the same University Interscholastic League class for the first time ever, both **DHS and PHS bands** advanced to the 6A UIL State Marching Band Contest in November.

Both bands finished among the top 20 in the state in their class.

This fall, the Foundation for Music Education designated the **PHS Wind Ensemble** as a national

winner in the Mark of Excellence/National Wind Honors Project in both 5A and "New Music" classifications.

In the Mark of Excellence/National Choral Honors Project, the **PHS Chamber Choir** was also named a national winner.

The top 224 music ensembles nationwide competed by submitting performance recordings to the Foundation for Music Education, with only the top 25 percent chosen as national winners.

Is art your thing?

Pearland ISD will host its sixth annual Youth Art Month Art Walk, as well as select special exhibitions, March 1-31. Our young Picassos will display their work in local businesses and other areas. For updates, check the district website!



Above: Pearland Junior High West's Helen Wang won best of show for "Joe's Boots."

Left: C.J. Harris Elementary's Michelle Moeller won a gold medal for "Looking for a New Valley to Call Home."

Campus News

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Faces of cheer

What does holiday generosity look like? Students put on their most cheerful faces to bring joy to nursing home residents throughout Pearland.

Above: From left, Pearland High School's Leah Phillips and GT Academy students Ashley Dinh, Abigail Smaistrla, Jacob Phillips and Nicholas Johnson participate in the "Big Cheer" project.



Left: Dawson Eagles football players stuff stockings with treats.

Holiday generosity abounds

Pearland ISD students and staff look for opportunities year-round to give back to the community, but the holiday season especially shines the spotlight on their heart for helping others.

Sablatura Middle School students turned the page for a good cause. Gathering pledges for minutes of reading, students read books to collect clothes and household items for Forgotten Angels Resale Shop, which benefits individuals with developmental, intellectual and physical disabilities.

Gifted and Talented Academy students organized the "Big Cheer" project, with help from National Honor Society students from all three high schools and Pearland Junior High West. Armed with wrapping paper and bows, the students spread holiday cheer by decorating residents' doors at Windsong Village assisted living facility.

Dawson High School Eagles football players assembled Christmas stockings for Colonial Oaks Assisted Living, then performed carols for the residents as Coach Eric Wells played the piano.

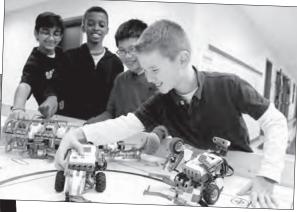
Instead of exchanging gifts with each other, Shadycrest Elementary faculty and staff brought pet food and supplies to their annual campus Christmas party and donated all the items to Pearland Animal Control.

ROBOTICS

Students apply science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education and problemsolving skills to complete real-world challenges through after-school robotics clubs



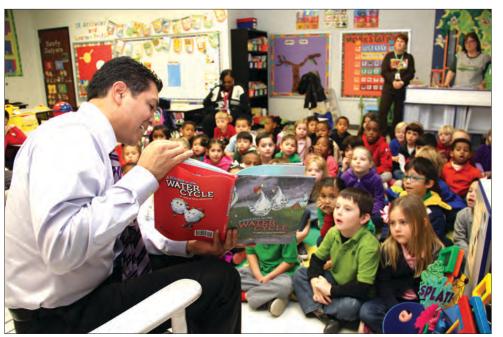
Above: Comprising students from all three high schools, the new Pearadox Robotics Club is preparing to compete against other teams nationwide at the Lone Star Regional in April. United Safety presented a trailer and \$5,000 donation to help launch the team into competition season. Pictured in hard hats are (from left) Jared Reeves (TCCHS), Zach Wallace (DHS), Bharath Balabaskar (DHS) and Alex De Jesus (TCCHS).



Above: For their current competition season, GT Academy students in the NXT Robotics Club designed LEGO robots to solve challenges similar to those faced by independent food growers. Pictured are (from left) Amar Sehgal, Jared Byars, Ryan Le and Josh Enos.

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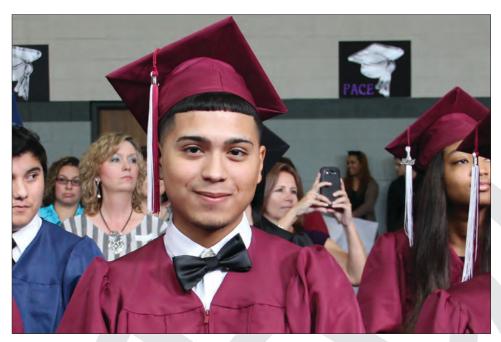
















Pictured are (clockwise, from top left) Dawson High School's Emily Xiong and Poonum Mehta; Pearland Junior High East's Cydnee Davis, Rachel Burton and Piper Stewart; Sablatura Middle School's Noelle Dalida; PACE Center's Brandon Espericueta; Silverlake Elementary's Ethan Nyabadza; C.J. Harris Elementary's Abigail Kim, Nadalyn Ortiz, Taylor Nguyen, Crystianna Coleman, Avery Varga and Daisy Nguyen; and Channel 2 meteorologist Anthony Yanez reading to Massey Ranch Elementary students.

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Making Pearland proud: Athletes set bar high

Pearland ISD athletes continued to stand out in athletics this fall.

For the first time in school history, the **Dawson High School tennis team** won the team tennis district championship and advanced to regionals.

Both high school football teams advanced to playoffs, with the **Pearland Oilers** making the area round and the **Dawson Eagles** the regional round.

DHS advanced two repeat state contenders to the University Interscholastic League state 6A cross country meet in November. **Abbie Harrelson** finished third at regionals, and **Matthew Murray** fifth at regionals to advance to state.

In volleyball, several players earned some of the highest honors statewide and nationwide for their excellence on and off the court.

Pearland High School's **Amanda Chapa** was named to the Texas Sports Writers Association All-State Team Honorable Mention, while **Brooke Botkin** made the TSWA 1st Team All-State and 6A Texas Girls Coaches Association All-State Team.

Cassidy Nussman, another PHS volleyball player, made the TSWA 2nd Team All-State, 6A TGCA All-State Team, TGCA Academic All-State Team and TGCA All-Star Blue Team for 5A/6A.

In addition, Nussman was named to the American Volleyball Coaches Association Under Armour Honorable Mention All-America Team.

DHS's **Siena Condon** made the 2014 TGCA Academic All-State Team.

In athletic training, four DHS students won the Texas State Athletic Trainers' Association Academic All-State Award: **Joseph Eberhardt**, **Lane Jackson**, **Alexis Enriquez** and **Madison Mize**.

Giving back



Pearland ISD's 2014 Texas Volleyball Invitational -- the largest high school volleyball tournament in the nation -- raised \$20,800 for the J.J. Watt Foundation. Pictured with John and Connie Watt is Pearland High School head volleyball coach John Turner (far right). (Photo courtesy of J.J. Watt Foundation)

Campus News

Livestock Show & Career Expo 2014

Skills on display from arena to kitchen, canvas

Whether baking, painting or corralling livestock, Pearland ISD students are skilled in multiple arenas.

This September, the district's third annual Livestock Show & Career Expo proved student skill has grabbed the community's attention, with the expo raising its highest auction total yet -- \$150,000.

Students exhibited culinary, livestock and art skills during the three-day event at the district's Richard L. Wagoner Agricultural Facility.

In addition to auction sales, the event raised \$8,500 for scholarships.

Grand and reserve champion winners included....



Dawson High School's Daniel Newcomb (far right) won grand champion steer at the Pearland ISD Livestock Show & Career Expo.

Livestock

- Daniel Newcomb (DHS): Grand Champion Steer
- Payton Albright (PHS): Reserve Champion Steer
- Samantha Lucas (PHS): Grand Champion Swine
- Caitlyn Salmons (PHS): Reserve Champion Swine
 Caitlyn Salmons (TSCLIS): Good (Champion Swine)
- Brady Morgan (TCCHS): Grand Champion Lamb
- Aimee Campos (PHS): Reserve Champion Lamb
 Alexis Wagoner (TCCHS): Grand Champion Goat
- Casey Hunt (PHS): Reserve Champion Goat

Showmanship

- Anna Woodruff (PHS): Open Cattle Showmanship Champion
- Payton Long (TCCHS): Swine Showmanship Champion
- Caitlyn Massey (PHS): Sheep Showmanship Champion
- Casey Hunt (PHS): Goat Showmanship Champion
- Brent Garner (TCCHS): Steer Showmanship Champion

Art

- Sijia Song (DHS): Visual Art Grand Champion
- Latisha Salsman (DHS): Visual Art Reserve Champion

Culinary

- Elizabeth Greer (TCCHS): Culinary Grand Champion
- Daniel Ridgway (DHS): Culinary Reserve Champion

Awards are fair game for FFA students

Pearland FFA students had a strong showing at the Brazoria County Fair in October, bringing home championship titles.

Grand champions included Turner College and Career High School's **Rachel Golla** (also won a reserve championship), Pearland High School's **Payton Albright** and **Sealy Peveto** and Pearland Junior High South's Jayce Morgan.

Reserve champions included TCCHS's **Alexis Wagoner** and **Michelle Youngblood**, PHS's **Anna Woodruff** and Berry Miller Junior High's **Jaden Cole**.

Turner College and Career High School's Elizabeth Greer, Brazoria County Fair Queen first runner-up



High schools make grade in SAT, ACT, AP results

When improving on excellence seems impossible, 22.5, compared to a state average of 20.9. students prove once again that they can.

In 2014-15, Pearland ISD high school students scaled to even loftier heights in academic success.

SAT/ACT

Pearland ISD's strategic focus on increasing advanced classes and creating a college-minded culture led to students earning higher SAT and ACT

According to College Board data released in September, Pearland ISD students' average SAT scores climbed 62 points, as compared to a drop of 5 points statewide and 1 point worldwide.

In addition, district scores climbed despite a 156 percent increase in SAT test-takers over the last five years (from 491 to 765 students).

Similarly, ACT scores reached an all-time high of

AP Scholar Awards

This fall, Pearland ISD celebrated a 15 percent overall increase in AP Scholar Awards for student achievement on the rigorous AP exam.

Approximately 2.3 million students worldwide took AP exams in 2014, and of those, only 23 percent earned an AP Scholar award.

Collectively, Dawson, Pearland and Turner College and Career high school students boasted 411 awards.

Students may qualify for four different levels of achievement based on their performance on the exams, which are scored on a five-point scale.

This year Pearland ISD boasted 27 National AP Scholars, who rank among the top 1 percent of all AP exam takers.

Intentionality is key

Pearland ISD has taken intentional steps to establish a college-minded culture leading to higher SAT, ACT and AP scores:

- PSAT available to all high school students during school day
- After-school SAT prep class
- SAT prep class as elective
- Embedded SAT/ACT skills and strategies in standard curriculum for all grades
- Increased dual credit enrollment
- Open enrollment in pre-AP and AP classes, beginning in fifth grade

Celebrating class of 2015: National scholarship honorees take bow

This school year marked the first time for all three Pearland ISD high schools to claim students in National Merit Scholarship, National Achievement Scholarship and National Hispanic Recognition programs. Congratulations to these seniors!

National Merit Commended Students

Dawson High School:

Cody Bahr Katherine Cheng Siena Condon Madeleine Fuertes Elizabeth Huang Imran Khan Robert Laroche Sharon Li Jinglei Peng Adhvaith Ram

Michelle Rhodes Laura Salvador Karun Salvady **Kylie Sanderson** Adam Shohet Ketan Sinha **Catherine Snow** Sijia Song Catherine Wu

Pearland High School:

Micah Gautney **Zachary Watson Dwayne Williams**

Turner CCHS: Kelleyeanne Kelley **Justin Kwak**

National Merit Semifinalists

Pearland High School:

Ethan Arnold Fiona Flynn

Dawson High School:

Naomi Andu Nathalie Podder Rachel Daniel Nakul Rao Angela Feng Joshua Rasband Qiwei Li Meredith Spradlin Rachel Nguyen Matthew Wu



National Achievement Semifinalists

Dawson High School:

Naomi Andu Tyler Davis

Pearland High School: Dwayne Williams

Turner CCCHS: Kelleyeanne Kelley

National Achievement Outstanding Participants

Dawson High School:

Elizabeth Asonye Alyah Scott

Turner CCHS:

Nneoma Oradiegwu

National Hispanic Recognition Scholars

Dawson High School:

Alexis Enriquez Joshua Feuless Cordero Solano

Pearland High School:

Ethan Martinez Turner CCHS:

Andrea Garza Elizondo

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Community Partners

Mountain of backpacks, notebooks equals well-supplied students

What totaled \$61,000 and ensured that Pearland ISD students started the school year prepared to learn? Back-to-school donations for 2014-15! Pearland ISD extends a big thank-you to these local organizations, businesses and individuals who generously donated school supplies to kick off the new school year.

During YMCA Operation Backpack, Vic Coppinger Family YMCA



10th Annual YMCA Operation Backpack

collected approximately 1,000 filled backpacks and three pallets of school supplies, with help from title sponsor **H-E-B**.

David L. Smith Realty donated 28 filled backpacks.

HOPE Church Pearland partnered with Wal-Mart to collect five carts filled with school supplies. In addition, the church donated 250 filled backpacks.

St. Andrew's Episcopal

Church donated approximately 13 large boxes of general and specific school supplies and school clothes to Lawhon Elementary.

Texas First Bank donated more than 240 school supplies and backpacks. **Vineyard Church Pearland** donated 205 supply packages and individual school supplies to Pearland ISD students.

Wal-Mart (288) donated approximately 150 school supplies to Challenger Elementary.



Pearland ISD receptionist Martha Stanley (left) helps Texas First Bank's Carmen Shepherd unload Angel Tree gifts for students in need during the holidays.

Holly, jolly Christmas

Community rolls out generosity during holiday season

More than 490 students in need celebrated a holly, jolly Christmas thanks to generous Angel Tree donors.

For Pearland ISD's second annual Angel Tree, approximately 75 sponsors adopted students for Christmas, buying gifts tailored to students' interests and delivering them to schools.

Thank you to these major Angel Tree donors:

- Access Church
- Christian Helping Hands
- HOPE Church Pearland
- Methodist Children's Program

- Pearland Lions Club
- Shadycrest Baptist Church
- Texas First Bank
- Tia Artisst

Pearland ISD also thanks these community groups for donating to students in need: **Gulf Coast Educators Federal Credit Union** for a \$500 donation and **New Life Lutheran Church** for \$490 worth of gift cards.
In addition, for the 17th consecutive

year, **South Park Funeral Home**decked the halls, delivering a
Christmas tree to every campus.

Community Partners

Pearland ISD thanks these community partners whose generous support helps create the best learning environment possible for our students. These groups and individuals have given in-kind donations, financial support and/or student and staff incentives during the 2014-15 school year.

Become a Community Partner

The district's Partners in Education program provides an avenue for corporate sponsors, civic leaders and community members to become an integral part of the classroom.

For more information, contact Tyson McMullen at 832.736.6179 or mcmullent@pearlandisd.org.

ACU of Texas
Adult Reading Center
American Federation of Teachers
Awards of Distinction
AXA Advisors

Beazer Homes Berkeley Eye Center

Brazoria County Fair Association Buffalo Wild Wings

Carl's Jr.

Carter Freeman

Casa Ole

Chic Esthetiq Med Spa & Laser Center

Chick-fil-A

Chocolate Bayou Federal Credit Union

Classic Auto Group Galveston

David L. Smith Realty/Susan Lenamon

Frost Bank Fun City Skate Golden Corral

Gulf Coast Educators Federal Credit Union

Hatch Mott MacDonald

H-E-E

HOPE Church Pearland

iT'Z Family Food & Fun KB Homes

KB Hor Koza's La Mad

La Madeleine Marco's Pizza

Maurice's

M.D. Anderson Children's Art Project

Memorial Hermann

Mike Graves

Ministry in Motion Bible Study/Pastor Keith Suchsland

New Life Lutheran Church

Papa Murphy's

Pearland Medical Center

Pearland Pediatric Dentistry

Queen Bling

Radius at Shadow Creek Ranch

South Park Funeral Home

Sport Clips

Spring Creek Barbeque

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Texas Classroom Teachers Association

Texas First Bank Texas Roadhouse

Texas Teachers

Total Body Work Chiropractic Tutoring Club of Pearland

UHCL-Pearland

UHCL-Pearland School of Education

Vic Coppinger Family YMCA

Vineyard Church Wal-Mart (288) Wal-Mart (Dixie Farm) Whataburger Zio's Italian Kitchen

Education Foundation

Help us reach \$150K by Feb. 28



Still interested in becoming a founding donor of the Pearland ISD Education Foundation?

You still have time, but the opportunity ends soon!

Running through Feb. 28, the Founders' Campaign seeks to raise \$150,000 for the foundation through donations of at least \$1,000. Donors of this amount or more will be recognized for the life of the foundation.

The foundation has raised more than 68 percent and has less than \$48,000 (as of Jan. 21) to go to reach the campaign goal.

You can be a part of enriching teaching and inspiring learning in Pearland ISD by supporting innovative teaching grants and other educational opportunities.

For credit card donations, click on the PayPal link on the foundation web page. For more information, contact Natalie Clogston at clogstonn@pearlandisd.org.



www.pearlandisd.org/foundation

Beeline for success

Grown-Up Spelling Bee raises more than \$22,000

The Pearland ISD Education Foundation's first fundraiser -- the Grown-Up Spelling Bee on Nov. 13 -- was an un-bee-lievable success!

This evening of crazy costumes, wacky words and ruthless rivalry raised more than \$22,000, with 19 teams competing for the bragging right of best spellers in Pearland.

But only one team could claim the championship trophy ... "Modified Spellers" from the Pearland ISD Special Programs Department! The runner-up team was the Pearland City Council "CHOMS" team.

Major bee sponsors included...

Queen Bee (\$3,000):

PBK Architects

Honey Bee (\$1,000):

A&A Cleaning Services



"Modified Spellers," championship team

- · Crain Group
- David L. Smith Realty
- First Choice Emergency Room
- Gulf Coast Educators Federal Credit Union
- Memorial Hermann
- Science, Math, and Technology Center of Excellence
- · Thompson & Horton, LLP

A B corland Is

Makeover by Brown Interiors

This fall, Brown Interiors worked with the Pearland ISD Education Foundation to donate \$15,000 worth of fine furniture and décor for the Transition Center, a home-like environment where Life Skills students learn skills for independent living.

Founding Donors

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Thank you to these founding donors! You still have a chance to be a founding donor. Join the Founders' Campaign by Feb. 28 with a donation of \$1,000 or more to be recognized for the life of the foundation!

Gold Pear (\$5,000 or more)

Bludworth Marine, LLC/Sheila & Richard Bludworth Gulf Coast Educators Federal Credit Union Home Town Bank Meador Staffing Services Drew & Traci Pelter Thompson & Horton, LLP

Silver Pear (\$2,500 or more)

Brett & Katie Cordes The Freeman Agency

Bronze Pear (\$1,000 or more)

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Welcome to new coordinator



Natalie Clogston

The Pearland ISD Education Foundation welcomed **Natalie Clogston** as its full-time coordinator Feb. 2.

Clogston formerly served as a career specialist in the district's Career and Technical Education Department.

With more than 10 years of experience in public schools, higher education and industry, she looks forward to facilitating a

positive network between the community and district.

"Great things are happening in Pearland ISD! I am excited about the opportunity to share this with community members and business partners and to serve as a connection between our district's needs and our community's generosity," she said.

Contact Clogston at clogstonn@pearlandisd.org.

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Communication Corner



P.O. Box 7 | Pearland, Texas 77588 | 281.485.3203 | www.pearlandisd.org

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"The Progress" is published biannually by the Pearland ISD Communications Department to inform the community about district news, events and accomplishments. "The Progress" is a Texas School Public Relations Association Best of Category and Gold Star winner. To make suggestions or comments, contact Communications Director Kim Hocott at 281.485.3203.



The Partners in Education program provides an avenue for the Pearland community to become an integral part of the education process for a mutually beneficial and rewarding relationship.

This collaborative effort connects students and classroom teachers with...

- Corporate sponsors
- Civic and government leaders
- Volunteers and mentors

Partnerships enrich and support Pearland ISD student learning and achievement. From contributions that promote educational excellence to classroom lectures given by business professionals, partnerships enhance the educational experience and promote student success district-wide.

Want to learn more about partnerships? Contact Tyson McMullen at mcmullent@pearlandisd.org or 832.736.6179







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dates to remember

Feb. 16	. Staff Development (No School)
Feb. 25	. Progress Reports
March 16-20	. Spring Break
March 25	. Report Cards
April 3	. Good Friday (No School)
April 15	. <mark>Pr</mark> ogress Reports
April 27- May 5	. Early Voting (Board of Trustees Election)
May 9	. Board of Trustees Election
May 13	. Progress Reports
May 25	. Memorial Day (Holiday)
June 4	Last Day of School/Early Release
June 4	Report Cards (Grades PK-4)
June 5	. Staff Workday
June 5	. Pearland HS Graduation (10 a.m.)
June 5	. Dawson HS Graduation (1 p.m.)
June 5	.Turner CCHS Graduation (4 p.m.)
June 15	. Report Cards Mailed (Grades 5-12)