



*2012-2013*  
**PALESTINE ISD**  
**Wildcat Weekly**

Friday, August 31, 2012

Welcome back! I am excited to begin the 2012-2013 school year. It's so good to see many new faces, and everyone returning for another great year. We had an especially great start last week with the PHS dedication; the convocation with Dr. Ron Clark; the continuation of the series by Jim Bob Solsberry; our group picture at Wildcat Stadium; and the Ministerial Alliance lunch, all in our new High School. I am very happy to see our students back in classes this week as our enrollment is very strong. Remember, Palestine ISD is a team, and together we can be a "World Class" district.



**Jason Marshall**  
Superintendent

**Palestine High School**  
**Career & Technology Building**  
**Construction**  
**Scheduled completion date:**  
**October 15th**



# PALESTINE HIGH SCHOOL

**Palestine High School** held class meetings on the First Day of School. The school was clean and the grounds looked great. There were only three dress code issues on the first day! High School students were engaged and teachers were following Time to Teach to begin school. Students are logged in and completing Dual Credit assignments.

**William Stewart**  
**Principal**

## Dual Credit

10th	15 students	15 courses
11 <sup>th</sup>	70 students	178 courses
12 <sup>th</sup>	69 students	131 courses

## CTE PROGRAM

The PHS S.T.E.M. pathway is now a member of the International Society of Certified Electronic Technicians (ISCET). Under the direction of Mr. Joseph Baker, the groups competitive team will be known as the PHS Mindstormers.

## GO WILDCATS!

- ⇒ Congratulations to the Freshman and JV Football Teams! Both teams defeated LaVega on Thursday night. The Freshman won 24-6 while the JV won 14-2. Palestine has not lost a Freshman or JV Football game since 2010.
- ⇒ The Volleyball team has gotten off to a great start. After winning the Grapeland Tournament a few weeks ago, they finished with the Consolation trophy at the Eustace Tournament.
- ⇒ Cross Country will take their High School and Middle School Teams to Crockett on Saturday, Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> to run in the first Meet of the season. Around 50 High School runners from Palestine will compete.

**Palestine High School staff**  
like to have a good time  
and work hard too!



On Tuesday, Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>, a **Gym Dedication for the new High School Gym** will be held immediately following the JV Volleyball game. Admission that night will be free of charge. Come join us in not only the dedication of the gym, but in supporting the LadyCat Volleyball Teams!

# PALESTINE MIDDLE SCHOOL

The Middle School is having a great first week of school. Teachers are doing a great job teaching the behaviors from Time To Teach. We are working each of the core classes on a skill. Students are quickly understanding and implementing walking on the right side of the halls and stairs, coming to class prepared, how to exit classes appropriately, and how to respond to adults. Students are excited about extended math and science time and are eagerly participating in hands on activities combining skills from several subject areas. Students are practicing cross country mornings at 6:00 a.m....Volleyball and football practices are after-school each day. We are excited for our first games!

Larissa Loveless  
Principal

Palestine Middle School celebrated the beginning of a new school year last week by holding their annual back to school bash. Students, parents and community members enjoyed icy cold popsicles as they were treated to a fashion show presented by the 2012-2013 Middle School cheerleaders on the do's and don'ts of school dress. Music was provided by the band and coaches were on hand to discuss athletics.

The University of Texas at Tyler Ingenuity Center trailer was present to help kick off the new PLTW engineering program at the Middle School this year. After exploring the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities in the trailer, students and parents were eager to obtain class schedules to see which STEM lab they will participate in this school year. Thank you to Mr. Quarles and Mrs. Johnson for organizing the event! It was a great evening for our campus.



Student working on a program called Crayola physics.



# AM STORY INTERMEDIATE

- ⇒ At **AM Story Intermediate**, students have been practicing rules and procedures to make sure that everyone knows how **Story Lions** do things!
- ⇒ Classes began earning “Lion Paws” as part of our new incentive program. As classes are noticed for having great behavior and effort they are awarded blue paws by the administration team. Paws are posted outside the teacher’s doorway. Classes that accumulate 30 paws earn a special lunch party!
- ⇒ Each content team has set their team goals for September. Each month the content teams set specific goals and post them in the office area. At the conclusion of each month, each team posts examples of how their students did in accomplishing these goals.
- ⇒ We received 25 new computers in our STEM lab. Project Lead the Way is now fully up and running!
- ⇒ The playground has a new slide that was installed for recess time.
- ⇒ The theme of “Learning Safari” is evident by the decorations throughout the school.
- ⇒ Students have been fully engaged for the duration of the most important week of the year!

**Brandon Jayroe**  
**Principal**

# SOUTHSIDE ELEMENTARY

- ⇒ At **SOUTHSIDE ELEMENTARY** Teachers were greeted with smiling faces and students that were “**WILD**” about learning!
- ⇒ Tuesday, August 28th- Southside students were introduced to A Time To Teach and were able to practice proper school procedures.
- ⇒ Wednesday, August 29th- Students continued to practice procedures in both the classroom and common areas of the school. Students agreed that recess was a big hit!
- ⇒ Thursday August 30th- Southside students are gearing up for the upcoming TPRI and DRA testing that will take place in the coming weeks.
- ⇒ Friday August 31st- Our 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade students will be taking both a Math and ELA Readiness test to check for academic retention.

**Stephen Cooksey**  
**Principal**

# NORTHSIDE PRIMARY

**Northside Primary** had the smoothest morning for our first day with lots of expert volunteer help!

**THANK YOU! Janie Sepulveda and Modesta Gonzales**

There were excited children, and weeping moms. Afternoon bus dismissal was a little slow. I conveniently forget this from year to year.!

- ⇒ Days two and three were amazing. Students get into a routine so fast. Our Time to Teach staff development has proved beneficial already.
- ⇒ We began K beginning-of-the-year-assessment day one and first grade Phonics Inventory Wednesday afternoon. Teachers and paraprofessionals work together to provide time for this individual assessment.
- ⇒ Afternoon car rider dismissal was still a challenge at first—always is. Wednesday was so much better, we all breathed a sigh of relief. Parents were more pleased.
- ⇒ We host our first **Parent/PTO Orientation** next **Wednesday, September 5th**. I never schedule this until our parking lot is settled down.

I appreciate the planning and support of our Central Office administrators, our Board, my principal colleagues, my staff, parents, AND students.

We are looking forward to a super year!!

**Barbara Dutton  
Principal**

# WASHINGTON EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

Washington Early Childhood Center has started the school year off with home visits and 100% attendance for Parent Orientation nights. All the staff and students have been busy learning all the new rules and procedures for school.

We are looking forward to a great year!

**Rhonda Herrington**  
Principal

# FOOD SERVICE UPDATE



- ⇒ The food service department is now processing free/reduced applications that are coming in from the schools. We are getting them processed as quickly as possible and appreciate the schools getting them to us as quickly as possible.
- ⇒ Menus for September are posted on the Palestine ISD website and have been given to all schools. They are posted in the cafeteria as well.
- ⇒ A letter to parents explaining the new USDA requirements will go to all schools on Thursday, August 30th and has been posted on the Palestine ISD website. Go to Departments, then select Food Service.
- ⇒ Received training for new equipment at the High School kitchen on August 9th. Manufacturer's reps demonstrated new equipment and High School staff took turns using the equipment so they would know how when school opened.
- ⇒ We had the final equipment training on August 21st and learned how to use the Pizza Impinger for the pizza line at the high school. This is an awesome piece of equipment and was very easy to learn.