



Partnership

FALL / WINTER 2005

An Education Link with the Birdville ISD Community

Green Valley Elementary Named BISD'S Third National Blue Ribbon School



Green Valley Elementary was recognized by Superintendent Stephen F. Waddell and Board President Dolores Webb in October.

There is cause for celebration at Green Valley Elementary! The school has been officially notified that the campus has been named the district's third National Blue Ribbon School.

The prestigious Blue Ribbon education award was established by the United States Department of Education in 1982. On July 28, 2002, the Secretary of Education announced that schools singled out for this national honor would now reflect the goals of our nation's new education reforms for high standards and accountability.

The No Child Left Behind-Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors public and private K-12 schools that are either academically superior in their states, or that demonstrate

"Green Valley Elementary has always been a great school for our four children. The honor of being named a National Blue Ribbon School is a wonderful way that the hard work and dedication of the staff to all students of Green Valley is recognized. We are so proud to be a part of Green Valley."

Raeanne & Rock English
Green Valley Parents

dramatic gains in student achievement. Green Valley is the only school in Tarrant County and

"They have truly created a positive learning environment that helps all children reach their potential. I look forward to being a part of all their future accomplishments. They say, 'Home is where the heart is!' My heart is definitely at Green Valley."

Trudy Dapprich
Green Valley Parent

Principal Anita Silva says she and the staff are thrilled and honored to learn that the campus has received this distinguished award. "Our students and staff have worked very hard to

earn this recognition," she states. "This is the best way to begin the 2005-2006 school year!"

Representatives from the school will attend a national ceremony later this year in Washington, D.C., where they will be congratulated by education officials and receive a National Blue Ribbon flag and commemorative plaque.



Keith Martin and Natalie Mayhugh await the blue ribbon announcement.

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Region XI to receive this honor.

Each year Green Valley Elementary explores innovative solutions to achieve its ambitious goals. Collaboration among students, families, teachers and campus administration have resulted in the accomplishment of academic excellence and a school culture that fosters a caring and nurturing environment. The cultivation of individual students has resulted in Green Valley Elementary being named an exemplary school for the past 11 years.

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**An Education Link with the
Birdville ISD Community
Partnership**

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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.”

**Annual Asbestos Notification:
2005-06 School Year**

Birdville Independent School District (BISD) is committed to providing a safe environment for our students, patrons, faculty and staff, and has made every effort to be in compliance with: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), 40 CFR Part 763 Asbestos, Subpart E, “Asbestos-Containing-Materials in Schools”.

In accordance with 40 CFR, Part 763.84(c), you are hereby notified that an Asbestos Management Plan developed by an accredited asbestos management planner is in-place for every BISD facility. Each management plan was duly filed in accordance with section 763.93 on or before October 12, 1988 with the Texas Department of Health. A copy of the management plan is maintained in the administrative office of each facility and in the Buildings and Grounds office located at 6119 East Belknap Street, Haltom City, Texas 76117. Summaries of the response actions taken by the District are included in each management plan. The complete documentation of all response actions is available for review in the Buildings and Grounds Department offices during regular business hours. Qualified BISD personnel perform semi-annual inspections throughout the district. Every three years, Birdville hires accredited and licensed asbestos inspectors to re-inspect all areas. The most recent re-inspection was conducted in December 2003.



campus, Walker Creek Elementary, where 500 students walked through the doors on the first day of school in August.

This fall, as I walked the halls of Walker Creek and the halls of each of the other thirty-one campuses, I discovered three recurring patterns. In the eyes of the students, I witnessed an eagerness to learn. In the eyes of the teachers, I witnessed the desire to teach. In the eyes of parents, I witnessed tremendous hope for their children.

At this holiday time of year, I want to thank you for joining me in the important work we do together every day to promote the growth and development of the children in the Birdville community. I feel blessed to be a part of a district that has such a deep commitment to its children. Children are the reason I became an educator. Children are still the number one reason I enjoy coming to work every day.

Have a happy and safe holiday season.

Superintendent's Exchange...

The 2005-2006 school year began with even more excitement than usual. Because of individuals who dared to dream big dreams for BISD, the district opened our twenty-first elementary

Green Valley , page 1



Chase Chapman celebrates blue ribbon honor.

In addition to the Blue Ribbon award, Green Valley has also been named a Texas Business and Education Coalition/Just For The Kids (TBEC/JFTK) Honor Roll School for 2005. This year the award was given



to a select group of the best 83 elementary schools in Texas. The TBEC/JFTK Honor Roll is the most prestigious award for sustained, academic excellence in Texas. It recognizes consistent performance over three years by schools that have excellent performance in each grade, in each subject, and that rate in the top 25 percent of their demographic peer group. There is more information available concerning this award at www.Just4Kids.org.

“Fourteen years ago, we came together as a group and dedicated ourselves to providing the best for our students. This award is a validation of that hard work by everyone at Green Valley, including ALL faculty and staff - past and present. Working at this school with these students and staff has been absolutely the best.”

Kathy Watson
Fifth-grade teacher



Birdville ISD Students Earn National Honors

Nearly 1.3 million students in more than 21,000 U.S. high schools entered the 2006 Merit Program by taking the 2004 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test as juniors. Less than one percent of the nation's high school seniors received the prestigious designation of becoming a semifinalist this year. BISD had two National Merit Semifinalists and two National Hispanic Merit Semifinalist. Below are highlights about BISD's four National Merit honorees for 2005:



Kurt Wilson, Birdville High School, National Merit Semifinalist

Kurt is a member of the football, wrestling, math, science, and robotics teams at Birdville High. His favorite subject in high school is physics. He plans to attend the University of Texas at Austin or Rice University and major in chemical engineering. Kurt is the son of Jim and Mindy Wilson.

Joseph A. Ellmore, Richland High School, National Merit Semifinalist

Joseph is a member of the Rebellaires and in drama at Richland High. His favorite subject in high school is music. Outside of school, he sings in the praise team at his church. Joseph plans to attend Abilene Christian University and major in youth ministry. He is the son of William and Melba Ellmore.



Lydia McIntosh, Richland High School, National Hispanic Merit Semifinalist

At Richland, Lydia is vice president of the National Honor Society, treasurer of the art club, and plays varsity basketball. Her favorite subject in high school is statistics. In the community, Lydia is an active member of her church. She plans to major in nursing at Baylor University. Lydia is the daughter of John and Gene McIntosh.

Kryston E. Lopez, Birdville High School, National Hispanic Merit Semifinalist

Kryston is a member of the choir and National Honor Society at Birdville High. Her favorite subjects are English and biology. She plans to attend the University of North Texas, Texas Women's University, or the University of Texas at Austin. Kryston plans to major in biology or vocal performance. She is the daughter of Ken and Laura Lopez.



Congratulations to BISD's seven National Merit Commended Scholars: Amanda Allen, Jordan Bailey, James Peterson, Jennifer Yardley, Birdville High School; Kevin DeGarmo, Haltom High School; and Jennifer M. Dodson and Anthony J. Derrick, Richland High School.

During the 2005-06 school year, Birdville ISD will administer the following federal programs to students who live within district boundaries.

- Title I, Part A (Improving Basic Programs)
- Title II, Part A (Teacher and Principal Training and Recruitment Fund)
- Title II, Part D (Enhancing Education through Technology)
- Title III (Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient and Immigrant Students)
- Title IV (Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Community Act)
- Title V (Innovative Education Program Strategies)
- IDEA-B (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act)

Representatives of privately-educated students interested in participating in any of these programs may contact Dr. Betty Grubbs, Director of Special Services, at 817.547.5740 or by e-mail at Betty_Grubbs@birdville.k12.tx.us.

Business Partners

The following business partners were recognized at recent board meetings: **Paula Burda**, Bear Creek Quilt Guild; **Richard Everitt**, Premier Packaging; and **Robert Fricke**, Image Engineering Group.

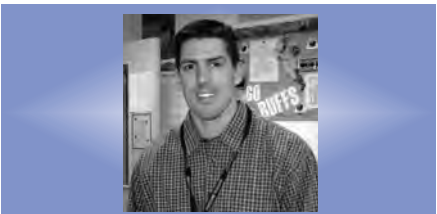
District Highlights



Congratulations to **Sara Rector**, advanced academic specialist, who was recognized for being named the Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented (TAGT) Region XI Rising Star Teacher of the Gifted for 2005.



Congratulations to **Dawn Boriack**, advanced academic specialist, who was recognized for being named the Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented (TAGT) Region XI Outstanding Gifted Teacher of the Year for 2005.



Congratulations to **Mike Moore**, Haltom High School teacher, for recently passing the State Board of Educator Certification's (SBEC) Master Mathematics teacher certification program and test.



Three coaches from Birdville High School were recognized in June for their teams winning district 7-4A championships. They were **David Hatcher**, baseball, **Ian Floyd**, golf, and **Randy Porter**, softball.

Congratulations to **Amy Allibon**, Haltom High School's choir director, for being selected as a Texas Tech Distinguished Educator. She was honored Oct. 6-7 in Lubbock. Texas Tech School of Music has established the Texas Tech Distinguished Educator series to honor alumni who have distinguished themselves in music education. This honor is only given to a handful of educators each year.



Congratulations to BISD's "The Circle Cancer Support Group" and other participants from BISD's 2005 Komen Tarrant County Race for the Cure team for placing second for total school team participation with more than 204 registrants.



Congratulations to BISD's staff for the visually impaired for winning the Natalie Barraga Award, presented by the Texas Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired.



Congratulations to two BISD teachers for being named Wal-Mart Outstanding Area Teachers. They are: **Emily Coppolo**, Holiday Heights Elementary; and **Cheryl Burch**, North Richland Middle School.

Congratulations to the **Haltom** and **Richland** high school bands for placing in the top 10 during the Bands of America Super Regionals Championship in San Antonio.

Richland placed fifth and Haltom placed ninth.

Congratulations to **Birdville** High School's band for placing fourth at the UIL state marching contest in San Antonio.



Birdville ISD presented more than \$63,000 to the American Red Cross for hurricane relief.

On Sept. 2, Superintendent Stephen F. Waddell asked students and staff to join him in BIRDVILLE'S "Give 'em 5!" disaster relief campaign. It was his vision that by Sept. 9 every student donate \$5 to this campaign. As a result of his vision, BIRDVILLE raised more than \$63,000 to be given to the American Red Cross.



Ian Lomer, 2005 graduate of Haltom High School, was recognized for winning second place in Extemporaneous Speaking at the SkillsUSA Nationals in Kansas City.



Elizabeth Gillian, 2005 graduate of Birdville High School, was recognized for winning first place in the American Spirit event at the SkillsUSA Nationals in Kansas City.



Six BIRDVILLE Special Olympians were recognized for their efforts at the state Special Olympic Track Meet in San Marcos. They were: **Daniel Rogers, Marvin Elliott, Lauren Kuykendall, Shawn McNeese, Ashley Roady, and Dominique Smith.** Their coaches were **JoAnne Ferris, Ricky Ferris, and Dennis Roady.**



Congratulations to **David E. Smith Elementary** fourth-grade student, **Tyler Sleek**, for winning the Haltom City Fire Prevention Poster Contest. Tyler was chauffeured to the front door of the school by Haltom City firefighters in a fire truck on Oct. 14.



Volunteering

The Board of Trustees developed a policy in 1995 requiring criminal background checks on all volunteers before they have direct contact with students.

Prospective volunteers may apply online at <https://www.birdville.k12.tx.us/cf/volunteer/index.cfm> or go to BIRDVILLE'S home page at www.birdville.k12.tx.us and select "Volunteer Partnership" under Parent/Community to become a BIRDVILLE volunteer.

The district has made the website secure, but there may be some individuals who are hesitant to apply/submit their personal information online. A limited number of paper applications/forms are available through the communications department at the BIRDVILLE Administration Building.

If a person is a new volunteer in the district, he or she will be required to enter information online, so a background check can be performed. The approval process can take up to **two** weeks.

If a person has already been approved as a volunteer in the past, he or she must log in and verify that the information is still current before a background check is performed. Everyone needs to complete the application online each year. If you have questions, please contact your local campus or the communications department at **817.547.5799.**

Walker Creek Dedication August 21, 2005



Birdville ISD Meets Annual Yearly Progress Under No Child Left Behind

The Texas Education Agency released the 2005 Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) results for schools across the state. According to standards set by No Child Left Behind, Birdville ISD and every school in the district met AYP except for Richland Middle School and Birdville and Richland high schools.

Birdville High missed "Meets AYP" because two students were absent for the math portion of the TAKS test without documentation on the testing date. Richland High missed "Meets AYP" because three students were absent for the math portion of the TAKS test without documentation. And, Richland Middle School needed eight additional students to pass the math portion of the TAKS to have met the standards set under No Child Left Behind.

"It is exciting to see our students continue to excel above national standards," Superintendent Stephen F. Waddell said. "It is unfortunate that the ratings of three campuses was determined by such a small number of students. I am proud of the work by all our students and staff."

2005 School Ratings Released from State

Green Valley Elementary received the top rating of "exemplary" with 12 others rated "recognized" by the Texas Education Agency for the 2004-05 school year. This is the 11th consecutive year for Green Valley to receive this prestigious honor.

Recognized elementary campuses are: Birdville, Spicer, Smithfield, Snow Heights, Stowe, Holiday Heights, Watauga, Hardeman, Porter, Foster Village, North Ridge and Smith elementaries. All other Birdville schools, as well as the district, received the rating of "academically acceptable."

The Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) test replaced the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS) test in 2003. TAKS covers more subject areas and more grades than did the TAAS. In addition, the new exam requires more analysis and higher order thinking skills.

The TEA School Accountability Ratings, instituted in 1993, judge the performance of each campus and district by administering a rating based on TAKS scores, previous TAAS scores, and the State-Developed Alternative Assessment (SDAA) scores. The SDAA test is for special education students. In addition to the test scores, completion rates, required improvement and the dropout rate are used to determine the campus and district ratings under the new ratings system.

To receive the exemplary rating, at least 90 percent of each qualifying student group must pass at least 70 percent of each subject area of TAKS tests taken in the spring of 2005. Additionally, the dropout rate must be 0.2 percent or less. To be recognized, a campus must have at least 70 percent of all students pass each qualifying subject area of the spring 2005 TAKS tests. Additionally, the dropout rate must be 0.7 percent or less and the campus must meet required improvement.



Superintendent Stephen F. Waddell says he is very proud of the students and staff of BIRDVILLE ISD. Six campuses missed being named "recognized" by less than five students. "These results demonstrate that our students and staff continue to work hard. However, there is still room for improvement," he says. "Math and science are a challenge in BIRDVILLE ISD as it is throughout Texas. We will focus our efforts to close the gap in those areas."

2005 DISTRICT ACCOUNTABILITY SUMMARY

BIRDVILLE ISD: Academically Acceptable

CAMPUS	RATING	CAMPUS	RATING
	<i>High School</i>		<i>Elementary</i>
Birdville High	Academically Acceptable	Binion	Academically Acceptable
Haltom High	Academically Acceptable	Birdville	Recognized
Richland High	Academically Acceptable	Foster Village	Recognized
	<i>Middle School</i>	Francisco	Academically Acceptable
Haltom	Academically Acceptable	Green Valley	Exemplary
North Oaks	Academically Acceptable	Hardeman	Recognized
North Richland	Academically Acceptable	Holiday Heights	Recognized
North Ridge	Academically Acceptable	Mullendore	Academically Acceptable
Richland	Academically Acceptable	North Ridge	Recognized
Smithfield	Academically Acceptable	Porter	Recognized
Watauga	Academically Acceptable	Richland	Academically Acceptable
		Smith	Recognized
		Smithfield	Recognized
		Snow Heights	Recognized
		South Birdville	Academically Acceptable
		Spicer	Recognized
		Stowe	Recognized
		C.F. Thomas, Academy at	Academically Acceptable
		Watauga	Recognized
		West Birdville, Academy at	Academically Acceptable



Proposed 2006-2007 Calendar



Birdville Independent School District
2006 - 2007 Calendar

August 15 start date

July

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

August

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October

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31						

Legend

- holiday
- staff development/student holiday
- teacher preparation/student holiday
- teacher preparation, half day
- begin/end six weeks
- Graduation
- Incentive weather make-up

Reporting Periods

- Aug. 15 - Sep. 22 27 days
- Sep. 25 - Nov. 3 27 days
- Nov. 6 - Dec. 20 28 days
- Fall Semester - 82 days**
- Jan. 4 - Feb. 16 31 days
- Feb. 19 - Apr. 5 29 days
- Apr. 10 - May 24 33 days
- Spring Semester - 93 days**

Key Dates

- Aug. 8 - 14 Staff development
- August 15 First day of school
- September 4 Labor Day holiday
- Sept. 5 Student holiday/Staff dev.
- October 6, 9, 10 Fall break
- Oct. 6, 10 Student holiday/Staff dev.
- November 20-24 Thanksgiving holiday
- Dec. 21-Jan. 1 Semester Break
- Jan. 2-3 Staff dev/Student holiday
- Jan. 15 Martin Luther King holiday
- March 12-16 Winter break
- April 6 Spring Break
- April 9 Staff Dev/Student holiday
- May 24 Last day of school
- May 25 Teacher Prep
- May 27 High School Graduation
- Apr. 6, May 25 Bad Weather Days

January

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28	29	30	31			

February

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25	26	27	28				

March

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April

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29	30					

May

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June

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24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Subject to
Legislative revision
and approval from
the Commissioner
of Education

During September, a volunteer committee comprised of parents, teachers and students developed the proposed 2006-07 calendars. The two calendars proposed were made available to parents, community members, students and staff between Sept. 28 and Oct. 24 for voting.

As has been the district's policy, the community was asked to vote for their choice of calendars. The calendar receiving the most support is above. The results of the voting were:

	Parents/ Students	Employees	Total
Option 1 - August 15 Start	944	1023	1967
Option 2 - August 17 Start	435	260	695
Total	1379	1283	2662

A public meeting seeking community input on the above calendar will be held at noon on Dec. 14 in the Board Room at the Administration Building. Comments regarding the above calendar will also be received through Jan. 16, 2006 at Calendar_Vote@birdville.k12.tx.us or comments may be mailed to:

Birdville ISD, Communications
6125 E. Belknap
Haltom City, TX 76117



Upcoming 2006 TAKS Testing Dates

February 21

Reading	Grades 3, 5 and 9
Spanish Reading	Grades 3 and 5
Writing	Grades 4 and 7
Spanish Writing	Grade 4
English/Language Arts	Grades 10 and 11
English/Language Arts *	Exit level retesters only
Writing (TAAS retest)	Exit level retesters only

February 22

Mathematics *	Exit level retesters only
Mathematics **	Exit level retesters only

February 23

Science *	Exit level retesters only
Reading **	Exit level retesters only

February 24

Social Studies *	Exit level retesters only
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April 4

Mathematics	Grade 5
Spanish Mathematics	Grade 5

April 18

Mathematics	Grades 3, 4, 6, 7, 8 and 10
Spanish Mathematics	Grades 3 and 4
English/Language Arts *	Exit level retesters only
Writing **	Exit level retesters only

April 19

Reading	Grades 4, 6, 7 and 8
Spanish Reading	Grade 4
Reading *	Grade 3 & 5 retesters only
Spanish Reading*	Grade 3 & 5 retesters only
Mathematics *	Exit level retesters only
Mathematics **	Exit level retesters only

April 20

Science	Grade 5, 8, 10 and 11
Spanish Science	Grade 5
Mathematics	Grade 9
Reading **	Exit level retesters only

April 21

Social Studies	Grade 8, 10 and 11
Social Studies *	Exit level retesters only

May 16

Mathematics *	Grade 5 retesters only
Spanish Mathematics *	Grade 5 retesters only

June 27

Mathematics *	Grade 5 retesters only
Spanish Mathematics *	Grade 5 retesters only

June 28

Reading *	Grades 3 & 5 retesters only
Spanish Reading *	Grades 3 & 5 retesters only

July 11

ELA *	Exit level retesters only
Writing **	Exit level retesters only

July 12

Mathematics *	Exit level retesters only
Mathematics **	Exit level retesters only

July 13

Science (TAKS retest)	Exit level retesters only
Reading (TAAS retest)	Exit level retesters only

July 14

Social Studies *	Exit level retesters only
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*=TAKS Retest
**=TAAS Retest



BISD Calendar of Events	
December 20, 21	1/2 Day Elem./Sec.
December 22-January 2	Semester Break
January 3-4	Student Holiday/Staff Dev.
January 16	Martin L. King Day
February 27-March 3	Winter Break
April 6	Holiday/Bad Weather Make-up Day
April 7-10	Spring Break
April 11	Student Holiday/Staff Dev.
May 24-25	1/2 Day Elem./Sec.
May 26	Last Day for Students
May 26	2nd Student/Teacher Makeup Day
May 28	Graduation
May 29	Memorial Day

Birdville Independent School District
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