

## Texas Public Schools Week

**“BUILDING LEADERS: Today they learn.  
Tomorrow they lead.”**

Although it has seen its share of changes throughout the years, a free, public education has been the heart of Texas. In 1950, the Masonic Lodges of Texas established Texas Public School Week to recognize contributions made by the state’s free system of education. The Texas School Public Relations Association (TSPRA) has promoted Texas Public Schools Week for more than 20 years.

Today, the desire still exists to improve public education. Aside from the frequent changes occurring in school legislation, lawmakers return to the capitol every two years to initiate improvement to public education, providing new reasons to celebrate Texas and its public educational system.

Public education has been the shining star of the Lone Star State for more than 150 years. Students and educators throughout the state open their doors and invite their communities to take a first-hand look into their educational programs during Texas Public Schools Week, March 1-5, 2010.

Palacios ISD has joined in the celebration by inviting all community members, families and friends of Palacios to our schools for events and open houses throughout the week of March 8-12, 2010.

**March 9** *Central Elementary will host its Open House and Science Fair 5:00 p.m.-6:30 pm.*

**March 9** *East Side Intermediate will host its Open House & Science Extravaganza 5:30 p.m.-7:00 pm. PTO Spring Dinner – tickets are \$7.50 from 5:00 p.m.-7:00 pm.*

**March 12** *Palacios JHS will host its Open House and Science Extravaganza 4:00 p.m.-6:00 pm. Fried Chicken Dinner, tickets are \$7.50 4:00 p.m.-6:00 pm.*

**March 12** *Palacios HS will host its Open House 6:30 p.m.-7:30 pm.*



## PISD Celebrates Success

On February 2, 2010, Central Elementary and East Side Intermediate schools celebrated the success of their students at the PHS Fine Arts Building. In the past, PISD recognized students at monthly Board Meetings, but the numbers of successful students has grown to an outstanding number and a larger building had to be utilized to hold both students and families.

Tuesday night, there were almost two hundred students who were recognized for their achievements in the areas of Perfect Attendance, “A” Honor Roll, and UIL competition for the Fall semester. With over three hundred people attending this event, PISD would like to thank all of the families, students, teachers and administrators for making this night such a great success. Also in attendance to honor the students were Board of Trustees, Rick Cink, Peter Zamarripa, Steve Stuhrenburg and Mary West.



## Palacios ISD ‘Grow Your Own’ Program

All individuals interested in “Grow Your Own” program may go online or obtain an application from the PISD Administration Office. All graduating seniors must contact the high school counselor for information. The deadline for accepting applications is March 12, 2010. All graduating seniors interested in the program must turn in their applications no later than March 12th to the high school counselor. All other applicants must turn in their applications no later than March 12th to the PISD Administration Office.

Palacios ISD is constantly reviewing the program to better assist those in the community who have the drive and desire to become a teacher for PISD. If you have any questions, please contact Myra Garcia, PISD High School Counselor at 361-972-2571 or Larry Williams, Director of HR and Federal Programs at 361-972-5491.

**Palacios ISD**  
is a Recognized District

## Thoughts of a Superintendent . . .

*From the Desk of Vicki Adams*



### What Kind Of Town Is This?

Once, there was an old and very wise man. Every day he and his granddaughter would sit outside a gas station in his rocking chair, waiting to greet tourists as they passed through his small town.

One day a tall man, who surely had to be a tourist, began looking around as if he were checking out the area for a place to live. "So what kind of town is this?" he asked. The old man replied, "Well, what kind of town are you from?" The tourist said, "One where everyone is very critical of each other. It's a real negative place to live." The old man said, "You know, that's just how this town is."

Later a family passing through also stopped for gas. The father stepped out and asked the old man, "Is this town a good place to live?" "Well, what about the town you're from?" The father said, "In the town I come from everyone is very close and always willing to lend a helping hand. I really hate to leave it." The old man smiled and said, "You know, that's a lot like this small town."

After the family had left the granddaughter looked up and asked, "Grandpa, how come when the first man came you told him this was a terrible place to live, yet when that family came, you told them it was a wonderful place to live?"

The old man looked down into his granddaughter's wondering blue eyes and said, "No matter where you go, you take your attitude with you, and that's what makes it terrible or wonderful."

As Coach Mike Treybig can attest, attitude is extremely important in winning games. In addition to when he is coaching kids, he reminds them that continuing to be positive off the field will help them to be successful in school, and it will carry over into the future. For example, he could complain about the district UIL put us in for the upcoming two years and how the other four schools are so much larger than we are. But due to his contagious, positive approach, he is glad travel time will be cut and he shares with the students how we can be competitive with these schools in all areas.

Many of us forget – attitude is a choice. No matter what the circumstances, you can play the victim or you can make the most of what life has dealt you. Our teachers make the most of each school year. With their upbeat attitudes, they take the academically struggling and discipline challenged students and work with them for an entire school year. Look at the results we have in PISD!

Students can develop a positive mind-set with our help. They model what they see. If we as parents, educators, and community members exude optimistic outlooks on life, it will help our children to develop upbeat attitudes.

***Remember – your attitude is what makes this a terrible or wonderful place to be.***

## Palacios High School Registration Begins

Registration Orientation Schedule: March 10, 2010

- Freshmen Orientation for Current 8<sup>th</sup> Graders: 3<sup>rd</sup> Period in Fine Arts Building
- Sophomore Orientation for Current Freshmen: 5<sup>th</sup> Period in the Fine Arts Building
- Junior Orientation for Current Sophomores: 2<sup>nd</sup> Period in the Fine Arts Building
- Senior Orientation for Current Juniors: 6<sup>th</sup> Period in the Fine Arts Building

Parent Orientation for 8<sup>th</sup> Graders' parents and all PHS Parents: March 10, 2010, 4:30 pm in the PHS LRC.

Parent Orientation in Spanish for 8<sup>th</sup> Graders' parents and all PHS Parents to be announced at a later date.

Registration Schedule: On the following days, the counselor will sit outside of the English classrooms and individually assist students in filling out their registration forms and go over graduation plans and requirements. Parent signatures are required on the registration forms.

- March 15 and 16 - Freshmen Registration for Current 8<sup>th</sup> Grade - All day.
- March 17 and 18 - Sophomore Registration for Current Freshmen- All Day.
- March 22 and 23 - Junior Registration for Current Sophomores- All Day.
- March 24 and 25 - Senior Registration for Current Juniors- All Day.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mayra Garcia, High School Counselor at (361) 972-2571.

**Palacios Independent School District**  
361-972-5491 [www.palaciosisd.org](http://www.palaciosisd.org)

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### 2010-2011 State Student Assessment Testing Calendar

October 20-23	TAKS Exit Level Retests (ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies)
March 3	TAKS Gr. 4 & 7 Writing TAKS 9 Reading
March 1, 3-5	TAKS- Grade 10 & Exit Level ELA TAKS Exit Level Retests – ELA, Math, Science & Social Studies
March 8-April 9	TELPAS
April 6	TAKS Grades 5 & 8 Math
April 7	TAKS Grades 5 & 8 Reading
April 27	TAKS Grades 3-4, 6-7, 10 Math TAKS Exit Level ELA Retest
April 28	TAKS Grades 3-4, 6-7 Reading TAKS Exit Level Math TAKS Exit Level Math Retest
April 29	TAKS Grades 5, 8 & 10 Exit Level Science TAKS Grade 9 Math TAKS Exit Level Science Retest
April 30	TAKS Grades 8, 10 & Exit Level Social Studies TAKS Exit Level Social Studies Retest
May 3-7	AP Tests
May 10-14	AP Tests
May 18	TAKS Grades 5 & 8 Math Retest
May 19	TAKS Grades 5 & 8 Reading Retest
June 29	TAKS Grades 5 & 8 Math Retest
June 30	TAKS Grades 5 & 8 Reading Retest
July 13-16	TAKS Exit Level Retests

### Upcoming Events

- ◆ February 21 - Safe to School BBQ Chicken Dinner at the KC Hall starting at 10:30 a.m.
- ◆ February 21 - Presentation by Dr. Eric Cupp in the Fine Arts Building at 6:00 p.m. Dr. Cupp is a psychiatrist and an ordained minister who has a hilarious outlook on life and how to motivate our students into making good choices. The program is co-sponsored by Palacios ISD and the Trull Foundation.
- ◆ March 4-8 - Matagorda County Fair Holidays
- ◆ April 30 - Central Elementary's Donuts with Dad
- ◆ May 4 - PISD Employee Appreciation Banquet
- ◆ May 7 - Central Elementary's Memories with Mom
- ◆ May 8 - East Side Intermediate's Dad's Day Out
- ◆ May 27 - Central and East Side's Spring Awards Ceremony in the Fine Arts Building at 6:00 p.m.

### 2010-2011 Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten Registration Announced

Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten registration begins at Central Elementary on Monday, April 5, 2010, and will continue until the opening of school next fall.

**PREKINDERGARTEN . . .** The four-year-old Pre-Kindergarten program will be offered to all four-year-olds as long as space permits. Three-year olds will continue to have to qualify for the program. Students enrolled in the A.M. Pre-Kindergarten program will have morning transportation and free breakfast. Students enrolled in the PM classes who are not eligible for free and reduced meals will be able to buy lunch just as other students are currently able to do. **In order to register a four year old child for Pre-K he/she must be four years old on or before September 1, 2010. Register your child as soon as possible so we can plan for next year.**

**KINDERGARTEN . . .** registration for new students who are not currently enrolled at Central Elementary begins on Monday, April 5, 2010, and will continue until the opening of school next fall. Registration will be conducted on school days from 9:00-11:00 a.m. and from 1:00-2:00 p.m., at Central Elementary School from now until June 4<sup>th</sup>. There will be one additional day to register in August before school starts. Once school starts you will need to wait until after 10:00 on the first day of school to register your child. **In order to register your child he/she must be five years old on or before September 1, 2010.**

In order to enroll in either program, you must have the following documents with you at the time of registration:

- Parents or legal guardians must supply their child's official birth certificate
- Social Security card
- Proof of residency (such as a utility bill, rent receipt, tax statement)
- Current immunizations records  
Current shots include:
  - DPT 4 doses, last dose must be after 4<sup>th</sup> birthday;
  - Polio 3 doses, last dose must be after 4<sup>th</sup> birthday;
  - MMR 2 doses, first dose cannot be before 1<sup>st</sup> birthday;
  - Hep B 3 doses;
  - Varicella 1 dose or provide written documentation of history of illness if born after 9-2-94;
  - TB skin test must be after 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday; repeat if moving here from another state or country.

**Parent or legal guardian must also present their Texas Drivers's license or other photo identification showing the parent or guardian's date of birth.**

**It is very helpful to the school if you will register your child as soon as possible so we can plan for next year.**

**PLEASE REGISTER EARLY!**

## Meet our Assistant Principals!

Behind the scenes and seldom recognized are the assistant principals of Palacios ISD. Too often, assistant principals are seen as uninteresting and separate from instructional leadership in their mock-military discipline roles and as people at the bottom of the administrative career ladder. Historically, assistant principals were a phenomenon of secondary schools, born out of the need to manage large enrollments in consolidated schools. Now days, the assistant principal holds an important and critical position in educational organizations for several reasons.

Usually, the position of the assistant principal is the entry level for the administrative career. Most AP's expect to move forward and upward into other administrative positions such as principal, director and superintendent.

A person should never believe that all an AP does is discipline. Although a large portion of their job may detail discipline, they are also mediators between parents and teachers, students and parents as well as a communicator with teachers. Working with students, ensuring the students stay in school; being a curriculum leader and assisting teachers with classroom dilemmas; and working with the principal and other campus and district administrators to ensure the success of the students and the educational community, their day and life is filled with assisting people.

Palacios ISD would like to recognize its assistant principals and their hard work and dedication to the students, families and staff of PISD.

### High School Assistant Principal – Mrs. Sherri Seaman

Mrs. Sherri Seaman is the Palacios High School Assistant Principal and has been assigned to this position now for two years. Prior to being selected for this position, she was a 6th grade math teacher at East Side. She graduated from PISD and attended the University of Houston where she received her Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology and received her Master of Education in Administration and Supervision from the University of Houston-Victoria Campus. This is her seventeenth year in education and her second year as an administrator. Mrs. Seaman is married to Greg Seaman and they have two children who attend Palacios ISD.



### Junior High School Assistant Principal – Mr. Buddy Kelley

Completing nine years in education and his third year as an administrator for Palacios ISD, Buddy Kelley is the Palacios Junior High School Assistant Principal. Mr. Kelley came to PISD from Bay City ISD where he was a math teacher and an athletic coordinator for Bay City JHS. He graduated from Devine High School in Devine, Texas and then attended Baylor University. Mr. Kelley received his Bachelor of Business Administration from Baylor University and then attended the University of Houston-Victoria Campus where he completed and received his Master of Education with a Principal Certification. He is married to Sandra Kelley and together they have four children, whose ages range from 4 – 14 years old. Mr. Kelley enjoys being an administrator and to do so he feels you must always keep your faith, family and friends as your top priorities.



### East Side Middle School Assistant Principal – Mrs. Rebecca Crowell

Mrs. Rebecca Crowell has been in education for 13 years and is now completing her second year as the East Side Middle School Assistant Principal. She attended the University of Houston-Victoria campus for both her Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies and Master of Education with a Principal Certification. Before becoming an assistant principal, she was a 4th – 8th grade teacher for El Campo where she also attended school and graduated from El Campo High School. Mrs. Crowell is married to John Crowell and they have one daughter. She loves being an educator and feels that when times get tough, keep your head up high and never, ever give up!



### Central Elementary Assistant Principal – Mrs. Selina Garcia

Mrs. Selina Garcia is completing her second year as the Central Elementary Assistant Principal. She has been in education for ten years and three of the ten years was as a Special Education teacher and for five years, she was as an educational diagnostician for the Matagorda County Educational Service Cooperative. Mrs. Garcia attended the University of Houston-Victoria campus where she received her Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies; Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction; and a Master of Education in Administration and Supervision. She is a former graduate of PISD and enjoys her job and loves the community of Palacios. She is married to Kenneth Garcia and together they have a son whom is a freshman at Texas Lutheran University and their daughter is a freshman at PHS.

