

the progress

PREPARE PERFORM PRODUCE

Pearland Independent School District

Summer 2011

<http://www.pearlandisd.org>

Look for this logo throughout "The Progress" to find more information online.

Exemplary

library academics backpack report card pencil education music teach student folder sports classroom back-to-school junior high school supplies

reading art high school elementary science quiz book math grades bus middle school projects junior high school supplies apple

teacher learn lunch homework desk

reading

Pearland ISD has made Adequate Yearly Progress under the **No Child Left Behind Act.**

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Message from Board President

As this issue of the "Progress" goes to print, the board has just named Dr. John Kelly the district's sole finalist for superintendent.

We selected Dr. Kelly from a large pool of qualified professionals. There were 230 individuals who expressed interest in the position. In the final mix, we received 61 applications for the superintendent's vacancy. Twenty-eight of those were from Texas, and 33 were from other states. Thirty-two of the candidates have experience as district superintendents, and 42 hold doctorate degrees.

Because of the number of highly-qualified applicants, the decision was not easy. However, we believe Dr. Kelly represents the qualities this community said it wanted. He will communicate a vision for world-class public schools with a student-first philosophy. In addition, he has demonstrated leadership, communication and managerial skills in his previous positions. He has a reputation for listening and working collaboratively with teachers, administrators, the board and the community. We believe he will inspire trust and optimism throughout the Pearland school district and community.

Finally, on behalf of the board, I would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Virgil Tiemann, who has provided leadership as the interim superintendent during this time of transition.



Virgil Gant

Brennan, DeBorde join board

After taking the oath of office during the May 24 special meeting, **Adele Brennan** and **Rusty DeBorde** took their seats on the board of trustees.

Brennan, a former Pearland ISD school board member, is an accountant for Lockheed Martin, and DeBorde serves as president of Texas Signature Builders.

After the swearing-in of new trustees, the board unanimously chose Virgil Gant as president, Andrew Solomon as vice president and Rebecca Decker as secretary.



New trustees Rusty DeBorde (middle) and Adele Brennan take the oath of office.



<http://www.pearlandisd.org/trustees.cfm>
KEYWORD: Board Members

Proactive plans address funding shortfall

With public education cuts impacting districts statewide, Pearland ISD explores creative ways to reduce its budget and increase revenue.

Despite the school funding shortfall, the district has strived to maintain quality programs and continue to provide an outstanding education while maximizing staff. As of press time, the Texas Legislature had cut the district's funding by as much as \$7.4 million for 2011-12.

Despite the cuts, Pearland ISD will **save approximately \$4 million** in the upcoming school year -- without staff layoffs -- thanks to natural attrition, job reassignments and an early notification of resignation program.

The district is also pursuing creative revenue sources to make every dollar count. Through the **Paper Retriever recycling program**, the district has earned \$25,000 from tons of paper recycled in bins district-wide.

In addition, **school bus advertising** has raised nearly \$50,000 from 2009-11.



Farewell from Dr. Virgil Tiemann

It has been a pleasure serving as your interim superintendent. As I finish my time in Pearland ISD, I want to thank trustees, staff and community for the incredible opportunity to support the district during this change in leadership.

Over the last few months, we have worked together to ensure a smooth transition and to address the challenges of the state public education funding shortfall. Throughout, I have witnessed the tremendous commitment of administrators, teachers



and staff to the students of Pearland ISD. Their success is the heart of this district.

As you welcome a new leader, I am confident Pearland ISD will continue to define Exemplary. Best wishes for a successful 2011-12 school year.

Pictured on the cover are (top left) Rustic Oak Elementary student Aubree Langston; Massey Ranch Elementary student Connor Kitchen; (top right) Alexander Middle School student Megan Gale; (bottom, from left) Alexander students Juanita Pinkston and Valeria Herrera.

Kelly named sole finalist for superintendent

The board of trustees named **Dr. John Kelly** the sole finalist for superintendent during the June 28 board meeting.

According to state statute, Kelly, who currently leads Boerne ISD, will remain the finalist for 21 days. After that time, the board can offer him a contract.

Trustees have worked with Ray and Associates search firm to select the best candidate for superintendent after Dr. Bonny Cain left to serve in Waco ISD in March. Dr. Virgil Tiemann has served as the district's interim superintendent.

For more information about the search, visit the Pearland ISD website.



Dr. John Kelly



<http://www.pearlandisd.org/trustees.cfm>
KEYWORD: Superintendent Search



Board of Trustees

Virgil Gant, President
Andrew Solomon, Vice President
Rebecca Decker, Secretary
Pam Boegler, Member
Adele Brennan, Member
Rusty DeBorde, Member
Sam Gray, Member

Administration

Dr. Virgil Tiemann, Interim Superintendent
Nanette Weimer, Deputy Superintendent
Don Marshall, CPA, Chief Financial Officer
Cary Partin, Sr. Assistant Superintendent
Sonia Serrano, Sr. Assistant Superintendent
Dr. Brenda Waters, Sr. Assistant Superintendent
Dr. Nyla Watson, Assistant Superintendent

District tops local, national charts for achievement

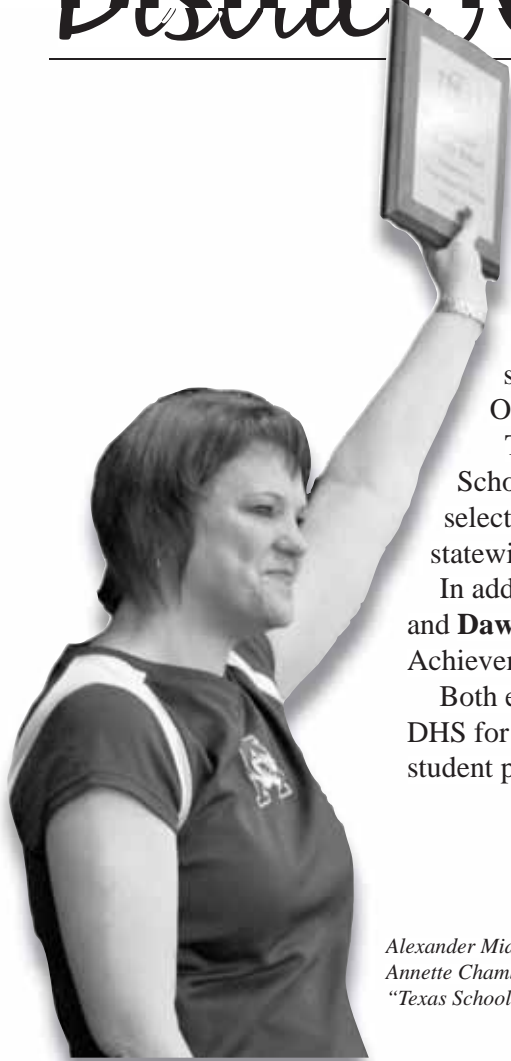
Pearland ISD is turning the heads of education communities across the state and nation.

A leader in advanced academics, the district was named a College Board **Advanced Placement Achievement District** for increasing AP enrollment from 502 to 768 students and AP exam scores eligible for college credit from 56 to 60 percent from 2008-10. Only 388 districts nationwide received this honor.

This spring all eyes were on **Alexander Middle School**, a "Texas Schools to Watch" campus. The new Texas Schools to Watch program selected Alexander as one of 11 high-performing intermediate schools statewide with excellent academics and sustained student success.

In addition, **Massey Ranch** and **Rustic Oak** elementary schools and **Dawson High School** made the National Center for Educational Achievement's 2010 Higher-Performing Schools list.

Both elementary campuses were recognized for growth in writing, and DHS for growth in science. These schools outperformed peers, improving student performance beyond passing levels on standardized tests.



Alexander Middle School principal Annette Chambliss shows off the "Texas School to Watch" plaque.



Massey Ranch Elementary students (from left) Brennan Dwyer, Meredith Frissell and Allison Griffin present a research project during an International Baccalaureate exhibition. Massey Ranch was named a National Center for Educational Achievement Higher-Performing School.

Clark, Heath named Chamber 'Citizens of the Year'

Thanks to their track record of state championships, Pearland High School coaches **Laneigh Clark** and



Laneigh Clark

Tony Heath scored a personal victory this spring: the Pearland Chamber of Commerce's 2010 Citizen of the Year Award.

Clark, the head softball coach, led the Lady Oilers to victory as the Class 5A state softball champions in 2010. The team continued its success this June, finishing as state semifinalists.

Under the leadership of head football coach Heath, the Pearland Oilers made a record 11th consecutive playoff appearance, culminating in the Class 5A Division I state championship trophy in 2010.

The Chamber award recognized both coaches for their character, leadership and perseverance that helped to brand Pearland as a city of champions.



Tony Heath



Above: Elementary Glenda Dawson First-Year Teacher of the Year **Connor Mulvaney** of Sam Jamison Middle School (left) and Secondary Glenda Dawson First-Year Teacher of the Year **Damon Rayburn** of Berry Miller Junior High



Above: Elementary Principal of the Year **Cortenay Colling** of Silvercrest Elementary

Left: Elementary Teacher of the Year **Mandy Benedix** (left) of Rogers Middle School and Secondary Teacher of the Year **Suzanne Mau** of Pearland Junior High South

motivate excellence award service
success
above & beyond
future inspire leader dream



Above: Secondary Principal of the Year **Larry Berger** of Pearland High School



Graduating with honors

When it comes to making the grade, Dawson and Pearland high school students take their pursuit of excellence above and beyond perfect report cards.

Thanks to their all-out passion for learning, seniors have garnered recognition from local level to national.

John Lesmeister and **Turner Smith** go on record as DHS's first National Merit Scholars. The duo, who numbered among only 2,500 Merit Scholars nationwide this year, won \$2,500 National Merit Scholarships.

The board of trustees recently recognized students who achieved one of the highest honors possible academically -- four consecutive years of straight A's.

From DHS, four-year honorees included **Lesmeister, Michelle Geng, Cindy Gu, Brandon Nguyen, Clara Roberts** and **Andy Yan**, and from PHS **Abigail Jyrkila** and **Kristen Schultz**.

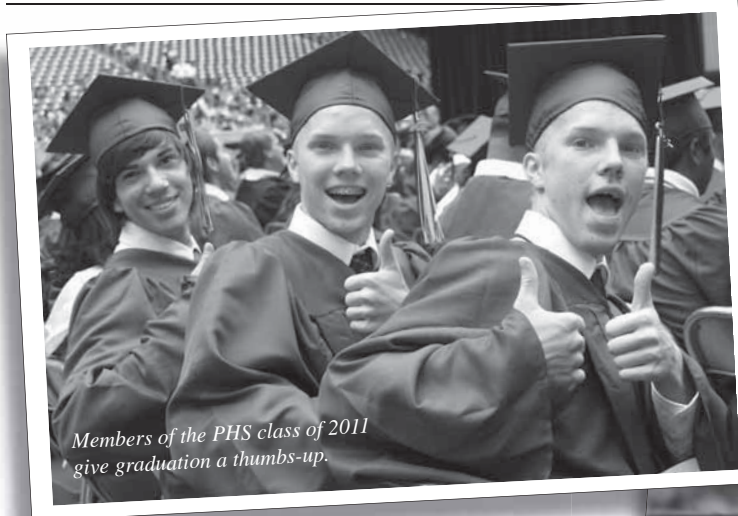
In addition, **Schultz** made the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals' All-State Academic Excellence Team.



From Left: DHS graduates John Lesmeister and Turner Smith were named National Merit Scholarship winners.



Right: (front row) Michelle Geng, Cindy Gu and Andy Yan (DHS valedictorian); (back row) Clara Roberts, John Lesmeister (DHS salutatorian), Brandon Nguyen, Abigail Jyrkila (PHS valedictorian) and Kristen Schultz (PHS salutatorian).



Members of the PHS class of 2011 give graduation a thumbs-up.

excellence potential education
success graduation dream
future scholarship academics leader



A DHS graduate awaits her diploma.

687 PHS graduates	168 Distinguished Achievement Program graduates	492 DHS graduates
\$2,991,621 Scholarship total for DHS seniors		
\$1,349,200 Scholarships awarded to PHS seniors		
Class of 2011 by the numbers		



A DHS graduate anticipates her walk across the stage.

The future swung its doors wide to 1,179 Pearland and Dawson high school graduates on June 3.

PHS valedictorian **Abigail Jyrkila** and salutatorian **Kristen Schultz** and DHS valedictorian **Hao "Andy" Yan** and salutatorian **John Lesmeister** led the way in back-to-back ceremonies.

Other PHS top-10 graduates included (in alphabetical order) **Su-Mi Chung, Chelsea Crosby, Benjamin Freeman, Joyee Guin, Patrick Jackson, Cathy Lopez, Linda Nguyen** and **Jennifer Ugochukwu**.

DHS seniors graduating among the top 10 in their class included (in alphabetical order) **Yanshu Cheng, Michelle Geng, Cindy Gu, Anthony Hoang, Andrew Koo, Derrick Liu, Turner Smith** and **Wenqiao Wang**.

Creative lessons bring learning to life

From costumes to crafts, teachers are banking on creativity to make learning stick.

Silvercrest Elementary students celebrated Black History Month by walking in the boots, heels and loafers of famous African Americans.

Dressed in costume, students gave speeches as historical figures ranging from Harriet Tubman and Maya Angelou to George Washington Carver and Jackie Robinson.

In another blast to the past, **Rogers Middle School** students boarded the ill-fated "Titanic" during an extended unit study that included calculating the ratios of survivors, plotting latitude and longitude and crafting narratives as ship passengers.

The voyage ended with students -- dressed in 1912-style hats, skirts and britches -- linking hands outside to measure the ship's length.

Challenger Elementary students got close and personal with nature to observe science in action on Earth Day. Activities ranged from harvesting lettuce from the campus vegetable garden, planting seedlings and making compost to creating bug crafts from recycled water bottles and egg cartons.

At **Pearland Junior High West** and **Pearland Junior High South**, language arts students explored the art of publishing, minus the printing press.

In the library-turned-poetry-café, PJH West student writers -- in beatnik style -- recited their poems to the beat of bongos and were applauded with snapping fingers.

During a children's book project, PJH South wordsmiths penned and illustrated stories,

designed book jackets and sewed the pages together to create their debut works.



*Berry Miller
Junior High grand
championship Quiz
Bowl team*

Students earn accolades for academic competitions

With recent academic successes, students are showing their ability to stay on their toes mentally.

Berry Miller Junior High students captured the grand championship trophy during the sixth annual district Quiz Bowl this spring.

The competition, which builds interest in programs like Academic Decathlon, pitted middle school and junior high teams against each other in fast-paced trivia contests about the Great Depression.

Dawson High School teammates took second place overall at the University Interscholastic League 4A state academic meet in May, with the No. 1 spot in number sense and No. 2 in math and science competitions.

With their first-place win in the Thinking Cap Quiz Bowl, **Rogers Middle School** teammates defeated other teams from Texas, California, Nevada, Oklahoma, New Mexico and Arizona.

Rogers students donned their thinking caps to answer questions in math, geography, government, sports, spelling, science, English and history.



*Right: Rogers Middle School
"Titanic" passengers Bryce
Cooper and Lovie Luckie*



*Left: Silvercrest Elementary
students Courtnie Rawlins,
Kaitlyn Oishi and Lauren Pelton
in Black History Month costumes*



*Left: Challenger Elementary student
Olivia Raley with an eco-friendly craft*

Lady Oilers place as state semifinalists



Above: The Pearlland Lady Oilers softball team made its third consecutive trip to the UIL state softball tournament this June, finishing as state semifinalists.



Cockrell Elementary student Isaiah Mercado

www.pearlandisd.org/information.cfm
KEYWORD: Back-to-School Information

online registration

Pearland ISD will offer **online registration for all returning students.**

Beginning July 25, parents may log onto Skyward from any computer with Internet access to register students for the 2011-12 school year.

If you don't have Skyward login information:

1. Visit www.pearlandisd.org.
2. Click on the **Skyward Family and Student Access** link in the left-hand sidebar.
3. Click the "New to Family Access?" link. You will receive your login by e-mail.

For additional help, call 281.485.3203 and ask for a student data team member in the Technology Department.

For those without Internet access, computers will be available during registration dates/times at each campus.

After completing online registration, you may pick up your child's teacher assignment/class schedule at his or her zoned campus during registration dates and times.

School Days, School Days



2011-12 immunizations

The Texas Department of State Health Services recently changed immunization requirements for Hepatitis A, Measles/Mumps/Rubella (MMR), Varicella, Tetanus/Diphtheria/Pertussis (Tdap) and Meningococcal vaccines.

Students entering kindergarten/1st grade:

- Hepatitis A - 2 doses
- MMR - 2 doses
- Varicella - 2 doses

Students entering 7th/8th grades:

- Varicella - 2 doses
- Tdap - 1 dose
- Meningococcal - 1 dose

For complete immunization requirements, visit the district website or contact your campus nurse.

www.pearlandisd.org/departments.cfm
KEYWORD: Immunization Requirements



school closings

If classes are cancelled or delayed because of severe weather or other conditions, parents will be notified by the **Connect-ED automated phone notification system.**

For news about school delays or closings, parents and students should listen to **local radio or television stations**, follow the district's **Twitter feed or Facebook page** and check www.safeschoolalerts.org.

Announcements will not be made when schools are open with regularly-scheduled hours.

The decision to close schools or change start or dismissal times is made by the superintendent.

Notified Stations:

Radio Stations: KTRH-740 AM, KILT 100.3 FM

Television Stations: KTRK-TV Channel 13, KHOU-TV Channel 11, KPRC-TV Channel 2, KXLN-TV Channel 45

Also look online at www.pearlandisd.org and www.safeschoolalerts.org



campus hours

Pre-Kindergarten
8-11 a.m. & 12-3 p.m.

Elementary Schools (K-4)
8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Middle Schools (Grades 5-6)
8:40 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Junior High Schools (Grades 7-8)
8:40 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

High Schools
7:15 a.m. - 2:15 p.m.



Back-to-School Info

Registration/ Enrollment

Elementary

July 25

Online registration opens

Aug. 9-11: 8-11 a.m. & 12-3 p.m.

New student registration

Aug. 11

5-7 p.m. - Late night registration (new students)

6-7 p.m. - Kindergarten orientation

Aug. 16: 1-7 p.m.

Pick up teacher assignment (last names beginning with A-L)

Aug. 17: 1-7 p.m.

Pick up teacher assignment (last names beginning with M-Z)

Intermediate

Middle Schools Junior High Schools

July 25

Online registration opens

Aug. 8-10: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

New student registration

Aug. 11: 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Schedule pick-up (middle school)

Aug. 12: 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Schedule pick-up (junior high)

Searcy NGC

July 25

Online registration opens

Aug. 8: 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Schedule pick-up
Registration
Fish Hook (Fish Camp)

Aug. 19: 4-6 p.m.

Open House

transportation fees & registration

Pearland ISD provides free bus transportation to students who live two or more miles from their zoned campus. Students living less than two miles from their campus may receive transportation through the Transportation Fee Program. The district reduces fees for students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunches. Bus fees may be mailed to or paid in person at the transportation department. For proper credit, write your child's name on the check.

Fill out the online bus rider registration form (one per child) on the district website, then submit the form electronically.



2011-12 Transportation Fees:

- \$64 per month for 1 child in the home
- \$74 per month for 2 children in the home
- \$84 per month for 3 or more children in the home

<http://www.pearlandisd.org/departments.cfm>
KEYWORD: Transportation



food service

Breakfast and lunch are provided at all schools, with free and reduced-price meals available for families who qualify. Applications are online at www.pearlandisd.org under "Quick Links" at the bottom of the page.

If you do not have computer access, you may obtain a paper copy of the application from the Food Service office, 1928 N. Main, or by phone at 281.412.1244.

2011-12 Cafeteria Fees:

	Breakfast	Lunch
Elementary school	\$1.25	\$2.25
Middle school	\$1.25	\$2.50
Junior high/high school	\$1.25	\$2.75
Adult	\$1.50	\$3.10
Reduced-price program	\$0.30	\$0.40

Log onto www.parentonline.net to monitor and/or make payments to student meal accounts. You may register your child using his or her six-digit ID number.

www.pearlandisd.org/departments.cfm
KEYWORD: ParentOnline



telephone directory



Education Support Center
TBD, Superintendent
281.485.3203

H.C. Carleston Elementary
Katherine Drago, Principal
281.412.1412

Challenger Elementary
Lisa Nelson, Principal
281.485.7912

Barbara Cockrell Elementary
Gerri Roberts, Principal
832.736.6600

C.J. Harris Elementary
Brenda Keimig, Principal
281.485.4024

E. A. Lawhon Elementary
Michelle Pourchot, Principal
281.412.1445

Magnolia Elementary
Sharon Gifford, Principal
281.727.1750

Massey Ranch Elementary
Heather Block, Principal
281.727.1700

Rustic Oak Elementary
Beth West, Principal
281.482.5400

Shadycrest Elementary
Marlo Keller, Principal
281.412.1404

Silvercrest Elementary
Cortenay Colling, Principal
832.736.6000

Silverlake Elementary
La'Kesha Vaughn, Principal
713.436.8000

Alexander Middle School
Annette Chambliss, Principal
832.736.6700

Sam Jamison Middle School
Sharon Bradley, Principal
281.412.1440

Rogers Middle School
Dana Miles, Principal
832.736.6400

Leon Sablatura Middle School
Lisa Nixon, Principal
281.412.1500

Berry Miller Junior High
Kim Brooks, Principal
281.997.3900

Pearland Junior High East
TBD, Principal
281.485.2481

Pearland Junior High South
Mollye Dahlstrom, Principal
281.727.1500

Pearland Junior High West
Pam Wilson, Principal
281.412.1222

Glenda Dawson High School
David Moody, Principal
281.412.8800*

Sheryl Searcy Ninth Grade Center
Andrea Wenke, Principal
281.412.1600

Pearland High School
Larry Berger, Principal
281.997.7445

PACE Center
Julia Hall, Principal
281.412.1599

Food Service
Dorothy Simpson, Director
281.412.1244

Maintenance & Operations
David Holland, Director
281.485.4545

Transportation Department
Raul Cruz, Director
281.485.3562

*new number

Dawson HS

July 25

Online registration opens

Aug. 2: 1-7 p.m.
Registration

Aug. 3: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Registration

Aug. 4: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Registration

Aug. 11: 6-9 p.m.
Flight School (9th graders)

Pearland HS

July 25

Online registration opens

Aug. 1-4 & 8: 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Packet pick-up

Aug. 9: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Registration (12th graders)

Aug. 10: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Registration (11th & 12th graders)

Aug. 11: 1-7 p.m.
Registration (10th, 11th, 12th graders)

PACE Center

July 25

Online registration opens

Aug. 8-9: 2-3 p.m.
New student orientation (required for accepted students and their parents)

Aug. 8-9: 3-5 p.m.
New student registration

Aug. 10: 2-3 p.m.
Returning student information meeting

Aug. 10: 3-7 p.m.
Returning student registration



Renew football season passes online

Got a passion for pigskin?
Online season pass renewal is available for 2011-12 Dawson and Pearland high school football games.
For more details, call the Athletic Department at 281.485.3203.



<http://www.pearlandisd.org/information.cfm>
KEYWORD: Online Ticket Sales



Silverlake Elementary student Hailey Sauls celebrates Chinese New Year dressed in a kimono.

Globetrotters experience foreign cultures

Pearland ISD elementary students globetrotted this spring thanks to a smorgasbord of cultural activities.
During a Chinese New Year celebration, **Silverlake Elementary** students in red kimonos paraded down the main school hallway, paper lanterns, marionettes, fans and streamers in tow. A 13-foot-long paper and



Lawhon Elementary students Jill Panuncillon and Leah-Shai Torres prepare for a Cinco de Mayo dance.

cardboard dragon, steered by four students, led the parade.

Lawhon Elementary's stage flashed in red and green on Cinco de Mayo as niños in sombreros, ponchos and broom skirts whirled to the Mexican dance "La Raspa."

During an African rhythm program, **C.J. Harris Elementary** students beat the djembe drums, thumping out rhythms and singing melodies that were used for communication, celebration and rites of passage in Africa and America.

C.J. Harris Elementary students Noah Macias and Daniel Mayorga participate in an African rhythm program.



Trustees and Interim Superintendent Dr. Virgil Tiemann congratulate Dawson High School's Robert Blanchard for his gold medal in the Scholastic Art & Writing Competition.



Wordsmiths earn national recognition

A way with words has earned students top spots in writing competitions nationwide.

For the second year in a row, Pearland ISD claims a Do the Write Thing national ambassador.

With her poem "Violence Touches Everyone," Berry Miller Junior High student **Akshaya Annapragada** placed as a national ambassador in the competition, which encourages



Berry Miller Junior High student Akshaya Annapragada

intermediate students to provide solutions to end the chain of violence.

This summer Annapragada will draft platforms for a peaceful society during a summit in Austin and visit Washington, D.C.

Dawson High School's **Robert Blanchard** and **Grace Li** stood out as national gold medalists in short-short story and science fiction/fantasy categories in the 2011 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. They numbered among only 1,500 U.S. students to receive national medals this year.

From **Sam Jamison Middle School**, 31 poets will have their 17-syllable haiku published in the 2011 "Young American Poetry Digest" after winning the National Schools Project's annual poetry competition.

Students put feet to pavement to practice compassion

From outreach to disaster relief, students put their compassion into action this spring. During campus-wide walks, **Magnolia** and **Silvercrest** elementary school students laced their sneakers to raise \$26,700 collectively for diabetes research.

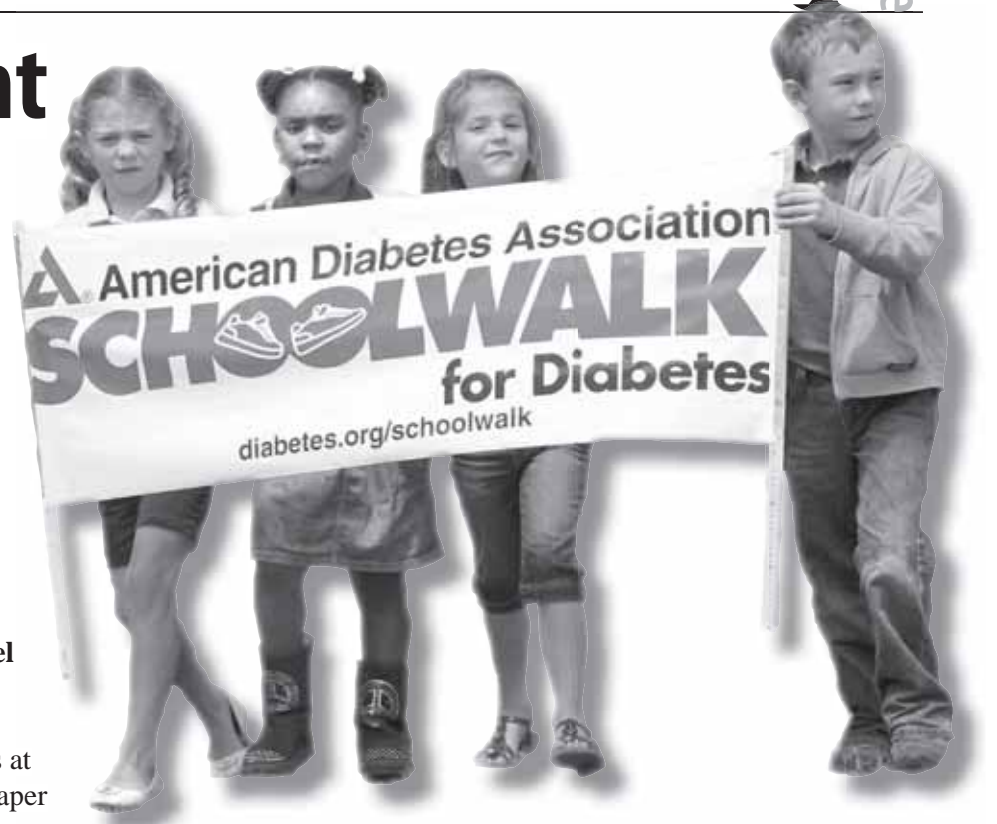
After Japan suffered an earthquake and tsunami in March, students district-wide helped raise more than \$27,000 for relief efforts through the "Paper Cranes for Japan" project.

Giving their creativity wings, **Sablatura Middle School** students folded 3,460 origami cranes, and students from **Dawson High School**, **Berry Miller Junior High** and **Rogers Middle School** teamed to create 10,000-plus cranes.

For each crane received, the Bezos Family Foundation donated \$2 to Architecture for Humanity's reconstruction efforts in Japan.

Moved by Alabama tornado victims without homes, **DHS's Interact**, **Friends of Rachel** and **Do Something** clubs organized a relief drive, collecting thousands of clothes and supplies for devastated families.

Alexander Middle School students assembled 373 diaper "cakes" for premature babies at UTMB Galveston. Created as part of an anti-bullying project, the individually-wrapped diaper bundles went to single moms without resources or support from their families.



Above: Magnolia Elementary students (from left) Samantha Carder, Karsyn Murray, Ashlynn Pruitt and Alexander Bailey lead a diabetes walk.

Five campuses earn 'No Place for Hate' designation

Five schools got a thumbs-up from the Anti-Defamation League for embracing cultural diversity and promoting respect for others.

Alexander, **Rogers**, **Sablatura** and **Sam Jamison** middle schools and **Pearland Junior High East** earned ADL's 2010-11 "No Place for Hate" designation.

As part of the campaign, students stood up against prejudice and discrimination and organized activities that encouraged appreciation of individual and group differences.

Activities ranged from PJH East students' sitting with someone new at lunch to Sam Jamison students' diving into cultures worldwide during Multicultural Awareness Week.

After spending three weeks reaching out to others, Rogers students recorded their acts of kindness on paper strips and linked the strips to create a chain that circled the school cafeteria several times.

Sam Jamison Middle School students Jason Steptoe and Margarita Zavala display the school's "No Place for Hate" banner.



considerate relief kindness support dream outreach service generosity humanitarian friendly helping hand caring



Above: Alexander Middle School student Hannah Holder assembles a diaper cake for UTMB.

Left: Sablatura Middle School students (from left) Lydia Rayas, Maria Soto and Sydney Parham fold origami cranes for Japan relief efforts.

Performers take center stage

Pearland ISD performers don't have to toot their own horn or sing their own praises. Their accomplishments speak for themselves.

In the second year for Pearland High School to garner Tommy Tune nominations, its spring show "**Oklahoma!**" won the Best Musical Direction Award.

The show's cast, crew and directors received nine Tommy Tune nominations from Theatre Under the Stars, including nods for best musical, direction, crew/technical, ensemble/chorus, actor, actress, supporting actress and featured performer.

In addition, the Texas Music Educators Association gave the **PHS Men's Choir** an elite invitation to perform during the TMEA 2011 clinic, the largest state music convention nationwide.

Dawson High School vocalist **John Arsto** numbered among only 112 students statewide to make the 2011 Texas All-State Men's Choir.

At the intermediate level, **Pearland Junior High West** soprano **Candace Howard** won a spot in the Texas Choral Directors Association 2011 Middle School/Junior High Honor Choir.



*Pearland Junior High West student
Candace Howard*



Pearland High School students (from left) Jessie Benoit, Jacob Agnew, Kate Court and Lorenzo Hayes perform in the Tommy Tune award-winning musical "Oklahoma!"

Secretary of State tours PHS

Pearland High School welcomed **Texas Secretary of State Hope Andrade** June 21 for a tour of its Career and Technical Education classrooms.

Andrade visited the welding, construction technology and auto technology labs and discussed student workforce training opportunities with PHS administrators and teachers.

Afterward, Andrade spoke at the Northern Brazoria County Education Alliance CEO Business, Industry and Education Roundtable Luncheon, stressing the important role high schools and businesses play in cultivating students' workforce potential.



Andrade (middle) visits with Frost Bank officers (from left) Brenda Murphy, Paula Scardino, Lindsay Smith and David Laponi at the NBCEA luncheon.

Texas Secretary of State Hope Andrade (front, right) tours the PHS auto technology lab.



Dual credit produces career-ready grads

Pearland ISD's Career and Technical Education Department recently celebrated a record **26 career-ready dual credit program graduates**.

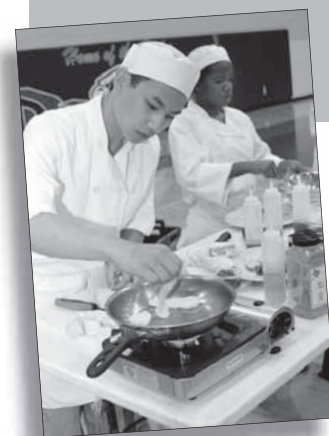
Before receiving their high school diplomas, the Dawson and Pearland high school seniors earned their certificates of science technology from San Jacinto College cosmetology and auto collision repair programs.

The prospective car mechanics are ready for hire at auto dealerships and repair shops, while cosmetologists will be ready for salon work after sitting for the state board exam.

In addition to teaching valuable job skills, the dual credit programs, which are open to juniors and seniors, cost about one-third the tuition of regular community college courses.

For more information about dual credit programs, students should talk to their high school counselors.

Pearland ISD Dual Credit Programs



- Culinary arts
- Pharmacy technology

Dawson High School culinary arts students Kevin Nguyen (left) and Kiki Nji compete in a garde manger contest.



- Cosmetology
- Auto collision repair
- Heating, ventilation and air conditioning



Pearland High School graduate and cosmetology student Areli Mendoza



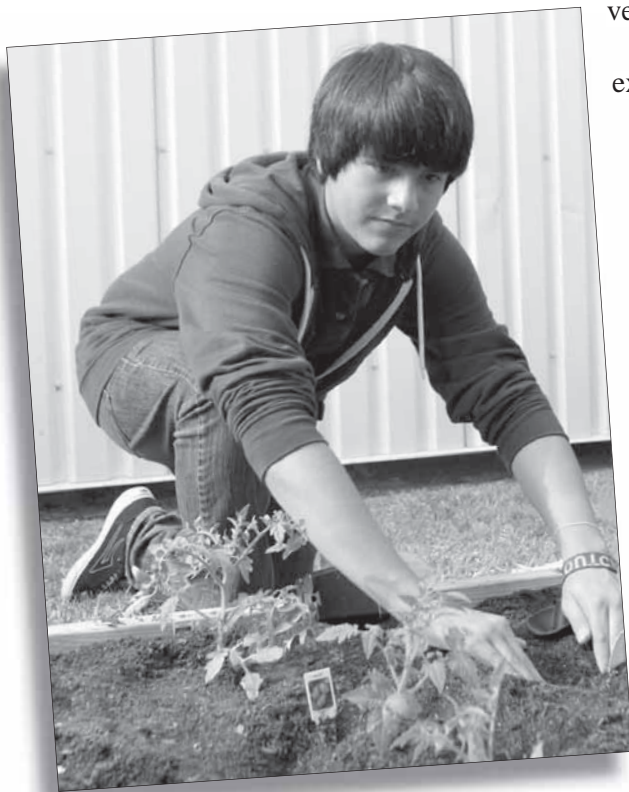
Partners plant seeds of generosity

Community partners are giving the green light to green thumbs.

PMG Energy and **Tivia Group** donated \$400 for earth conservation activities and campus beautification at Silverlake Elementary. The money was used to purchase pails, shovels, dirt, grass seed and a tree for the playground area behind the campus.

In addition, the **Rotary Club of Pearland** and **Rotary International** donated more than \$700 for resources for Pearland Junior High West enrichment programs, including gardening club tools and vegetable seedlings for the school's courtyard garden.

Thanks to these donations, students not only experience nature but also establish roots in campus life.



Pearland Junior High West student Christian Garza plants vegetables in a garden funded by Rotary International.

Dare to Excel helps students dare to dream

Community support proved the ticket to make 38 students' college dreams a reality.

The annual **Dare to Excel scholarship program** sponsored by the Pearland and 288 Corridor Rotary clubs awarded **\$30,000 in scholarships** to Dawson and Pearland high school seniors this spring.

The two local Rotary clubs provided \$10,000 alone through their collective fundraising. Local businesses, service organizations and private citizens funded additional scholarships.

Recipients were chosen for their career and leadership potential, strong civic commitment, good character and plans to pursue higher education and workforce training opportunities.

Pearland High School student Ferren Davis accepts a scholarship from Donnie Stroebel.

Partners In Education

Have a backpack filled with new school supplies for a needy student?
Got an academic program or campus in mind for a corporate donation?

The Partners in Education program provides an avenue for corporate sponsors, civic leaders and community members to become an integral part of the classroom, enriching student learning and achievement.

For more information, contact Business/Community Liaison Lisa Cushing at cushingl@pearlandisd.org or 281.997.4987.



Community Partners



Strickland Chevrolet's Todd Harvey (left) and Lee Mehta present Secondary Teacher of the Year Suzanne Mau (middle) and Elementary Teacher of the Year Mandy Benedix with the keys to program cars for one month.

Pearland ISD thanks the following community partners for their generous support. These partners help create the best learning environment possible for students through in-kind donations, financial support and student and staff incentives.

- Academy Sports + Outdoors
- BP Fabric of America Fund
- Bredero Shaw
- Casa Olé
- Chick-fil-A of Pearland
- Christian Helping Hands
- Golden Corral
- Half-Price Books
- HEB Plus!
- Houston Astros
- Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo
- Huntington Learning Center
- Keep Pearland Beautiful
- Pearland Area Republican Women
- Pearland Elks

- Pena's Donut Heaven
- PMG Energy
- Putt-Putt Funhouse
- Rice University
- Rotary Club of Pearland
- Rotary International - District 5890
- South Park Funeral Home
- Spring Creek Barbeque
- Sprint Pipeline Services
- T.G.I. Friday's
- Tivia Group
- Wal-Mart - Dixie Farm Road
- Wal-Mart - Silverlake
- Zio's Italian Kitchen



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Pearland ISD Website

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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 Renea Ivy-Sims, director of communications, at 281.485.3203.

2011 - 2012

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Holidays

- July 4 (Independence Day)
- September 5 (Labor Day)
- November 21 - 25 (Thanksgiving)
- December 19 - 30 (Christmas)
- January 16 (Martin Luther King, Jr.)
- March 12 - 16 (Spring Break)
- April 6 (Good Friday)
- May 28 (Memorial Day)

Staff In-service
(No school for students)

- August 15-19 (Staff Development)
- August 18 (Workday)
- October 10 (Staff Development)
- January 2 (Workday)
- January 16 (Staff Development)
- February 20 (Staff Development)
- June 1 (Workday)

Six Weeks

- First Semester (78 days)**
- 1st August 22 - Sept. 23
- 2nd September 26 - Nov. 4
- 3rd November 7 - Dec. 18
- Second Semester (99 days)**
- 4th January 3 - Feb 17
- 5th February 21 - April 13
- 6th April 16 - May 31

Early Release

- October 5
- November 16
- December 16
- January 25
- February 29
- May 31

Progress Reports

- September 29
- November 10
- January 5
- February 23
- April 19
- May 31 (grades pk-4)
- June 7 (grades 5-12 Mailer)

Report Cards

- September 29
- November 10
- January 5
- February 23
- April 19
- May 31 (grades pk-4)
- June 7 (grades 5-12 Mailer)

Bad weather days are Nov. 21 and May 31. If district uses May 31, then June 1 becomes early dismissal for students, and June 2 is teacher workday.

* TAKS/STAAR Testing
+ Bad Weather Day
g Graduation
H Pearland History Month

- “Like” Pearland ISD on Facebook: www.facebook.com/PearlandISD.
- Follow Pearland ISD on Twitter: www.twitter.com/Pearland ISD.
- Subscribe to “Pearland ISD e-News,” the district’s electronic newsletter. Visit www.pearlandisd.org and click on the e-news logo on the left-hand side of the page.

dates to remember

Aug. 22	First Day of School
Sept. 1	Meet the Teacher - Elementary Schools
Sept. 5	Labor Day (No School)
Sept. 12	Meet the Teacher - High Schools
Sept. 15	Meet the Teacher - Middle Schools
Sept. 19	Meet the Teacher - Junior High Schools
Sept. 29	Report Cards
Oct. 5	Early Release
Oct. 10	Staff In-service (No School for Students)
Nov. 10	Report Cards
Nov. 16	Early Release
Nov. 21-25	Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 16	Early Release
Dec. 19-30	Christmas Break
Jan. 2	Staff In-service (No School for Students)
Jan. 16	Holiday/Staff In-service (No School for Students)
Jan. 25	Early Release