

the progress

PREPARE

PERFORM

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Pearland Independent
School District

Winter 2014



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Superintendent's Message

The last legislative session (January - June 2013) resulted in a major positive change for Texas public education. Our lawmakers realized that a "one size fits all" university prep plan is not the best option for all high school students. With 70 percent of the high-paying skilled jobs in America requiring technical training and alternatives to the bachelor's degree, the new Texas graduation laws give students much-needed flexibility.

The state's new graduation options require a challenging, flexible set of courses for the default or "Recommended Diploma" -- making it the base requirement for those wanting to go on to higher education or a skilled career position. The lesser plan, titled the "Foundation Diploma," is really designed only for those not capable of anything more. In addition, the state has also created new requirements for a "Distinguished Diploma." Students who receive a Distinguished Diploma and are in the top 10 percent of their class receive automatic admission to Texas public universities. Within both the Recommended and Distinguished diploma plans, the state has prescribed five new career endorsements that, if completed, help future career aspirations: science, technology, engineering and math (STEM); business and industry; public services; arts and humanities; and multidisciplinary studies.

Students currently in 10th grade and above can graduate under the "old" graduation diploma plans or under these newer requirements.

The state is finalizing course decisions for these new graduation plans -- and the degree to which they will allow local school districts flexibility to create their own courses and pathways. Local options help us tailor our offerings to area businesses and industry. Our Pearland ISD educators are now fitting courses together for occupational pathways within each of these five endorsement areas. We want to maximize the competitive edge for our graduates -- whatever their goal in life.

Every eighth-grader will be counseled this semester on these options and changes, and parents will be required to sign off on any initial decisions made. Students and parents can still change their plans thereafter. We realize that most students don't yet know what they want to do with their lives, but getting exposure to courses and skills for which they have aptitude and/or interest will help.

The state graduation changes are favorable -- and allow for more local decision-making. Each student is responsible for excelling, while our schools must provide rich opportunities and work in partnership with parents. I believe that Pearland ISD is poised to lead the pack in terms of providing both college readiness and career opportunities. In turn, I hope parents and students choose their own path with wisdom and "true grit"!



Pictured on the cover are (from left) Challenger Elementary's Colin Johnson, Pearland Junior High South's Rachael Farquharson, C.J. Harris Elementary's Luke Medrano and Austin Murphy and Dawson High School's Sharon Yang.

May 10 board election to determine two seats

Voters will cast their ballots for two seats on the Pearland ISD Board of Trustees this May.

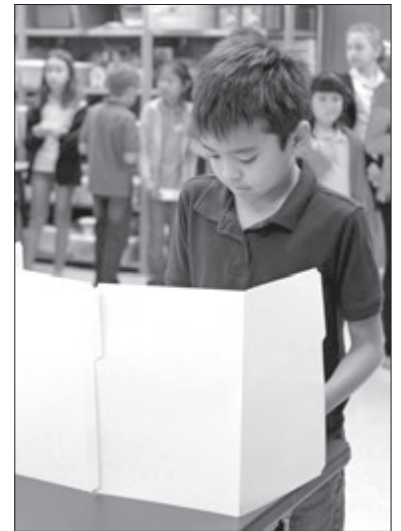
The May 10, 2014 election will fill positions 1 and 2.

Applications for these positions may be filed from Jan. 29 through Feb. 28 at 5 p.m.

Candidate packets may be obtained from the Superintendent's Office, Education Support Center, 1928 N. Main, Pearland, Texas 77581.



www.pearlandisd.org
Board of Trustees » Election Information



Cockrell Elementary mock election

Leading and learning



Pearland ISD trustee Virgil Gant presents at a Leadership TASB (Texas Association of School Boards) session in November. The year-long program allows board members throughout Texas to glean from education leadership experts and develop their personal leadership skills. (Photo courtesy of TASB)

Board adopts new public comment time

The Pearland ISD Board of Trustees recently approved earlier sign-up and speaking times for public comment at regular board meetings.

Individuals who want to participate in public comment must sign up with the presiding officer or designee before 6:15 p.m. and indicate their speaking topic.

The sign-up book will be available no later than 4 p.m.

Individuals may address the board during the public comment portion of the regular meeting. However, the board will not act on any item unless it is in the published agenda.

At regular meetings, the board allots approximately 30 minutes for public comment. Individuals may have up to five minutes to address the board. Groups of more than five people may appoint up to three people to present their views before the board.

Attend Board Meetings & Receive e-Agendas

The board meets at 5 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month at the Education Support Center, 1928 N. Main. To subscribe to electronic board agendas, visit www.pearlandisd.org and click on the "Board of Trustees" tab. Then scroll down the page and click on "Subscribe" to receive board agendas."



281.485.3203
www.pearlandisd.org

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District's finances, academics ranked among top 11 in state

For the fourth consecutive year, Pearland ISD has achieved the highest rating in the Financial Allocation Study for Texas -- the state comptroller's report ranking districts for strongest academic progress combined with lowest relative spending.

Only 13 charter and 42 public school districts received the five-star rating this year, earning the "Texas Honors Circle" designation.

As a five-star recipient, Pearland ISD ranks among the top 20 percent of districts in student academic growth and among the lowest 20 percent of its fiscal peers for spending per student.

In the comptroller's study, Pearland ISD achieved a composite academic progress percentile of 94 percent (making as much or more progress than 94 percent of Texas districts) and ranked "very low" in spending.



Texas Honors Circle

Five-star districts like Pearland ISD are designated Texas Honors Circle districts.

Did You Know?

Pearland ISD is one of only 11 districts in Texas (out of 1,227) to have earned a five-star rating each year since FAST began in 2010.



Bad Weather Make-Up Days

Because of two lost days of instruction in January due to bad weather, these changes have been made to the 2013-14 district calendar:

- **Monday, Feb. 17:** School in session (originally staff development day)
- **Thursday, June 5:** Regular school hours (scheduled bad weather make-up day)
- **Friday, June 6:** Last day of school/early release
- **Saturday, June 7:** Teacher/staff workday



Text messaging used for emergency alerts

Want to receive timely text messages about school cancellations, delays and emergencies?

Cell phone numbers for district emergency texts are pulled only from primary parent information in the cellular field in Skyward, not from emergency contacts.

Make sure your contact information is up to date. If it changes during the school year, please call your child's school office or log onto Skyward to make changes.

Subscribe to Receive Texts:

1. Log onto Skyward at www.pearlandisd.org.
2. Under the "Student Information" tab, hover over the "Request Changes for your student(s)" link on the right-hand side of the screen.
3. Click on the "Family Information" link.
4. In the drop-down boxes for phone numbers, enter your cell phone number as "Cell." Then click "Save." If a number is listed in the cell field, you will receive text messages to that number.

Wi-Fi, BYOD expand classroom learning

Sometimes the best learning tool is already in a student's hand.

Pearland ISD is tagging onto the availability of smartphones and other personal devices to keep today's tech-savvy students engaged in learning.

Thanks to high-capacity, district-wide Wi-Fi,



Silverlake Elementary students (from left) Andrea Barrera, Sebastian Marquez and Levi Casas use a smartphone to check the answer to a problem.

Pearland ISD has launched a bring your own device (BYOD) initiative this school year at every campus, allowing students to use their personal technology or provided equipment for designated assignments and lessons in the classroom.

To launch the mobile learning initiative, Pearland ISD opened every school with Wi-Fi in August 2013.

While BYOD was piloted at several district campuses over the last two years, it has now expanded to every campus.

Classroom learning is moving beyond textbooks and worksheets as students -- supervised by teachers -- collaborate to solve problems or research on their personal devices.

Because Wi-Fi is still new to Pearland ISD, teachers are implementing BYOD gradually into lessons.

In addition, educational technology specialists are teaming with curriculum and instruction specialists on best ways to integrate wireless technology-based activities into the classroom.

Any personal device that is Wi-Fi-enabled

BYOD Snapshots

Examples of bring your own device (BYOD) learning in the classroom:

- **Silverlake Elementary** students solve math problems and then check the answers by scanning QR codes with their devices.
- **Sam Jamison Middle School** choir students use personal devices to view Edmodo, a social learning platform website, for music assignments and websites at the end of class.
- **Pearland High School** medical terminology and health science students create terminology flashcards each week using apps on their devices.

but does not have cellular service may access the district's BYOD network: laptops, tablets, smartphones, DS, iPods, iPhones and more.

The filtering system used on Pearland ISD computers still applies to students who connect to the district network on their mobile devices.

Rolling out the kindness

Students show a big heart for those in need



Pearland Junior High East student Addison Gregory rolls out a bike for Toys for Tots.

No opportunity for compassion was too big or too small for students this fall.

Shadycrest Elementary students made more than 300 plastic bracelets for children at Texas Children's Hospital for Christmas. The bracelets were designed to be worn during surgery and other procedures.

After creating home-themed necklaces on "shrinky dink" plastic, **Alexander Middle School** students donated the finished jewelry to be sold in the greater Houston Habitat for Humanity "Restore" to benefit local families in need.

Berry Miller Junior High students honored "gritty" American service members by raising \$4,000 for Cup of Joe, an initiative that delivers a cup of coffee and a letter for \$2 per service member.

For the sixth consecutive year, **Pearland Junior High East** boys' athletics raised money to purchase bicycles for the Pearland Police Department and Fire Department's Toys for Tots drive. Students donated enough to buy 35 bicycles for the toy drive.



From left: Shadycrest Elementary's Makenna Meili, Kirsten Dawson, Brooklyn Gagneaux and Karli Dawson make bracelets for TCH patients.

Register your child early for kindergarten

Planning to enroll your child in kindergarten for 2014-15?

To qualify, your child must be five years old on or before Sept. 1, 2014. Students must be enrolled by a parent or legal guardian whom they live with in Pearland ISD.

These documents are required for early kindergarten enrollment (dates below):

Documents in parent/guardian name:

- Deed or current home lease (tax statement may be used for deed; apartment lease must list parent and student)
- Current utility bill
- Parent/guardian Texas driver's license/ID with correct address
- Legal guardian: Court order naming you as student's guardian

Required student records:

- Student immunization records validated by health professional or school official
- Student's official birth certificate
- Student's Social Security card

All pre-kindergarten students will qualify and enroll during August enrollment. For enrollment questions, contact Janet Christman in the Support Services Office at 281.485.3203.



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

Early Kinder Registration at Zoned Campus

- **Mon. - Thurs., April 7-10:** 8-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m. (daily)
- **Tues., April 8:** 5-7 p.m. (late night)

From brushes to brass, students inspire with artistic talent

The instruments were different -- from paintbrushes and pencils to voices and tubas -- but the results were the same: success.

Pearland ISD celebrates numerous artistic and musical accomplishments this fall and winter.



"Cows at Pasture" best of show art by Pearland Junior High West student Jennifer Li

The **Pearland High School Chamber Choir** numbers among only two high school mixed choirs in a seven-state region selected to perform at the Southwestern American Choral Directors Association convention this March.

Eight artists will display their art at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo after rounding up top honors during **rodeo art judging** on Jan. 15:

Best of Show:

Alexandra Morano, Dawson High School
Jennifer Li, Pearland Junior High West
Katelyn Yacuk, Alexander Middle School

Gold Medal:

Sijia Song, DHS
Matthew Wu, DHS
Amy Rivera, PJH West
Aaron Cheng, Challenger Elementary

Special Merit:

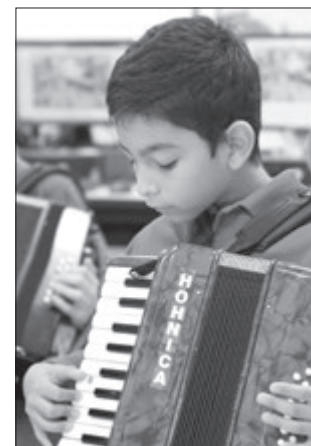
Latisha Salsman, DHS

The sound of music is filling the halls of **Carlestone, C.J. Harris, Magnolia and Rustic Oak**

elementary schools.

These schools won Texas Music Educators Association grants in the fall for classroom instruments, music, technology and other educational supplies.

The **Dawson Eagles Marching Band and Catalyst Color Guard** finished seventh in the state at the 4A UIL State Marching Band Competition in November.



Carlestone Elementary's Ismael Valdez tackles the accordion.

Youth Art Month Art Walk: Pearland ISD will host its fifth annual art walk March 1-31, with young Picassos displaying their works in area businesses. For updates, check the district website.



"I've got grip!"

Challenger Elementary's Preschool Program for Children with Disabilities created a "Tower of Grit." When students work hard and accomplish a goal, they add a brick to the tower to reach the top. When he learned to eat on his own without help, student **Jonathan Garcia** (left, with teacher Sara Gonzales) got so excited that he yelled, "I've got grip!" (He couldn't say grit yet.) For Garcia, grit has meant overcoming physical challenges to focus on learning.



Going the distance

Pearland High School hosted a Grit Run in the fall to benefit **Hannah Hendricks** (middle), who was struck by a car last summer as she was jogging. Although she has undergone several major surgeries to her lower body, Hendricks has vowed to make a full recovery and run again for the cross country team.

Grit galore

Students push past challenges to reach success

Pearland ISD's "grit" initiative is in full swing at every campus.

Launched in fall 2013, the initiative teaches students the values of perseverance and hard work.

Every campus has implemented "gritty" attitudes and vocabulary into the school culture in unique ways -- from songs and raps to student-created videos and posters. "Grit cams" are capturing gritty things students are doing. Counselors and teachers are leading lessons on what it means to persevere. And students and staff are being recognized for hard work, not just end results.

Grit shows up in many forms. Here are some ways students are transferring "grit" into their lives in and out of school. . . .

Losing an arm but not hope

After a car accident in early January, right-handed drummer **Seth Blunt** from Dawson High School had his right arm amputated.

While some people might have gotten angry or depressed, Blunt has chosen a gritty attitude.

"While I was at the hospital, I thought, 'I can use all of my energy to be negative and angry, or I can use it to benefit myself and be positive,'" he said.

Blunt, who has played the drums for seven years, has no desire to stop. In fact, he has already been rearranging his drums to accommodate his left arm and will work with DHS band instructors to modify his music so he can continue with the marching band this fall.

"Losing an arm isn't going to stop me. . . . Instead of having two arms with equal strength, I'll have one arm with double strength," he said.



Dawson High School's Seth Blunt

According to this determined student, comparing his situation to other people's positions has made the difference:

"What helps me was thinking I could have lost both arms. I could have lost both legs or been paralyzed. That motivates me."

How does it feel to wake up from surgery and find your arm gone?

Blunt's reply: "Nothing is going to stop me. I want to be better than I was before."

tenacity

"Nothing is going to stop me."

Serving with grit

As part of a "True Grit" enrichment class, Rogers Middle School students are making a difference by designing and implementing positive projects in the community. Projects have included donating to "Locks for Love" and Ronald McDonald House, volunteering at pet shelters, hosting a magic show at a nursing home and organizing a bake sale to benefit former Rogers student Seth Blunt (story at left). (Pictured at right is Rogers student Joshua Stoute.)



integrity



www.pearlandisd.org
Information » Grit Initiative



Right: Challenger Elementary students Abigail Gibson (left) and Grace Wilsford participate in the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Jingle Bell Fun Run.

Right: PACE Center's Humberto Aguilera prepares to receive his diploma in a winter graduation ceremony.



starry, starry heights

Right: Magnolia Elementary students (from left) Savannah Epting, Kenya Stewart and Ma Camila Razo march in a Veterans Day freedom parade.



Above: Silvercrest Elementary student Zion Stephens pledges to the flag during a Veterans Day program.



Left: Dawson High School students perform the school edition of "Les Miserables." Pictured are (from left) Jonathaniel Asistente, Ryland Weeks, John Griffin, Justus Ross, Josh Flores, Zach Howard, Matt Kelso, Victor Nguyen and Nathan Unroe.



Above: Berry Miller Junior High students (from left) Taylor Do, Martina Macias and Olivia Ramos sign a Rachel's Challenge poster, agreeing to make a difference at their school through acts of kindness.



Left: Sablatura Middle School KIPPERS Club member Mia Vargas prepares the courtyard garden for flowers.

CTE students, staff make their mark

Career and Technical Education staff and students showed tireless preparation and grit from competing to opening a new high school.

For the second year, students exhibited livestock and showcased art and culinary talents on home turf at the Richard L. Wagoner Agricultural Facility in September.

The **Livestock Show & Career Expo** raised \$12,750 for student scholarships and approximately \$107,500 during an auction of livestock, art and culinary entries.

The **Pearland FFA Agricultural Issues Team** placed ninth in the state at the FFA Leadership Development Events contest in December. Statewide, 168 teams competed in this category this year. Teammates included



Pearland FFA Agricultural Issues Team

Allyssa Alexander, Elizabeth Greer and Evann Wehman from Turner CCHS and Autumn Beaupre, Max Green and Cassandra Salmons from

Pearland High School.

Dawson High School's Chef Sean Dunn won the **Hospitality Educators Association of Texas Educator of the Year Award** for his outstanding work in preparing students for the culinary arts and hospitality management industries.

Turner College and Career High School opened



TCCCHS students (clockwise, from left) Fernando Garcia, Alexia Trent, Christopher Simons and Shannon Cowan groom a dog in Small Animal Management class.

in August 2013 with four times the number of students originally anticipated.

Students may choose a career pathway for their major coursework and earn up to 60 college credits or an associate's degree by graduation.

TCCCHS is currently accepting declarations of intent to enroll for fall 2014. Please visit www.pearlandisd.org/TurnerHS.cfm for more information.

Athletes make dash for victory

Whether scoring, serving or sprinting for the finish line, Pearland ISD athletes stood out in fall sports.

After a victory-studded season, the Pearland Oilers football team blazed to a finish as the **UIL 5A Division I State Finalist**.

The Dawson Eagles football team, giving stiff competition throughout the season, placed as the **UIL 4A Division I Regional Finalist**.

In volleyball, both high school squads advanced to playoffs, with Dawson Lady Eagles placing as the **UIL Region 3 4A Regional Finalist** and the Pearland Lady Oilers as the **UIL Region 3 5A Quarterfinalist**.

In cross country, DHS advanced two runners to the **UIL 4A State Cross Country Meet** in November. Abbie Harrelson placed 13th out of 112 runners at state, and Matthew Murray 25th out of 118 runners.



The Pearland Oilers football team heads to the state championship game.

UIL Reclassification

DHS and PHS both fall in Conference 6A, according to new UIL classification for 2014-16. On Feb. 3, UIL announced realignment for football and basketball, with DHS and PHS now both competing in District 22 along with Alvin, Manvel and Pasadena schools. For more updates, visit www.uil-texas.org.



Chris Shaddock (left) accepts an award from GHATS president Cat Marr.

Athletic trainers, student trainers recognized

Dawson High School athletic trainers and student trainers took away top awards at the Greater Houston Athletic Trainers' Society workshop in January -- the largest workshop of its kind in the nation.

DHS head athletic trainer Chris Shaddock and assistant athletic trainer Lindsey Thomas won the **G"HATS" Off Award** for their work to protect athletes in their care. Shaddock also received the **Tom Wilson Award** for dedication and service to athletic training and high professional standards.

In addition, DHS student athletic trainers Brittanie Smithley and Kaylee Goolsby received the **Texas State Athletic Trainers Association Academic All-State Award**.

DHS, PHS advancing in Advanced Placement

Dawson and Pearland high schools celebrate College Board Advanced Placement achievements and opportunities.

DHS and PHS are among fewer than 150 schools worldwide currently chosen to participate in the roll-out of the new **AP Capstone Program** in fall 2014.

The Capstone program includes a two-course sequence: AP Seminar and AP Research.

The program will help students develop skills critical for success in college inquiry, research, collaboration and writing while complementing the rigor of core AP courses and exams.

AP Capstone™

Logo courtesy of College Board

Students who successfully complete the program and earn qualifying scores on their exams may be eligible for an AP Seminar and Research Certificate and AP Capstone Diploma.

For more information, DHS students should contact assistant principal Sheridan Henley, and PHS students should contact assistant principal Lynn Walker.

In addition, Pearland ISD celebrated a 38 percent increase in **AP Scholar Awards** from 2012 to 2013.

According to scores released by College Board in the fall, 183 DHS students and 152 PHS students qualified for AP Scholar Awards based on performance on AP exams.

Of 2.2 million students worldwide who took AP exams, only 490,000 earned an AP Scholar award in 2013.

Did You Know?

Twenty-four Pearland ISD students earned the top National AP Scholar Award, ranking among the top 1 percent of AP exam takers. These scholars earned scores of four or higher on eight or more exams.

Students prepare for spring testing; schools celebrate top ranking



"Our results reflect the hard work of our students and staff and demonstrate their perseverance in tackling a new test and accountability system." -- Superintendent Dr. John Kelly

Pearland ISD students and staff prepare for spring testing while continuing to celebrate top ratings from the state.

The district and all campuses achieved the state's approval rating of "Met Standard" in August -- when the Texas Education Agency released official State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) scores and accountability ratings for 2012-13.

Pearland ISD not only exceeded state standards in all subjects tested at all grades but also set the bar high in test scores in the region.

Students are currently preparing for testing in

March, April and May. To maintain a quiet testing environment, campuses will be closed on testing dates.

For testing dates, contact the campus or visit the Pearland ISD Testing Office webpage.



www.pearlandisd.org
Departments » Testing Office

Scholars recognized in national programs



DHS National Merit Semifinalists (above, from left):

Jennifer Nguyen, Lucia Zhan, Patrick Wu, Pallavi Dev, Swetha Ramamurthy, Jonathan Jackson, Jordan Todes, Milton Cousins, Daniel Wu, Alexandra Morano and Sharon Yang



PHS National Merit Semifinalists (from left):

Shivam Dave (left) and Omar Abdelaziz

Pearland ISD boasts a record number of students tagged in national scholarship and recognition programs in 2013-14. Congratulations!

National Merit Commended Students

Dawson High School: Connor Allensworth, Cody Blanchard, Kathryn Broussard, Matthew Caddell, Emilia Cavallaro, Hannah Gano, Erin Hynes, Jason Luong, Natasha Mehta, David Ramby, Tate Smith and Reuben Thomas

Pearland High School: Beth Bishop, Krista Kamp, Olasubomi Olubeko, Shiv Patel, Rachel Thompson and Nicholai Twyman

National Achievement Program Semifinalists: Khalid Yusuf (DHS), Olasubomi Olubeko (PHS) and Nicholai Twyman (PHS)

National Achievement Program Outstanding Participants: Kayla Scott (DHS), Candice Sutor (DHS) and Kalen Johnson (PHS)

National Hispanic Recognition Scholars

Dawson High School: Celeste Fernandez, Kiara Hernandez, Cristian Maldonado, Carolina Martinez-Ramirez, Mariana Martinez-Ramirez and Alixandra Vinson

National Hispanic Recognition Honorable Mention

Pearland High School: Alejandro Gonzalez, Marcella Saboe, Amber Shaner, Romel Tamez and Jacob Valle

District, Memorial Hermann expand partnership

Pearland ISD expanded its partnership with Memorial Hermann Health System in the fall to increase medical support and services to athletes and enhance the district's healthcare education.

Through this agreement, Memorial Hermann serves as the official healthcare provider for Pearland ISD athletic programs and approximately 3,500 athletes.

In addition, the partnership enhances the district's clinical rotation programs and healthcare career pathways at the high school level.

Opportunities include. . . .

- Baseline concussion testing
- Access to EKGs for high-risk athletes
- Saturday morning injury clinics
- Continuing education opportunities for athletic trainers and coaches
- Health/wellness support for faculty, staff and parents (including preventive screenings, seminars, health fairs, nursing education and academic programs)
- An annual scholarship for high school students

MEMORIAL
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YMCA Operation Backpack donated filled backpacks for the ninth consecutive year.

School supply drives support academic success

Local organizations worked hard to ensure that students were well-supplied for success, donating almost \$93,000 in back-to-school supplies for 2013-14.

Pearland ISD thanks these generous community partners:

First United Methodist Church Pearland donated 1,090 miscellaneous school supplies.

HOPE Church Pearland partnered with **Wal-Mart (1919 N. Main)** to hold a school supply drive, collecting eight large boxes filled with supplies. In addition, the church donated 120 filled backpacks.

Jazzercise Pearland donated more than 350 school supplies to students.

Method Evolution held a school supply drive and donated approximately 300 items -- clothing and supplies -- for students.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church provided many boxes of general and specific school supplies and school clothes to Lawhon Elementary.

The **Stuff the School Bus** campaign donated 20 pallets of school supplies -- worth \$45,485 -- to Pearland ISD.

United Healthcare donated approximately 1,000 school supplies to Carlestone Elementary.

Vineyard Church Pearland donated 343 school supplies.

During the ninth annual **YMCA Operation Backpack** campaign, Vic Coppinger Family YMCA gave approximately 900 backpacks and 17,720 school supplies.

(Note: This list includes larger sponsors only. Numerous individuals also generously donated supplies.)

Thank you, holiday donors!

For many, the holidays represent turkey and dressing galore and presents in shiny wrapping. For others, they are a reminder of an empty fridge and few gifts under the tree. Pearland ISD thanks our generous community for donating to our students and families in need during the holidays. During the first annual Pearland ISD Angel Tree, about 130 groups and individuals adopted 418 students, making sure all children could have gifts under the Christmas tree. We appreciate everyone's kindness in making the "most wonderful time of the year" brighter for hundreds of children in our district. Thank you to these groups. . . .

Lion's Club of Pearland

Gave \$500 for Pearland ISD Angel Tree

Shadycrest Baptist Church

Adopted 29 Angel Tree students



Access Church

Adopted 40 Angel Tree students

Silverlake Church

Gave 55 Thanksgiving dinners for students' families

Dixie Farm Wal-Mart

Donated 15 \$200 gift cards for holiday dinners for students' families

South Park Funeral Home

Donated a Christmas tree to every school

HOPE Church Pearland

Adopted 51 Angel Tree students

Foundation to launch founders' campaign

The Pearland ISD Education Foundation Board of Directors is beginning groundwork for a founders' campaign.

Anticipated to launch this spring, the founders' campaign will draw community sponsors for innovative classroom programs to enhance learning.

Not only will donors have the opportunity to partner with a district that has a track record of academic excellence, but they will also expand learning opportunities to prepare students for college



The education foundation board of directors meets Jan. 15 to discuss the founders' drive.

and career success.

Through community support, the first round of teacher grants may be awarded as early as next winter.

Other sponsorship opportunities may include staff development, scholarships, student/teacher recognition programs and/or endowment funds.

The education foundation was launched in 2013-14 to provide financial support to Pearland ISD,

its teachers and classrooms through fundraising for programs and projects that may fall outside the district's general operating budget.

Support the Foundation

The Pearland ISD Education Foundation will provide additional support to the district's 20,000 students and 1,200 teachers.

As a 501(c)(3) organization, the foundation will allow companies, organizations and individuals to receive the maximum tax credit for their donations and support of the district.

All donations are tax-deductible. To donate to the foundation, contact Pearland ISD business/community liaison Moniki Specks Mason at specksm@pearlandisd.org or 281.485.3203.



A Deal on Wheels

Above (top): State Farm Insurance's Ed Thompson presents a 2010 Dodge Dakota truck to the Pearland High School auto technology program. The donation was made possible through State Farm and the Northern Brazoria County Education Alliance. Bottom: PHS students Savannah Haynes (left) and Sabrina Wilkins-Rivas work under the hood of the donated truck.

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 gave in-kind donations, financial support and/or student and staff incentives.



www.pearlandisd.org
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Partners in Education

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Christian Helping Hands
Coppinger Family YMCA
Favors 4 Friends Charity Thrift Shop
Golden Corral
Gringo's
Gulf Coast Educators Federal Credit Union
H-E-B Plus!
HOPE Church Pearland
Huntington Learning Center
iT'Z Family, Food & Fun
Kroger
Lion's Club of Pearland
Luby's/Fuddruckers
Macy's - Pearland Town Center
MBradford Management Associates, LLC
M.D. Anderson Children's Art Project
Method Evolution
Northern Brazoria County Education Alliance

Papa Murphy's
Pearland Jazzercise
Pearland Rotary Club
Pet Hub Animal Rescue
Project PASS
Putt-Putt Funhouse
Raising Cane's
Rice University
Sam's Club
Schlotzsky's
Silverlake Church
South Park Funeral Home
Sports Clips Haircuts
Spring Creek Barbeque
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
Strickland Chevrolet
Tammy Dexter
Target
The Vineyard Church Pearland
Tia Artisst
UHCL Pearland Campus
Wal-Mart - Main Street
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“The Progress” is published biannually by Pearland Independent School District 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 Kim Hocott, communications director, at 281.485.3203.



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connected**



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www.facebook.com/pearlandisd
- Follow Pearland ISD on Twitter:
www.twitter.com/pearlandisd
- Subscribe to Pearland ISD e-News. Visit www.pearlandisd.org and click on the “District Newsletters” button. On the new screen, click on “District E-News ~ Subscribe.”

Advertise on Web, buses, scoreboards

Pearland ISD offers opportunities for you to advertise your business or service while supporting our schools. Consider these avenues for ads:

- **Website & e-News**

Advertise on the district website and in the monthly e-newsletter.

News for My School

1.855.790.0001

info@newsformyschool.com

- **School Buses**

Advertise on a mobile yellow billboard.

Alpha Media

www.schoolbusadvertising.com

832.644.8850

- **Athletic Scoreboards**

Advertise at highly-attended games.

Ben Pardo, Director of Athletics

281.485.3203

- **Employee Intranet**

Have a special offer/discount for district employees?

Barbara Wellhausen, District Webmaster

wellb@pearlandisd.org



dates to remember

Feb. 17	Bad Weather Make-Up Day (School in Session)
Feb. 21	Early Release (Grades 9-12 Only)
Feb. 26	Progress Reports
March 10-14.....	Spring Break
March 26.....	Report Cards
April 7-10	Early Kindergarten Enrollment
April 16	Progress Reports
April 18.....	Good Friday (No School)
April 28 - May 6	Early Voting (Board of Trustees Election)
May 10	Board of Trustees Election
May 14	Progress Reports
May 26	Memorial Day (No School)
June 5	Bad Weather Make-Up Day (Regular School Hours)
June 5	Turner College & Career HS Graduation, 7 p.m.
June 6	Last Day of School/Early Release
June 6	Report Cards (Grades PK-4)
June 6	Dawson HS Graduation, 2 p.m.
June 6	Pearland HS Graduation, 5 p.m.
June 7	Staff Workday
June 16.....	Report Cards Mailed (Grades 5-12)