

An education link
with the Birdville ISD community

Partnership

A TEA
"Recognized"
District



Fall 2001

Superintendent's Exchange
Page 2

Our "Golden Apples" of 2001
Golden Gala Sponsors
Trustee Spotlight
Page 3

Around the District
Page 4-5

Results in Action
Page 6

2001-2002 Calendar
New Phone Numbers/
State Accountability Ratings
Page 7

2001-2002 Virtues
Page 8

**Birdville ISD
Dates to Remember**

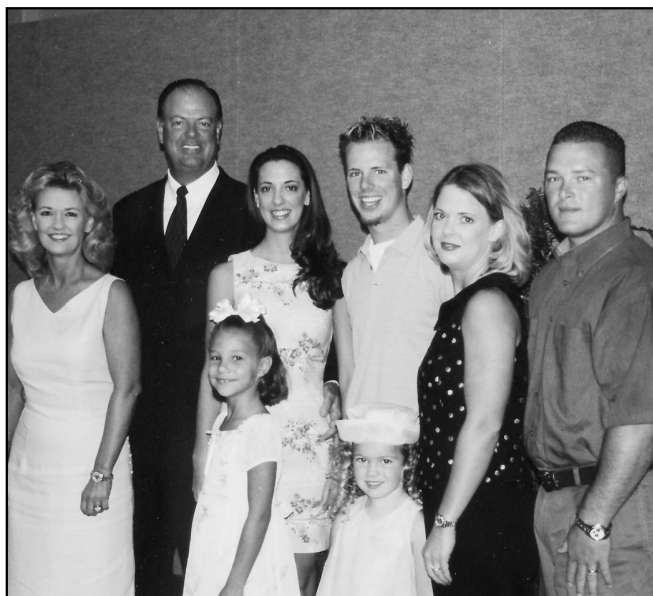
Fall Break	Oct. 5,8
TAAS (10th grade)	Oct. 23-25
Thanksgiving Break	Nov. 19-23
1/2 Day, Students	Dec. 17,18
Preparation Day/ Student Holiday	Dec. 19
Semester Break	Dec. 20-Jan. 1

Superintendent to retire

Standing before the 2,600 employees of Birdville ISD, Superintendent Bob E. Griggs announced his retirement, effective at the end of the 2001-2002 school year. The surprise announcement came July 30 during the district's convocation, when all staff assembled to kick off the new school year.

Griggs told the employees, "I'm announcing my retirement now since it is the last time our entire BISD family will be together under my leadership, and I wanted the entire family to hear the announcement at the same time. Also, I wanted to allow ample time for our Board of Trustees to find a new leader."

Griggs has served as BISD's superintendent since June 1993. During his tenure, the community has passed two bond programs, \$74.7 million in 1993 and \$83.35 million in 1996. These programs allowed BISD to build its third high school and a fine arts/athletics complex, upgrade technology, renovate and expand existing campuses, and purchase land for future growth.



Dr. Griggs plans to spend more time with his family once he retires. Pictured, clockwise from left, are: wife Susan Griggs, Superintendent Bob E. Griggs, daughter Amber Griggs, son Chad Griggs, daughter Heather Bartlett, son-in-law Donnie Bartlett, and granddaughters Erin and Lexi Bartlett.

Under Griggs' leadership, student test scores have been above state and national averages; district programs have been recognized at the state and national levels; student participation and success at the regional, state and national levels has increased; two elementary academies were

See Griggs, page 2

Virtual classroom becomes reality for BISD students



Birdville ISD has launched into the next generation of education with the successful completion of a "virtual" Algebra I course this summer. BISD

continues to move forward with the expansion of the "virtual classroom" by increasing the number of courses offered this fall.

The virtual class-

room exists only on computer. It gives students flexibility in scheduling, the opportunity to recover lost credits and the ability to

See Computers, page 6

Superintendent's Exchange

As I began my career in education in 1971, I had a dream of being able to retire after serving 30-plus years in education. At the end of the 2001-2002 school year, I will realize that dream. At the conclusion of the 2002 graduation ceremonies, I will retire from BISD.



Since June 1993, I have been blessed to have the opportunity to serve you as superintendent of Birdville ISD. Together we have seen our children soar to new heights. We have grown from one to 17 exemplary campuses, built a new high school and fine arts/athletics complex, renovated and expanded every campus in the district, and integrated technology into classrooms across the district. This is not the work of one person. It has been our community that has joined together with great educators in BISD to accomplish these extraordinary things.

Being superintendent, I have also had difficult times — times when we as a district have grieved over the loss of students and staff. I have cried with you and for you. Through the tough times, we have learned great lessons about how precious each and every life is.

As I conclude my final year as superintendent of BISD, I want to encourage you to continue to support this great district. Birdville ISD is the students, parents, staff and community.

Griggs, from Page 1

established; an extracurricular honor code was established; "Limited Open Enrollment" was initiated; the Pre-Advanced Placement Program was extended to the middle school campus; and the school-within-a-school program for high school freshmen was established.

Since the Texas Education Agency began its ratings of school districts, BISD has been rated recognized for three consecutive years. In 2001, 17 of the district's 31 campuses have been rated exemplary, with 10 being rated recognized.

Before Griggs came to the district, no BISD campus had earned the U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon School Award. As of the end

of the 2000-2001 school year, two of the district's elementary campuses have received the coveted title. Two additional campuses have been named Texas Blue Ribbon Schools.

"It has been my desire since assuming the BISD superintendency to leave a legacy of student excellence. I am very proud that the BISD staff believes that all children can learn regardless of their heritage," Griggs said. "My career is culminating with the joy of knowing virtues education is deeply imbedded within the district's culture and that our community has confidence in BISD."

Griggs and his wife, Susan, will continue to live in North Richland Hills to remain near their children and grandchildren.

An education link
with the Birdville ISD community

Partnership

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| President | Wanda Strong |
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| Dolores Webb | Charles Yates |

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BIRDVILLE ISD MISSION

"BISD, in partnership with the community, pursues educational excellence and dedicates its resources to create a learning environment that encourages all students to become productive citizens and lifelong learners in a global society."

**Birdville ISD:
Lighting the Way
for Our Future**



TRUSTEE Spotlight



David Pokluda

2001-2002
Board Vice
President
Place VII

Occupation: Home Builder
Trustee Since: 1998, re-elected 2001
Board Offices Served:
Vice President: 2001-2002
Secretary: 2000-2001

Mr. Pokluda is president of Alamo Custom Builders, Inc. He has worked there for 30 years.

Pokluda's school involvement started as a volunteer at elementary, middle and high school levels. He served on the 1996 Bond Advisory Committee and serves on several BISD booster club boards. He joined the Board in 1998.

He is a member of the North Richland Hills Baptist Church, Northeast Richland Lions Club and the Northeast Optimist Club. Pokluda is also a life director of the National Association of Home Builders.

He and his wife, Teena, have three sons, D.J., Jonathan and Barrett. They have lived in North Richland Hills for 11 years.

Did You Know . . .

Birdville ISD derived its name from Jonathon Bird, who led a group of settlers west in 1851 to what is now Tarrant County. The group named its new home Birdville. Records indicate the first schools in the area began in 1855, and the one-teacher Birdville Academy was built in 1858 on Birdville Hill in what is now Haltom City. Today, the district has 31 campuses and serves about 21,500 students in Richland Hills and parts of Haltom City, Hurst, North Richland Hills and Watauga.

BISD's top teachers committed to excellence

Birdville Independent School District has named three outstanding teachers as Golden Apple Award recipients for 2001 for their teaching excellence in the classroom. The honorees were presented with engraved golden apples commemorating their achievements at a formal banquet on May 3.

BISD congratulates all 31 of its campus teachers of the year

- Janna Smith
Birdville Elementary
- Betty Shaffer
David E. Smith Elementary
- Alan A. Harders
Foster Village Elementary
- Becky Trotter
Glenview Elementary
- Elaine Pennington
Grace Hardeman Elementary
- Marilyn Pfeifer
Green Valley Elementary
- Barbara Leonard
Holiday Heights Elementary
- Jennifer Denise Couch
Mullendore Elementary
- Kathy Luppy
North Ridge Elementary
- Janet Houk
John D. Spicer Elementary
- Ruth Rodriguez
O. H. Stowe Elementary
- Donna Louise Crane
Richland Elementary
- Patti Bradley
Smithfield Elementary
- Dana Thomas
Snow Heights Elementary
- Ellen Gray
South Birdville Elementary



Pictured above, from left, are BISD's Teachers of the Year: Arlene Stotts, Middle School Teacher of the Year, transition teacher at Watauga Middle; Hank Fulkerson, High School Teacher of the Year, government studies/athletic coordinator at Birdville High School; and Kathy Luppy, Elementary Teacher of the Year, fifth-grade teacher at North Ridge Elementary.

- Christa Cloutier
The Academy at C.F. Thomas
- Olga Hernandez-Coar
The Academy at W. Birdville
- Katie Gaffney
W. A. Porter Elementary
- Mary Ann Hart
W. T. Francisco Elementary
- Kari Sharpe
Watauga Elementary
- Patty Heffley
Haltom Middle School
- Tom Fleming IV
North Oaks Middle
- Betty Ingram
North Richland Middle
- Nori Bykerk
North Ridge Middle
- Monica Woods
Richland Middle
- Karen Teeters
Smithfield Middle
- Arlene Stotts
Watauga Middle
- Hank Fulkerson
Birdville High
- Debra Perry
Haltom High School
- Sina Coulson
Richland High School
- Shellie Kiedrowski
Shannon Education Center

2001 Golden Gala Sponsors

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| Gold Star Sponsorship
\$1,000-\$2,499
SHW Group, Inc.
Coca-Cola Bottling
Company of North Texas
Birdville ISD Foundation
for Educational Excellence | Bronze Star Sponsorship
\$400
Northwest Bank-Haltom City
Print Central, Inc.
SHW Group, Inc.
Fort Worth Star-Telegram | Business Recognition Packages
BRC Watauga Lanes
Pancho's Mexican Buffett
Sonic Drive In
Spring Creek Barbeque
Strain Plumbing Co.
Applebee's Neighborhood Grill and Bar |
| Silver Star Sponsorship
\$500-\$999
Bates Container, Inc.
J.L. Steel, L.P.
Liberty Bank | Star Gazer
\$300
Liberty Carton Co.
North Hills Hospital | In-Kind Gifts
Global Group Inc.
Dillard's |

Special thanks to Birdville ISD PTAs and staff for providing floral arrangements.

Highlights . . . Around the District

Announcements . . .

"I Have a Bright Future In My Hands, I'm Drug Free!" is the theme of the 2001 Red Ribbon Campaign. Activities are being planned at all 31 campuses across Birdville ISD in preparation for Red Ribbon Week, scheduled for Oct. 20-26. All school campuses



have scheduled activities and programs to support this effort to promote drug-free and violence-free lifestyles. Each student and faculty member will be given Red Ribbons furnished by Conway Transportation to wear during the week's celebration. Red Ribbon buttons funded by the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act will also be distributed to city offices as well as local police and fire departments. The mayors of the cities of Haltom City, Hurst, North Richland Hills, Richland Hills and Watauga have been requested to issue proclamations encouraging all citizens to pledge to a no-use of illegal drugs and no illegal use of legal drugs community.

Daily Themes

Monday	Decoration Day
Tuesday	Reach Out Day
Wednesday	Wear Red/ Rally Day
Thursday	Pledge Day
Friday	Recognition Day

For information about the Birdville Red Ribbon celebrations, contact your campus for list of activities.

Adult Education General Education Diploma (GED) and English as a Second Language (ESL) evening classes have started and will continue all year. The classes are free and no registration is required. The GED class meets Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-9 p.m. at the Shannon Learning Center, Room 312. ESL classes are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-8 p.m. at the Shannon Learning Center, Room 314. Classes run through May 9, 2002. For information, call 817.547.5786.

Are you curious about the history of Birdville schools? **Birdville Association of Retired School Personnel (BARSP)** is collecting items for the Ida Joe Reynolds Room. This room contains archived material such as old annuals, photo albums, news articles and much more. The Ida Joe Reynolds Room is in the BISD Central Stores building at 5304 E. Belknap and is open during regular school hours. To donate memorabilia related to BISD, please call Jo Reynolds at 817.485.1138.



Historical items from Birdville schools are on display in the Ida Joe Reynolds Room at BISD's Central Stores location, 5304 E. Belknap in Haltom City.



The 2001-2002 Board of Directors of the **Foundation for Educational Excellence** are: continuing members Doug Terry, Charles Brinkley, Bill Rickett, Calvin White, C. A. Sanford, Rita Wright-

Oujesky, Mark Wood, Rick Work, Oscar Trevino, Robin McClure and Brent Barrow. Standing members are Bob Griggs, David Brewer, Wanda Strong and David Pokluda.

BISD libraries accept donations for the purchase of new books given in-memory-of or in-honor-of individuals. This is an outstanding way to help students and to honor individuals. For information about donating books, contact your local campus principal or librarian, or call 817.547.5665.

BISD will offer secondary **Credit by Exam** (for acceleration) testing on Dec. 11. Application deadline is Nov. 13. Applications will not be accepted after the registration deadline. See your school counselor for more information.

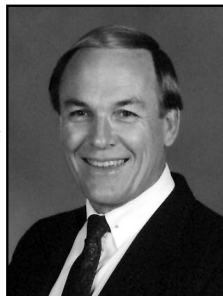
Do you know a child with a disability? Contact Special Services, 817.547.5700, for information or available assistance.

Awards . . .

BISD's Business Education program received national recognition in the project "Sharing and Celebrating Successful and Promising Career and

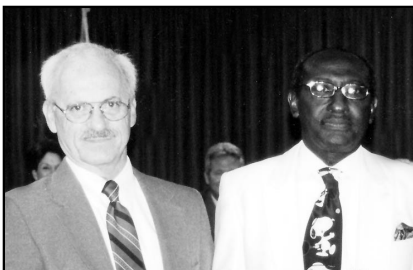
Technical Education Programs." The project was conducted by The National Dissemination Center for Career and Technical Education and was sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education. BISD was one of only 20 programs nationwide designated as promising, and the only Texas school district to be recognized.

Henry Schraub, director of Fine Arts, was presented with the Outstanding Music Educator Award for 2000 at the Texas Music Educators Association Convention. The award is given by the National Federation of Interscholastic Music Associations.



Birdville Elementary representatives will be recognized at a reception at the White House in late October for being named a 2000-01 National Blue Ribbon School. Those traveling to the nation's capitol include **Principal Marta White, Laura Marshall, Janna Smith, JoAnne Webster, Donna Clark, Darla Hatcher, Donna Slaughter, Mary Hensarling, Rodger Lee, Gary Owen, Marilyn Howard, April McDonald, Susanne Stutheit, Carla Wilkey, Linda Nelson, Christy Dominguez, Peggy McKinney, Kristy Sughroug, Christy Tipps, Sherry Campbell, JaNae Wing, Michael Jordan and Sherry Wagley.**

Karen Allen, English teacher at **Watauga Middle School**, received the 2000-2001 Exemplary Teacher of the Year Award from the Fort Worth Star-Telegram's Newspaper in Education (NIE) program.



Larry Hughes of Birdville High, left, and Charlie Brown of The Academy at West Birdville, were recognized as "Custodians of the Year" by the North East Environmental Team (NEET). Not pictured, **Robert Wood of Haltom Middle.**

Lesa Master, senior English teacher at **Richland High**, was recognized as the Minyard Food Service Inc.'s, "First Class Teacher of the Week."



Business Partners . . .

The following business partners were recognized at recent board meetings:

Yolanda Dennis, Sonic Drive-In; **Jesse Richter**, Papa John's Pizza; **Judge Jack Byno**, City of Haltom City; **Judge Robert Fischel**, City of Watauga; **Judge Ray Oujesky**, City of North Richland Hills; **Judge Len A. Wade**, City of Richland Hills; **Reverends David and Ginger Jarman**, pastors of Richland Hills Christian Church; **Melinda Moses**, Barnes and Noble; **Wayne Baham**, Mattel Southwest Distribution Center; **Steve Mills**, Allen Samuels Dodge; and **Steve Glaze**, Allen Young Pontiac GMC.

The **BISD Foundation for Educational Excellence** introduced a Grant Award program the spring of 2000, with \$45,000 to be awarded for innovative programs that directly impact instruction. The following 12 grants were awarded: **Birdville Elementary**, Elementary Spanish, \$5,000; **Snow Heights Elementary**, Library Theatre Program, \$5,000;

South Birdville Elementary, Book Collection for Guided Reading, \$5,000; **The Academy at West Birdville**, Parent Partners in Literacy and Math, \$5,000; **W.A. Porter Elementary**, Experiencing Forms of Energy, \$330; **Green Valley Elementary**, CHILD — Creative, Hands-on, Inquiry-based Learning in a Diverse World, \$5,000; **Haltom Middle**, AirWatch Weather Station, \$4,135; **Richland Middle**, Lighthouse School Project, \$2,300; **Watauga Middle**, Lighthouse School Project, \$2,300; **North Ridge Middle**, Family Geography Challenge and Current Events, \$1,775; **Birdville High**, "Super Saturday" Workshops, \$5,000; and **Birdville High**, Community Service Initiative, \$3,720.

Volunteers . . .

Volunteers are "Growing Strong Together" as they reach across BISD. Last year, BISD had 5,001 approved volunteers who donated more than 268,481 hours to the children of the district. The challenge from the superintendent for the 2001-2002 school year is 5,250 approved volunteers who donate more than 285,000 hours. If you are interested in being a volunteer in BISD, contact your local campus or call the volunteer office at 817.547.5423.



Birdville Council PTA Officers for the 2001-02 school year include: **Cindy Brown Harding**, president; **Toni Rutherford**, 1st vice president (aide); **Helen Clark**, 2nd vice president (programs); **Cara Colley**, 3rd vice president (budget and finance); **Connie Matthews**, 4th vice president (hospitality); **Tammy Renfro**, 5th vice president (parent education); **Jennifer LePla**, recording secretary; **Deborah Hansen**, treasurer; **Pam Becknal**, parliamentarian; and **Angela McCants**, historian.

BISD bond projects are . . . *results in action*

Positive results of your bond dollars can be seen throughout Birdville ISD. The following is an update of work completed, projects in process and schedules for projects being planned.

1996 BOND CONSTRUCTION UPDATE ...

PROPOSITION I

New High School — Complete.

PROPOSITION II

Additions, Renovations, Land:

- Classroom additions to Holiday Heights, John D. Spicer, Snow Heights and W. T. Francisco elementaries and Richland and Haltom middle schools are complete.
- Classroom additions to Watauga and North Ridge middle schools are scheduled for completion in September.
- Contract was awarded to Component Construction Company for renovations to the Transportation/Service Complex. Work is underway on this project and scheduled for completion in October 2001.

PROPOSITION III

Technology:

- Upgrades to the computer room at MIS are complete.
- New Gigabit fiber optic network backbone is in all of the campuses in North Richland Hills and Watauga.
- Installation of high-speed fiber optic cable in Richland Hills and Haltom City is scheduled to be brought online during the fall 2001 semester.
- District-wide telephone system upgrade was initiated in spring 1999 and completed during summer 2001.

PROPOSITION IV

Kindergarten Classroom Additions:

- Kindergarten classroom additions to Foster Village, Holiday Heights, John D. Spicer, Green Valley, Snow



A new building wing at W. T. Francisco Elementary in Haltom City provides four new classrooms, a music room and a library. The addition was open to students for the first day of school.

Heights, North Ridge, Smithfield and Grace E. Hardeman elementaries are complete.

PROPOSITION V

Fine Arts/ Athletic Complex — Complete.

1993 BOND CONSTRUCTION UPDATE ...

PROPOSITION I

Roof & HVAC:

- Buildings scheduled to receive new roofs are proceeding as planned. Eighteen of the 19 total projects are complete.

PROPOSITION II

Additions, Renovations, Land:

- The modifications to Birdville Stadium are complete.
- ADA updates to W. G. Thomas Coliseum are complete.
- Shannon Education Center renovations are complete.

PROPOSITION III

Technology — Complete.

Computers, from Page 1

accelerate the pace at which credits are earned. These courses can be taken from any location where Internet access is available.

The most successful students in a virtual course will be those who are self-motivated, highly organized and comfortable using technology.

Courses provided by the Birdville Virtual School have been evaluated and aligned to meet the standards of

BISD as well as those of the state of Texas (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills), and will be facilitated by BISD personnel. Through the use of graphics, animations, links and other resources, students will gain the skills necessary to be successful in the rapidly changing technological society. The Internet classroom is a great opportunity for students to work in a dynamic, project-based and collaborative environment.

A few of the courses offered during

the fall semester include: Algebra I, Geometry, Economics/Government, Latin I and II, English II, AP Biology and AP Computer Science. The cost for BISD students is \$250 per course per semester. The number of spots available for each course will be limited, so students are encouraged to enroll soon. For more information, talk to your school counselor or contact Lane Ledbetter via phone at 817.547.5754 or by e-mail at Lane_Ledbetter@birdville.k12.tx.us.

2001-2002 BISD CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER						
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DATES TO REMEMBER	
August 7	First Day of School
Sept. 3	Labor Day
Oct. 5,8	Fall Break
Nov. 19-23	Thanksgiving
Dec. 19	Preparation Day/ Student Holiday
Dec. 20-Jan. 1	Semester Break
Jan. 21	M.L. King Jr. Day
Feb. 4-8	Winter Break
April 1-5	Spring Break
May 22,23	1/2 Day, Students
May 23	Last Day, Students
May 25	Graduation BHS, 7 p.m.
May 26	Graduation HHS, 1:30 p.m. RHS, 4:30 p.m.
May 27	Memorial Day

DECEMBER						
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APRIL						
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JUNE						
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BIRDVILLE ISD CAMPUS LISTINGS

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Birdville.....817.547.1500
3126 Bewley St. *Recognized*
Haltom City, TX 76117

David E. Smith.....817.547.1600
3701 N. Haltom Road *Exemplary*
Haltom City, TX 76117

W. T. Francisco.....817.547.1700
3701 Layton Ave. *Exemplary*
Haltom City, TX 76117

Glenview.....817.547.1800
3900 Norton Drive *Recognized*
Richland Hills, TX 76118

Mullendore.....817.547.1900
4100 Flory St. *Exemplary*
N. Richland Hills, TX 76180

Richland.....817.547.2000
3250 Scruggs Park Drive *Exemplary*
Richland Hills, TX 76118

Smithfield.....817.547.2100
6724 Smithfield Road *Exemplary*
N. Richland Hills, TX 76180

Snow Heights.....817.547.2200
4801 Vance Road *Exemplary*
N. Richland Hills, TX 76180

South Birdville.....817.547.2300
2600 Solona *Recognized*
Haltom City, TX 76117

O.H. Stowe.....817.547.2400
4200 Doeline Drive *Recognized*
Haltom City, TX 76117

The Academy at West Birdville
.....817.547.2500
3001 Layton Ave. *Recognized*
Haltom City, TX 76117

Holiday Heights.....817.547.2600
5221 Susan Lee Lane *Exemplary*
N. Richland Hills, TX 76180

Watauga.....817.581.5413
5937 Whitley Road *Exemplary*
Watauga, TX 76148

Hardeman.....817.547.2800
6100 Whispering Lane *Exemplary*
Watauga, TX 76148

W.A. Porter.....817.547.2900
2750 Prestondale Drive *Exemplary*
Hurst, TX 76054

The Academy at C.F. Thomas
.....817.547.3000
8200 O'Brian Way *Exemplary*
N. Richland Hills, TX 76180

Foster Village.....817.547.3100
6800 Springdale Lane *Exemplary*
N. Richland Hills, TX 76180

North Ridge.....817.547.3200
7331 Holiday Lane *Exemplary*
N. Richland Hills, TX 76180

John D. Spicer.....817.547.3300
4300 Estes Park Road *Exemplary*
Haltom City, TX 76137

Green Valley.....817.547.3400
7900 Smithfield Road *Exemplary*
N. Richland Hills, TX 76180

Haltom.....817.547.4000
5000 Hires Lane *Acceptable*
Haltom City, TX 76117

North Richland.....817.547.4200
4800 Rufe Snow Drive *Recognized*
N. Richland Hills, TX 76180

Richland.....817.547.4400
7400 Hovenkamp *Acceptable*
Richland Hills, TX 76118

North Oaks.....817.547.4600
4800 Jordan Park Drive *Acceptable*
Haltom City, TX 76117

Watauga.....817.547.4800
6300 Maurie Drive *Recognized*
Watauga, TX 76148

Smithfield.....817.547.5000
8400 Main St. *Exemplary*
N. Richland Hills, TX 76180

North Ridge.....817.547.5200
7332 Douglas Lane *Exemplary*
N. Richland Hills, TX 76180

HIGH SCHOOLS

Haltom.....817.547.6000
5501 N. Haltom Road *Recognized*
Haltom City, TX 76137

Richland.....817.547.7000
5201 Holiday Lane East *Recognized*
N. Richland Hills, TX 76180

Birdville.....817.547.8000
9100 Mid Cities Blvd. *Recognized*
N. Richland Hills, TX 76180

Shannon Education Center
.....817.547.5400
6010 Walker St. *AE-Acceptable*
Haltom City, TX 76117

Different virtues, characters announced for 2001-2002 school year

BISD opens Virtues Education program with Self-Discipline, represented by Mahatma Gandhi

The Board of Trustees adopted Birdville's Virtues in 1999 in an effort to enhance the BISD experience. A total of 31 virtues were adopted, and a different virtue is highlighted each month throughout the district. A historical character who displays/represents each virtue also will be discussed. During the 2001-2002 school year, the following virtues will be emphasized on every BISD campus:

September • Self-Discipline • Mahatma Gandhi

Definition: Training yourself to do what is necessary to improve your body, mind and character.

October • Citizenship • Susan B. Anthony

Definition: Being someone who is an official member of a country or community who has certain rights and responsibilities.

November • Confidence • Jackie Robinson

Definition: Believing in yourself and your abilities.

December • Compassion • Albert Schweitzer

Definition: An awareness of the suffering of another and the wish to relieve it.

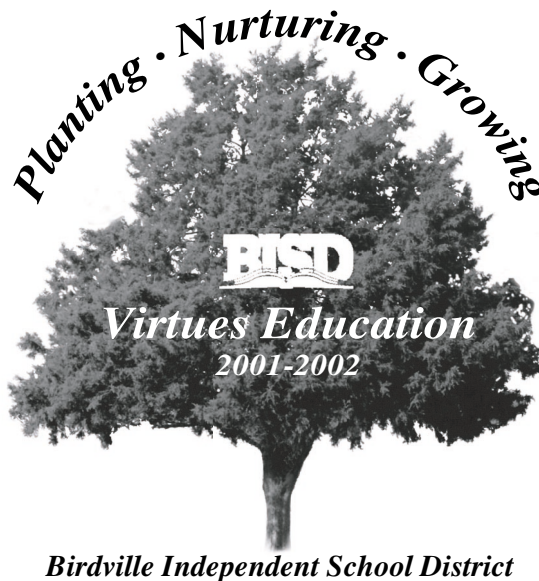
January • Fairness • Nellie Bly

February • Courage • Marian Wright Edelman

March • Patience • Nelson Mandela

April • Humility • Eleanor Roosevelt

May • Joy • Will Rogers



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