

www.palaciosisd.org

1209 Twelfth Street - Palacios, Texas 77465 - (361)972-5491



Thoughts of a Superintendent

From the Desk of Vicki Adams

Our PHS graduation will soon be upon us once again. Last year at this time, I was writing about the dilemma of our girls graduating from college and medical school on the same day. Our oldest child, Denika is now in residency at the UT Health Science Center in San Antonio, and our youngest, Danielle moved in with Denika and her husband, Cody and is also working in San Antonio. Our son has now moved from our cabin and has his own house and is employed in College Station. Hard to believe that within a year they have all gone from being dependent or at least partially dependent on their parents to totally independent. (Well, we do have a few lapses where the kids have been reluctant to sever those strings completely, like with health insurance where our youngest listed her employee insurance as supplemental and stayed on ours.)

I am proud that our children continue to grow professionally and educationally. Graduation has not been the final step in their educations. Our son, Shea has been training for his new supervisory position. Danielle has taken her GRE and is planning to work on her master's degree in the fall while continuing her employment. Denika continues learning every day during her residency. Our son-in-law, Cody is a wonderful role model practicing personal and professional growth. Cody is a Dave Ramsey (personal finance guru) fan and listens to his radio shows and his CDs during his commute to and from work and continues to learn how to complete do-it-yourself projects utilizing new tools.

Since moving to San Antonio, Danielle has been hounding Cody for a dog. Danielle finally wore him down and he agreed to allow her to have a dog but with stipulations. These stipulations included: saving \$900 in her account (savings account, not checking); researching several breeds of dogs and then taking a ten question quiz over the breed she decides to buy; purchasing a crate for it; and listening to five Dave Ramsey CDs and taking a quiz over them. Now wasn't that a brilliant idea to ensure

Danielle expanded her knowledge (and her bank account) from this experience?

My point to all this rambling is that once our 2010 seniors graduate in May, that ceremony should not be an end-all to their educations. Graduation should be a milestone in one's life, not a conclusion to our growth and improvement. This does not mean going on to college for every young adult, but could be learning through activities like reading, obtaining meaningful training, tackling new crafts or hobbies, attending technical school, participating in new games or activities, playing an instrument or staying updated on new technology. Most often adults are happiest when learning something new. As parents and community members, we too need to be role models for our youth – demonstrating continued education. There is much truth in "the mind is a terrible thing to waste".

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR PHS 2010

GRADUATES!!! May you all continue to grow, learn, and be successful, happy adults.

Student Drug Testing . . .

Any student planning on participating in athletics, band, cheerleading, clubs where you will represent the school in a performance, contest or competition must submit to a drug test. This also includes anyone who will drive to campus.

A drug testing orientation is scheduled for July 15th at 6:30 p.m. in the high school cafeteria. Initial drug testing dates will be held in the Fine Arts Building on July 19th for girls and July 20th for boys.

8:00 a.m. - Freshmen	9:00 a.m. - Sophomores
10:00 a.m. - Juniors	11:00 a.m. - Seniors
1:00-2:30 p.m. - Junior High Students	

If conflicts arise for the day the student is scheduled to be tested, please come on a day where there is no conflict. These tests are free of charge and the student must have an initial test for the current school year to be able to participate in school activities and to practice for a performance or sport he/she wishes to participate in. This is being held one week earlier so sponsors and coaches may have extra time to know which of their students were not present for the initial testing. This will allow time to make sure all students are tested before the first practice.

inside *this* issue

2

Employee Appreciation Banquet
Our Retirees
Teachers of the Year

3

Summer School
Summer Hours
Dad's Day Out
Summer Rec Program
Student Meal Program

4

Points of Pride

Employee Appreciation Banquet

300 employees, mentors and past retirees were shown the deepest appreciation with a banquet in their honor on Tuesday, May 4, 2010, at the Palacios Recreation Center. Guests were served their meals by the Board of Trustees and administrators while being entertained by Elvis who was sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. Awards and recognition were given by Superintendent Vicki Adams and the campus administrators. Special acknowledgments went to the 2009-2010 retiring staff members and the Texas Teacher of the Year nominees. Door prizes were distributed to many lucky staff members. Special thanks to the following individuals and businesses for their generosity:

Superintendent Adams

Sears - Bay City

Diane Koop & Belinda Rodriguez

Aaron Wollam

Karen Hilderbrand

Tina Gerberman

Sac Dao

Jana Huddleston

House of Flowers

Somewhere in the Sun

Patty Frankson

Peter & Kymberli Zamarripa

Tammy Vavra

Mary West

Hair It Is

Porter Ace Hardware

Bruce & Cara Herlin

Sharon Peacock & Janet Wallace

Aaron Wollam

Palacios Mexican Restaurant

Sonic Drive In

Loc Cucos Mexican Restaurant

Palacios Prescription Shoppe

LN Day Spa - Bay City

Sandra Tucker

Heidi Hammermiller & Ninfa Hernandez

Jeri Garcia

Karen Laws & Remax Coastal Properties

Mindy Hoover

Carolyn Janak

Amy Marroquin & Stacie Murry

Becky Le

Kristi Ging

Tammy Flores

Shear Elegance

Anonymous

The week of May 3-7 is designated as "Teacher Appreciation Week." The week was filled with daily appreciation gifts from the administration to all teachers. As a district, the staff came together for the annual Teacher Appreciation Banquet on Tuesday, May 4th, where staff members received their service pins, retirees were honored and Teachers of the Year were recognized.

Our Retirees . . . During the employee appreciation banquet on May 4th, Palacios ISD retirees were honored. An honorary retirement plaque was presented to Jimmy LaQue for 41 years of dedicated service to PISD by Carolyn LaQue. Her award was accepted during a standing ovation. The commitment, expertise, and experience of these educators will be missed. Palacios ISD wishes all the very best for a long, well-earned, satisfying retirement.

(Pictured l-r: Corine Janota, Kathleen Joines, Karen Nemece)



Teachers of the Year . . . Palacios ISD participates in the Texas Education Agency's "Texas Teacher of the Year" program. Each campus nominates teachers and the campus then votes for their campus representative. Once the campuses select their Teachers of the Year, an interview with each candidate was scheduled. The interview committee, comprised of community members, selected an elementary and a secondary Teacher of the Year. Each campus representative was recognized and the elementary and secondary Teachers of the

Year were announced at the Employee Appreciation Banquet on May 4th. The elementary Teacher of the Year is Jeanette Allums and the secondary Teacher of the Year is Marilyn Phillips. They will now compete for Regional Teacher of the Year and if selected, will then compete at the state level.

(Teacher of the Year candidates selected by the campuses are: Jeanette Allums, Karen Hilderbrand, Kathryn Anderson, and Marilyn Phillips)

Summer 2010

Summer School

Summer school begins June 1, for identified students at Central Elementary, East Side Intermediate, and Palacios Junior High School. Students in grades K - 8 who qualify to attend the program will have focused instruction in reading/language arts and math, as well as science and social studies for junior high students. In order to be eligible for the program, students must be identified by their teachers as likely to be retained. Classes meet Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Classes begin Tuesday, June 1 and end Thursday, June 24. Students in grades PK-6 attend summer classes at Central Elementary and students in grades 7-8 attend classes at the junior high school.

Palacios High School is offering summer school for students who have lost credit in the following subject(s): English I-IV, Algebra I & II, Geometry, Math Modeling, Integrated Physics & Chemistry, Biology, Chemistry, Health, U.S. History, World Geography, World History, Government, and Economics. Summer School classes will begin:

June 7-10	8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon
June 14-17	8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon
June 21-24	8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon
June 28-July 1	8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

To receive credit for a particular subject, the student must master 80% of the course-required curriculum using computer- competency testing. The student is advised to speak with Mrs. Mayra Garcia, PHS Counselor, on the needed courses. Student schedules may be flexible based on level of competency.

Summer Recreation Program

Palacios ISD is offering a summer recreation program for students in grades one through eight and open the swimming pool for community access. The pool is open regular hours May 29 through August 21, from 2:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. It will be closed on Sunday and Monday. Regular pool admission is \$1.50 for students and \$2.00 for adults. Season passes are available at \$35 for students, \$50 for adults and \$150 for family. Family night is Tuesday and Thursday from 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. with special price rates of \$1.00 for students and adults. Swimming lessons are available from June 1-June 11 for session one; June 15-June 25 for session two; July 6-July 16 and July 20-July 30 will only be offered if the first two sessions are full. Students should preregister to reserve dates. Swimming lessons for age 6 and above cost \$30. One-on-one lessons for children five and younger are \$50. Aqua fitness for adults will be offered from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., June 1-August 20, Tuesday through Friday, depending on enrollment. The charge is \$3.00 per hour.

Instruction for tennis will be offered June 14-17; golf and basketball June 7-10; track June 14-17. Participation in just one of these programs cost \$20, and each additional program is \$15, excluding swimming lessons. Technology Camp will be offered July 12-15 for grades 4-6 at a cost of \$50 per student. Registration for all programs will be held at the Municipal Pool on Monday, May 31, from 9:00 a.m. until noon.

Student Meal Program

The Palacios Independent School District announces the sponsorship of the Summer Food Service Program. Meals will be provided Tuesday, June 1, 2010 through Thursday, June 24, 2010 at Central Elementary cafeteria, and Monday, June 28, 2010 through Thursday, July 15, 2010 at East Side Intermediate cafeteria. All children aged 1 to 18 years will be served free of charge. Handicapped children up to 21 years of age may qualify for meals. Adults will not be served.

Both breakfast and lunch will be offered. Serving times for breakfast are 7:30am to 8:30am. Lunch times are 11:30am to 12:30pm. Serving times are set as a part of the program and meals will not be served before or after the posted times or at any other times. All meals must be eaten in the cafeteria. Food may not be carried from the cafeteria to be eaten elsewhere. All children who are school-age are expected to follow District dress and behavior codes. Children who do not follow rules of conduct will not be allowed to remain in the cafeteria and may be asked not to return.

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability.

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Adjudication and Compliance, 1400 Independence Avenue S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (202) 260-1026, toll-free (866) 632-9992 or (202) 401-0216 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

8th Annual Dad's Day

This year's parent academy (Dad's Day Out) was held on May 8th at East Side Intermediate. Parents and students were greeted with a picture taking session and a delicious breakfast during registration. Parents were then sent to the gym to listen to Steven Reis, Matagorda County District Attorney. Students participated in craft making and story reading while their parents listened to the speaker. Parents and students were then reunited to join in outdoor games. After working up a hunger and thirst, families were then fed hamburgers and hotdogs before cooling off in the pool. Great door prizes were won by many students and parents. More than 150 students participated in the daylong event with their dads or parents. A huge "thank you" to all our donors, supporters, volunteers, and participants. Without you, this day would not have been a success. See you next year!

Palacios ISD
is a Recognized District

Summer Hours

Beginning June 7 and ending July 29 the Administration Office, Tax Office and Campus Principal Offices will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday. All offices and campuses will be closed on Fridays.

Points of Pride

Palacios ISD staff and students shine in local, state and national competitions and programs. We proudly take this opportunity to recognize their achievements/accomplishments.

Palacios ISD receives Recognized District four consecutive years by the Texas Education Agency

Central and East Side awarded Title I Distinguished Campuses

28 students were recently inducted in the NJHS

Palacios ISD technology goes wireless

Two campuses received **EXEMPLARY** and one campus received **Recognized** by the TEA

BUILDING TRADES CLASS BUILT AND DONATED A SIGN TO THE COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

One Act Play . . . The Beggar's Opera received Alternate to Regional competition

JUNIOR HIGH BAND RECEIVES SUPERIOR RATINGS AT REGION 13 UIL CONCERT & SIGHT-READING CONTEST

Sharkette's volleyball qualify for playoffs for the 5th year in a row!

Central Elementary's Marie Garcia receives HEB Excellence in Education Award

A Memorial tree was planted in honor of PHS graduate Major Dan Miller

Carolyn Kubzeka was awarded Co-Woman of the Year

8th grade track team earned the District Championship

Natalie Hansen honored in the Texas Farm Bureau magazine

Grand Opening held for new gymnasium

East Side students receive new playground equipment!

PALACIOS ISD LAUNCHED NEW WEBSITE

HS students perform first musical production *Grease*

Three new buses added to the fleet

Houston Texans recognized East Side students for participating in the NFL PLAY 60 program

Grand Opening of the East Side | Community Garden - produce donated to Martha's Table

Over 300 attend Dad's Day Out at East Side

District launched School Messenger Parent Notification System

6,925 individuals visited the TSMEC during 2008-09

Board of Trustees presented **266** certificates to Central and East Side students for their accomplishments at the **First Annual Fall Awards Program**

Palacios Independent School District
361-972-5491 www.palaciosisd.org

Board of Trustees
Cara Herlin, President
Patty Frankson, Vice President
Carlos Ottino, Secretary
Rick Cink, Member
Steve Stuhrenberg, Member
Mary West, Member
Peter Zamarripa, Member

Administration
Vicki Adams, Superintendent
Herbert Ressler, Assist. Superintendent of Business
Vanessa Kunefke, Director of Instruction
Larry Williams, Director of Federal Programs/Human Resources

The Connections is published periodically by the Palacios ISD to inform the community about district news, events and accomplishments.

Palacios ISD is an equal opportunity employer. All positions and all school programs are offered without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, or handicap.