EISD Update

District of Innovation

Over the past several months, Eustace ISD has been exploring the possibility of becoming a District of Innovation. Becoming a District of Innovation would allow Eustace ISD to be exempt from certain state requirements. In particular, the district has looked at how we could benefit from being exempt from the following policies:

- School Start Date—Eustace ISD will be able to start school on a date that better benefits our students, parents, and staff.
- Teacher Certification—The teacher certification exemption would only be in effect for career and technology classes, dual credit classes, and noncore classes.
- Probationary Contracts—Would allow the district to provide another year of probationary contract for some teachers.
- Length of Teacher Content—Would allow the district to shorten the length of teacher contracts to better align with the new requirement of 75,600

minutes of instruction for our students.

 Teacher Evaluations—Would allow principals and teachers to explore the possibility of designing our own teacher evaluation process.

The process of becoming a District of Innovation is spelled out in detail by state law. Eustace ISD has fulfilled all but two components of this process. The District of Innovation Committee must hold a public hearing and the EISD Board of Trustees must approve the final plan.

The public hearing will be held on February 14 at 4:00 in the High School library. The public hearing is open to all interested parties. Your attendance and participation in the public hearing is encouraged.

Pending a positive outcome at the public hearing, the final step will be board approval of the District of Innovation Plan. The February board meeting will be Monday, February 20. The meeting will start at 7:00 PM and will be held in the High School library.



February 2017

News Briefs

- February 14—Rotary Book Give Away
- February 15—IS Spring Pictures
- February 17—2nd Grade Field Trip— Dallas Theater
- February 17—End 4th 6 Weeks
- February 20—Start 5th 6 Weeks
- February 20—School Board Meeting—7:00 PM—HS Library
- February 23—Report Cards
- February 23— Intermediate Perfect Attendance / Right Choice Drawings
- February 27—March 3 - Texas Public Schools Week

State School Report Cards

Janice Beasley, Assistant Superintendent

Parents of Eustace ISD students recently received a copy of the State School Report Card for their respective campus, along with their student's recent academic report card. The report provides information concerning student performance on the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR), as well as information on student enrollment, class size averages, and financial expenditures of the district. This is a report required by the Texas Legislature and prepared by the Texas Education Agency. It is provided to the parent or guardian of every child enrolled in a Texas public school

The Report Card contains the state accountability rating of the campus. For 2016 state accountability, campuses are rated as Met Standard, Improvement Required, or Not Rated. We are proud that each campus

in Eustace ISD earned the Met Standard rating.

In addition, a heading for Distinctions is noted. Distinction designations recognize outstanding academic achievement in reading/English language arts and mathematics. Campuses that receive a rating of Met Standard are eligible for up to seven distinction designations. Eustace High School is proud to have earned all seven Distinction **Designations:** Academic Achievement in ELA/Reading, Academ-Achievement Math, Academic Achievement Social Studies, Academic Achievement Science, Top 25% Student Progress, Top 25% Closing Performance Gaps and the coveted Postsecondary Readiness distinction. The Middle School earned three Distinction Designations: Academic Achievement in ELA/

(Continued on page 6)

Inside this issue:	
Enrollment Update	2
Middle School News	2
Primary News	3
High School News	3
Intermediate News	4

EISD Update Page 2

Middle School News

Spelling Bee

Naveah Sanchez is the winner of the Henderson County Spelling Bee. Hayleigh Reynolds is the first runner-up. Both are eighth grade students here at Eustace Middle School. Naveah will be traveling to Dallas to compete in the Dallas Morning News Regional Bee. This will be broadcast on WFAA in early March. In the event that Naveah cannot make the contest, Hayleigh will take her place. We are all very proud of these two young ladies!

Benchmark Testing

We will be testing February 8th-10th. Please encourage you students to do their best on these tests. The grades will determine placement in tutoring classes during Bulldog Time.

EMS Cheer Tryouts

Cheer tryouts for the 2017-2018 school year will take place on March 3rd at 4:00. Any student wishing to tryout can sign up in the library. In order to tryout, you have to pass all of your classes for the 4th six weeks, have no more than 10 discipline points for the current school year, and attend at least three of the scheduled practices.

Sumdog

Corey Smith won the Winter Henderson County Sumdog Contest. He answered 966 out of 1,000 questions correctly! There were 17 other classes from Murchison, Athens ISD, and Athens Christian Academy, making a total of 304 students competing.

Six Flags Read to Succeed Program

Our 6th grade students will be bringing home a reading log and information for the "Read to Succeed" program. Each student has the opportunity to receive a free ticket to Six Flags, all they have to do is read! Parents please sign your child's reading log each night that they read and make sure that it is returned to their 2nd period teacher by February 22nd.

Incentive Trip

The next counselor's field trip will be in April after the 5th Six Weeks. To qualify you will need: a 90 or higher grade in ALL classes for the 5th Six weeks, only excused absences since the beginning of the year, and no discipline referrals in the Skyward system.

Immunizations

Now that we've begun the second semester, it is also a good time to encourage the parents of our 6th grade students to go ahead and think about getting immunizations. Students entering

the 7th grade have several immunizations they are required to have. They are required to have received a 2nd dose of the varicella vaccine (chicken pox), a meningococcal vaccine, and a Tdap vaccine (or adult tetanus). This is a requirement by the state of Texas for all 7th graders. Remember 7th grade students will not be able to attend school if they have not had these vaccines. Each year we have had numerous students that we have had to send home the first day of school because they did not have their immunizations up to date. It is best to go ahead and take care of this early. Frequently, those that wait until the last minute have a hard time being able to schedule appointments with Dr.'s offices and clinics. Once your child has had the immunizations, please send records to the office so we can update their file.

Free Breakfast and Lunch

Eustace Primary, Intermediate, and Middle School are continuing the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) under the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs for School 2016-2017. Schools that participate in CEP provide healthy breakfasts and lunches each day at no charge for ALL students enrolled in that CEP school during the 2016-2017 School Year.

Stay Informed

Aside from our monthly updates there are a variety of ways you can keep up with EMS!

Like us @ facebook.com/EustaceMiddleSchool Follow us (a) twitter.com/EustaceMS

And Read the Bulldog Buzz written by our students: Bulldog Buzz

Students of the Month and Employee of the Month

The Students of the Month and Employee of the Month are chosen by the faculty at EMS. These individuals are polite, respectful people who go above and beyond every day. They set the example for everyone around them and show us what it means to be Bulldog Proud!

6th Grade: Avery Reeve and Preston Russell 7th Grade: Abby Woodland and Scottie Neeper 8th Grade: Makena Lilley and Jeremy Drake Employee of the Month: Clint Thompson

Important Dates

February 4th: Boys BB Tournament February 6th: MS Cheer Trip February 9th: Math Counts Competition February 17th: 6th Grade Field Trip March 3rd: MS Cheer Tryouts

Enrollment Update (2-3-2017)

Primary	Campus	Interme	diate Campus
PK	81	3	128
K	110	4	114
1	109	5	105
2	108		
Total	408	Total	347

Middle School		High School	
6	111	9	128
7	100	10	108
8	132	11	107
		12	106
Total	343	Total	449

Total District Enrollment 1547 Total District Enrollment Year Ago 1543 Volume 11, Issue 7 Page 3

High School News

Year Book: Senior ad sales started last week. All seniors received an order form on Friday 1/6. Space is limited and orders are due before February 10. If you need an order form, please email kkrumm@eustaceisd.net or see the yearbook web page https://sites.google.com/site/eustacehsyrbk/. Books continue to be sold for \$50 until March 17, which is the last day to purchase a High School Bulldog yearbook.

NHS Dance: The NHS Winter Dance originally scheduled for January 28th has been moved to February 11th at 6:00 PM in the High School cafeteria.

UIL: UIL Academics traveled to Palestine recently and competed against several school districts. Here are the results:

LD Debate

Mady Bragg 1st
Temple Hendrickson 4th
Computer Applications
Destiny Stout 5th
Ready Writing

Gracie Woodland 3rd
Casie Spivey 4th

<u>Poetry</u>

Veronica Wheat 5th Persuasive Speaking

Summer Tobar 5th

Informative Speaking

Jorgann Holgersen

UIL Academics will be competing in Mabank on February 11. Don't forget to with the UIL team good luck!

FFA: The Heifer Showteam competed this past week at Ft. Worth. It was the heifers first show as they have been working to get them gentle and halter broke. They are very young and the ag term "green" is used to describe animals that are lean and beginning to put on a bloom and fatten up, so our top ten placings were impressive considering other heifers already had a good bloom appearance. There were 25 or more heifers in each class and we had three kids on class 1 with Sadie Cates placing 8th, Emma Finley placing 9th and Cooper Cates placing 10th. In class 3 Abbie Cates

(Continued on page 4)

Primary News

January VIP Champions

Kindergarten- Kenzie Miller, McKenna Adams, Lillian Rogers; First grade- Anistyn Finley, Sofia Romero, Ariel Gilley; Second grade- Dalania Harrington and Madison Truitt.

Second Grade News

Second had a special speaker visit, Mr. Kyle Brunson, Wildlife Biologist from Texas Parks and Wildlife. He brought all kinds of skins, tracks and skulls from animals that live in the East Texas habitat: beavers, coyote, bear, raccoon, possum, mink, nutria, skunk, bobcat, etc.. He told us a lot about the animal habits and why the habitat supports them. Second grade also had TVEC come and talk about how electricity works, the jobs they support and most importantly the dangers of electricity. They brought models that demonstrated live wires and fire.

2nd grade has a field trip planned on February 17 to the Dallas Children's Theatre to see Junie B. Jones Live. Many 2nd graders enjoy reading the Junie B. Jones books and Mrs. Stephens' class is going to be doing a project on Junie B. Jones and the Mushy- Gushy Valentine next week. Two of the 2nd grade teachers participated in a Technology Creative Workshop on Jan. 23. We all hope to benefit from their experience.

Music and Art News

In music class we are learning about rhythm and having fun with the boomwhackers. We are getting ready to start learning to read notes so we can play the xylophone and piano. In art class we are getting ready to do some "heart art" to go along with our Jump Rope for Heart fundraiser. We will study Joan Miro and Paul Klee in the upcoming month. We also enjoyed studying about Andy Warhol and creating our own Elvis art in homage to the King of Rock and Roll's birthday on January 8th.

Box Top Awards

Our first semester contest was a success with a collection of 8,504 box tops, which raised \$850.40 for our school! The top class was Mrs. Kirkhart's class with 1,148 box tops collected. They won extra recess and each child got a prize. Our top student was Miss Kenadie Tanner with a total of 776 box tops! Kenadie won a boom box, Kidz Bop CD, no homework pass, no shoes in class pass, sit with a friend pass, and various other prizes! We really appreciate all the parents who take the time to cut and save box tops for our school. As you can see, it really adds up!

(Continued on page 6)

Intermediate News

January was time to celebrate the ending of our 1st Semester together! Students who earned All As, Right Choice, or Perfect Attendance for the semester went skating on Wednesday, January 11th. Our Semester Awards were held on Thursday, January 12th. Then students who earned All As, Right Choice, and Perfect Attendance had a special reward day on Friday, January 13th. Also, Mrs. Gray's 3rd grade class won the Perfect Attendance Class Pizza Contest!

4th and 5th grade students competed in **Scripts**<u>Dallas Morning News</u> Spelling Bee on Tuesday, January 10th. The Intermediate Winner: Cayden Abbe and the Runner Up: Emilee Cranford will go to Eustace Middle School on February 2nd to compete in the Henderson County Spelling Bee.

To investigate careers, we hosted Dental Hygienist Leanna Gowan. She demonstrated how to take care of a healthy mouth with brushing teeth, flossing gums, and eating healthy foods. All students were given toothbrushes, toothpaste, and floss! Many thanks to Mabank Dental and Orthodontics and Dr. Gautreaux for their time and gifts.

Students of the Month for December and January were honored with our Bulldog Yard Signs and lunch at Applebee's. December-3rd graders: Kaylee Baker; Emma Reschke; Lacie Sparkman; and Abigail Warren. 4th graders: David Johnson; Gracie Holland; Cole Carpenter; and Madilyn Andrews. 5th graders: Kyndal Anderson; Brody Sutton; Spencer Kirby; and Taylor Paschall. January-3rd graders: Emily Ortega-Vargas; Riggs Harris; Kendall Johnson; and Marlen Guillen-Perez. 4th graders: Carson Stegall; Kevin Merritt; Joseph Sullivan; and Edgar Izaguirre. 5th graders: Anna Hamilton; Jason Sanchez; Landen Estes; and Jaden Dark.

Students are beginning their Benchmark practices for the state test STAAR. The teachers will use the results to set up our afterschool tutoring. Afterschool tutoring will begin on Tuesday, February 21st and will continue Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:18-4:15 PM until testing ends in May.

	Upcoming events:		
	Feb. 6-10	National School Counselor	
Week			
	Feb. 15	Spring Pictures	
	Feb. 23	Report Cards / Perfect Attend-	
ance Drink			
	Feb. 24	4 th 6-Weeks Drawings / Mon-	
ey-Aire / Right Choice Snow Cones			

(High School Continued from page 3)

placed 7th. The goat and sheep show will be this week and into the weekend. Next week will be the steer show. Don't forget to put on your calendar the blood drive which is 2-8-17 in the auditorium and the Chili Cook Off and Auction is set for 2-18-17 at the Primary Cafeteria starting at 6:00 p.m.

Goat & sheep show 1-26-17 thru 1-29-17

Skye Burns Savannah McSwain Jodi Costlow Katie Pritchard Emma Bell Steer Show 1-31-17 thru 2-3-17 Makenzie Skiles Brooke Reynolds Carson Stegall

Rabbit Show

2-2-17 thru 2-4-17 Colby Carpenter Bucky Womble Caitlyn Huffman Casie Spivey Calie Spivey Samantha Phillips Jaci Gray Jade Gray Jaymie Duke

Eustace FFA Ag Mechanics at Fort Worth Livestock Show. 2nd place 20-foot bumper pull trailer: Rylan McClaskey and Zane Kuhn; 2nd place 18-foot bumper pull trailer JJ Hughes; Hog trap 1st place blue ribbon Johnny Davis and Xavier Robertson. Chicken pen 1st place blue ribbon: Jammie Duke and Lizzy Ramsey. BBQ pit 2nd place Hunter Key and Gary Lovell. Horse shoe cup holder; Carson Stegall 1st place blue ribbon.

The weekend of 1/20-1/22, the FFA competed at the Ft. Worth Livestock Show in the Poultry Competition.

Macy Penix winning Grand Champion for her Pearl Guinea Fowl; Jr. FFA member Carson Stegall winning Reserve Grand Champion, also for a Pearl Guinea Fowl. Other members that competed and placed in the top 5 of their class and division were Keylan Warren, David Gilbreath, John Saine, and Sierra Castillo. We had a successful show!

Band: The band is continuing to work on it's UIL Concert Contest program. They will be attending the Region 3 UIL Concert and Sightreading Contest on March 1st in Canton.

Baseball: Baseball practice started on January 27th and have approximately 45 young men practicing.

Basketball: The Lady Bulldogs recently clinched a playoff spot and are expected to finish 3rd in district play. They will complete there district schedule at home against Kemp on February 7th.

Cheer: The cheer leaders attended the 2nd annual UIL State Cheerleading Championship on January 11th. The team won all three rounds (band dance, fight song, crowd leading) during the preliminary rounds of the competition. They placed 3rd overall in the small coed division during finals which competes against 1A-4A schools. This team worked many long, hard hours perfecting their performances and represented Eustace well. We are very proud of them!

From this point until March 3rd we will be working on the cheerleader's individual skills in preparation for the 2017-2018 cheerleading tryouts. These skills include: jumps, motions, standing tumbling, running tumbling, coed stunts, group stunts, flexibility, performance, and projection.

Powerlifting: Eustace Powerlifting competed in the Malakoff Invitational on Jan. 21st. Competing and placing were, Raini Goodell who placed 2nd, Kelsie Richmond 2nd, Jaci Gray 2nd, Anna Gaddis 3rd, Justyne Romano 4th, and Ashlyn Burke 4th. Also competing were Shay Belcher and Eryne Meroney. For the boys, competing and placing were Micheal Marshall 2nd, and Victor Quevedo 2nd. Also competing were Xavier Robertson, Terry Richardson, Michael Wong, Alex Dupree, Garrett Griffin, and Marcus Staggs.

Softball: The softball team started practice on January 20th and have 15 girls working out with the team. The girls are working hard and they are looking to have a successful 2017 season. Their first game is at home against Rice on February 14th.

Track: Girls Track is gearing up for the 2017 season. We have already started running and have several field events putting in time (when the weather cooperates). The girls are very excited about getting things going officially the first week of February and we hope to be able to build on the successes of our previous seasons. Please come out and help us kick off the season at the Eustace Bulldog Relays February 23rd!!

Bulldog Proud!



Box Top Champion Kenadie Tanner



Mrs. Pharmakis and Mrs. Adams with a group of Primary Students on a field trip.



Trinity Valley Electric Cooperative employees demonstrate electrical safety for Primary students.

(continued from page 1)

Reading), Top 25% Closing Performance Gaps, and Postsecondary Readiness The Intermediate campus earned two Distinction Designations: Top 25% Closing Performance Gaps, and Postsecondary Readiness. The Primary Campus is not eligible for Distinction Designations since it does not have STAAR tested grades.

If you have any questions about the information on the State School Report Card, please contact the campus principal. A full report of all Texas districts can be found on the Texas Education Agency website: https://rptsvr1.tea.texas.gov/perfreport/src/2016/campus.srch.html

(Primary from page 3)

Academy and ESL News

The second grade Academy and ESL students recently took a field trip to the Tyler Museum of Art located at Tyler Junior College. The students saw a montage of black and white photos taken by local photographer, Robert Langham. Then as a special surprise, Mr. Langham showed up and they had the opportunity to visit with him about his work. The second exhibit the students viewed was entitled, Flora and Fauna that included all mediums of art! Students created their own masterpieces at the end of the trip. It was a very exciting day for all involved! Jump Rope for Heart

The First and Second Grade PE classes participated in "Jump Rope for Heart" as a service project for the 2016-2017 school year. Funds raised went to American Heart Association. 75 students participated in this program. \$2,209 was raised. 6 students collected over \$100 individually. The event lasted for 3 weeks. Class totals: Dickenson - \$65, Sutton - \$190, Temple - \$289, Gunderson - \$80, Stephens - \$205, Jordan - \$100, Foster - \$205, McAfee - \$261, LaFluer - \$134, Kirkhart - \$215, Castro - \$282, and Dailey - \$68. Landry Huggins - \$165, Miranda Hersey - \$150, Raye Bradley - \$145, Colby Merchant - \$125, Kinsey Paul - \$100, and Audrey Kilcrease - \$100. We appreciate all of the participation and are so excited to be able to make this donation to a worthy cause.



Intermediate Spelling Bee Winners



Dental Hygienist talking with Intermediate students.

UIL Concert and
Sight Reading Contest
Canton
March 1

Eustace ISD

Pride



Discipline

Thank you for voting Eustace ISD the Best of the Best!

Class

Poise

Bulldog Proud!