



2012-2013
PALESTINE ISD
Wildcat Weekly

Friday, September 7, 2012

Hello everyone,

What a great second week of school! District enrollment is almost 3,300 which is higher than it has been in many years. The kindergarten class alone has almost 300 students. Extracurricular participation is up also with over 100 junior high and high school students running Cross Country. A Volleyball dedication of the new high school gym was held on Tuesday night and the Ladycat Volleyball freshman, junior varsity, and varsity teams celebrated with wins against Grapeland. Way to go Ladycats! I enjoyed being on the campuses and visiting with many of you this week. I was encouraged to see the high level of student engagement. It was also rewarding to observe much technology being used by teachers. Please be patient with our technology team as they continue to implement new technology and resolve technology issues.

I attended a Superintendent's meeting at Region 7 this week where educational leaders throughout the state were in attendance. The top three items for the 2013 legislative session appear to be, relief from standardized testing; defeating the voucher bill that diverts public dollars to private schools; and equitable funding for public schools. I will keep you updated throughout the fall.

Stay positive and focus on each day to make it your best yet. Palestine ISD is a team and together we will go far.

Jason Marshall
Superintendent



PALESTINE HIGH SCHOOL

Palestine High School has had a great second week. Ms. Chachere's ESL students had a celebration breakfast for students, parents, and administrators. The PBIS team met on Monday and set goals for the year and FCA and Interact had their first meetings this week. Our Cheerleaders performed at the Harvey Woman's Club installation meeting.

William Stewart
Principal

CONGRATULATIONS!

Students of the month for September

Amber Magee & Timothy Klauser

Junior Rotarians for September

Dana Whitehead & Jack Rogers

GO WILDCATS!

- ⇒ The Ladycat Volleyball team will go up against Jacksonville tonight in Jacksonville. Varsity and Freshman play at 4:30 followed by Junior Varsity.
- ⇒ The Wildcat Varsity Football team will play Jacksonville tonight at 7:30.
- ⇒ Freshman Football lost to Jacksonville last night 16-13.
- ⇒ JV Football won, defeating Jacksonville 28-22.



We hosted the Texas FFA State Officer meeting this week. The state officers spoke to our MS & HS FFA students about character and leadership in the new auditorium.



A Volleyball Dedication was held this week for the new High School Gym

PHS DAEP

The Disciplinary Alternative Education Placement, or DAEP, is defined by its name. Placement at this disciplinary campus is a corrective action for a student in a safe, orderly environment that is conducive to learning self discipline and behavioral management while keeping up with assignments from teachers on the main campus. The core values of PISD PRIDE are embraced: Positive Attitudes, Responsibility, Integrity, Dedication and Excellence. The goal is for students to return to their home campus and be successful.

The DAEP staff, with the help and guidance of Mrs. Holmes and Mrs. Shead, have been working diligently in preparation for the new school year. Furniture has been moved, classrooms arranged, an office and teacher work room have been set up. Procedures are being set, revised and fine tuned for student intake/release and for the receiving/accomplishing/returning of student assignments between DAEP and main campus. Textbooks are being received and curriculum with supplementary resources is being reviewed.

The staff of DAEP strives for excellence in helping provide the framework for the students of Palestine ISD toward improved student learning and success. As a disciplinary alternative campus, it is a vital part of this academic world class organization!

PALESTINE MIDDLE SCHOOL

The Middle School enrollment is up this week by two students at 443. We barely missed a Blue Ribbon attendance award by a few tenths of a point for the past school year. We are working diligently to receive an award for this school year.

Writing teachers will attend a staff development next week to hone their writing skills and provide high quality instruction.

This week, we hosted our **Watch Dog Program** kick-off meeting. Parents and community members will become part of our campus to help us be the best we can possibly be.

Larissa Loveless
Principal

Palrestine Middle School Athletics



Cross Country runners did well in the Elkhart meet Saturday. Boy's placed second. They will participate in our meet this Saturday, September 8th. We have 23 students participating in Cross Country.

Volleyball continues to practice diligently and purposefully in preparation for their first game Monday, September 10th against Rusk here at the middle school at 5:00 pm.



Football continues to prepare for their first seventh grade scrimmage Tuesday, September 11th here. Eighth grade will play Thursday, September 13th in Kaufman. Games begin at 5:30 pm.

This week, our Agriculture students attended a presentation to hear the Texas FFA State Officer Team speak at Palestine High School. They will attend the Greenhand Camp for first year ag students this Saturday. The first FFA Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 11th.

AM STORY INTERMEDIATE

At **AM Story Intermediate** this week, students got to work on curriculum. We also kicked off our Student Mediator Program which helps students resolve minor conflicts between peers that would have otherwise been handled by a discipline referral. Students continued with DRA testing (Developmental Reading Assessment) this week. We began student-led morning announcements. Story students are getting busy and gearing up for a great year!

Brandon Jayroe
Principal

Vision & Hearing Screening for Story students
will be held on Thursday, September 27th

SOUTHSIDE ELEMENTARY

- ⇒ Our second week here at Southside has been amazing! Our students are starting to settle into a normal daily routine and are getting back into the flow of things! Thank you Southside Staff Members for putting in the countless hours teaching proper procedures to our students. We're looking great!
- ⇒ Monday marked our first day for official TPRI and DRA testing. Both 2nd and 3rd grade classes will be participating in this testing process for the next couple of weeks.
- ⇒ Our Boy Scouts of America Representative, Hank Gooze, came to Southside Elementary on Wednesday, September 5, 2012, and spoke with each and every student about what it takes to become a Boy Scout. Southside will actually host a Boy Scout Evening on Thursday, September 6, 2012 from 6:30-8:00 pm.
- ⇒ Nurse Walding has started her height and weight screenings for 2nd and 3rd grade students.
- ⇒ Bus dismissal is going GREAT at Southside—two thumbs up for Jeffery Hatfield, Kathy Whitener, and everyone else with transportation.
- ⇒ Afternoon car rider dismissal has improved over the past week. Southside has created a “walker” program for those parents that choose to walk up each day and get their children.

Southside students truly are WILD about learning!

**Stephen Cooksey
Principal**

NORTHSIDE PRIMARY

Northside Primary has an enrollment of 299 kindergarten students and 268 first graders. We will be adding two kindergarten classrooms. Watch us continue to grow!

Our boys enjoyed a Cub Scout assembly Monday to invite parents to and prepare for our Cub Scout night Thursday, September 06, 2012 at 6:30.

The entire campus was able to practice Assembly Teach-To's Wednesday for our first fund raiser kick-off. Our procedures performance was awesome.

Ms. Reed and Ms. Leisure provided Math PLC/assessment and Smart Board technology trainings this week. We appreciate the support provided from Central Administration.

Upcoming events for next week include our Grandparent's Day Lunch on Monday and our Parent/PTO meeting Wednesday afternoon at 1:30 pm.

Our Citizenship Day assembly will be September 14.

**Barbara Dutton
Principal**

WASHINGTON EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

This is only the second week of school but the WECC students and staff have had a great week learning how roles and responsibilities are part of their classroom community.

The students have also learned about the parts of their body and the role each part plays in movement and expression.



Grandparents will be so pleased on Friday, September 7th with muffins hand made by their grandchildren (of course with lots of love). Kids love to cook and want to help in the kitchen. What better way to show off their cooking skills, than to their grandparents.



We will be taking our first field trip next week to visit our PHS Senior Paw Pals. Each of our students will be matched up with a senior buddy. They will communicate throughout the school year with their Paw Pals with pictures, letters and cards. This will be a such a wonderful experience for both the WECC students, as well as the PHS Seniors.

**Rhonda Herrington
Principal**

FOOD SERVICE UPDATE



The high school kitchen is getting up to speed...still working out the kinks and fine tuning.

Free/Reduced applications are coming in from every campus in a timely manner and we are processing them as fast as possible.

Grandparents Day will be held at Northside on Monday, Sept 10th. Students may invite their grandparents to have lunch with them. The kitchen will prepare extra and the cost for the adult lunch is \$3.25.

Mimi Spreen
Director

Technology Department

- ⇒ The technology team has been working hard to get everyone up and running this new school year. We have set up a STEM lab at A.M. Story Intermediate School. The lab is installed and is functioning.
- ⇒ Installation has begun on the Broadcast Journalism video network. High School students will be able to practice news, sports and video broadcasting once our state-of-the-art studio is complete this fall.
- ⇒ TV monitors are being installed throughout the high school building to broadcast announcements and video produced by the journalism classes.

David Long
Director

Maintenance & Transportation

- ⇒ Bus Transportation for Students continues to fall into place. Bus arrivals and pickups are becoming more routine.
- ⇒ The Transportation Department is still seeking drivers for the 2012-13 school year.
- ⇒ CJ Bayless will be covering both the Northside and Southside campuses. Juan Corpus will assist at High School/Middle School.
- ⇒ Jimmy Luce has been promoted and reassigned to the PHS/PMS Sports Field crew chief.
- ⇒ Eric Fyre has been promoted and reassigned as the Transportation Mechanic Shop Foreman.
- ⇒ Gene Johnson has retired from PISD, We appreciate his 11 years of service!
- ⇒ The Mechanics Shop has an opening for a Mechanic to perform PM Services on Yellow and White Fleet.
- ⇒ Installation of swings at Northside are progressing, awaiting replacement hardware to complete.
- ⇒ The CTE Construction Remodel and Charter/Balfour Beatty warranty items are being handled daily.

Jeffrey Hatfield
Director