

**First Thing...** Honor, Opportunity, Learning, and Achievement  
Instructor  
Week of September 2-5, 2008

### **Enrollment Increases**

Enrollment for the District has grown again this year with the total exceeding 2,090 students. Increases are noted across the District. Enrollment growth is good as it tends to lend a hand to increased average daily attendance (ADA). Please be accurate when you take attendance. Our goal for ADA for the current school year is to obtain a daily average of 96% student attendance or better. Last year attendance suffered at 94.51% and various factors contributed to that rate. Our best recent year was in 2006-2007 with 95.54%. A 1% increase in ADA will increase state funding by an estimated \$100,000.

### **Architectural Firms Scheduled for Interviews**

Six architectural firms have been scheduled to make presentations to the Board of Trustees (BOT) for work on the proposed new elementary school. The presentations will begin on Monday, September 8<sup>th</sup> and conclude on Tuesday, September the 9<sup>th</sup>. The BOT will hear presentations from each of the firms to learn about their strengths in design and support during construction. After the presentations are completed the BOT will select a firm felt to be best qualified. The District will begin negotiations for fees and related services. The firms to be interviewed are PBK Architects, Richter Architects, WKMC Architects, Ferrell – Brown & Associates Architects, LaMarr Womack & Associates, and Gignac Architects. The site for the new elementary school is on Bloomington St. where the JHS was previously located.

### **First Week Observations**

The first week of school began smoothly. Virtually every student was in a classroom by 9:30 a.m. on the first day except those registering late. Hallways were clear and classes were underway! Compliments are provided to all as buildings were ready, classrooms were ready, buses were on schedule, and lunch went well. Congratulations to each staff member of the District for making the first day and first week truly exceptional! Thank you to the campus and district staff who worked until late on Sunday to have everything ready for the students on Monday morning.

### **Bell to Bell Instruction is the Expectation**

It is expected that daily routines should be discharged quickly and that lessons begin quickly and last until the bell sounds. Do what you do best with creativity, determination, energy, and enthusiasm. Learning can for the most part be exciting and fun. Each day should contain reasonable rigor to stretch the minds of learners. Organization, preparation and planning are key factors in making the most of each class and the most of each day. Each day is important and each class period is equally important and each is an opportunity and a new school year holds many dreams for students and staff alike. It has been said that a dream is somewhat like a soap bubble floating on the breeze. They are fragile. Dreams need time to grow and develop. A tender seedling oak tree can be easily uprooted but once it has become firmly established in good soil even strong winds can't knock it down. Our purpose is to be the encourager of the dreams and potential of our students and our peers. As we each encourage we nurture the future and become a person of influence.

### **United Way**

Mr. Alfred Lopez, Special Education Director for WOISD will lead the United Way drive again this year. Last year district donations exceeded those of previous years with approximately \$6,000 raised. The goal for the current year is \$7,000. Campus Special Education Chairpersons will be the campus contacts to distribute United Way materials.

### **Education Foundation**

It is the time of year to consider The West Oso ISD Education Foundation for Educational Excellence as a recipient of planned giving. The Foundation provides scholarships for graduating students and also provides funding support for campus and classroom projects upon submitting an application for such requests. Requests are reviewed through the Foundation and funded upon merit and need.

### **Quotation**

"Integrity is not what we do, so much as who we are. And who we are, in turn, determines what we do." (Maxwell)

### **Inspiring Presentation**

Take five minutes to become inspired. View this...  
<http://www.dallasisd.org/keynote.htm>



An attractive and inviting door to learning



Maintenance preparing to install new marker board for JHS



Setting up the renovated JHS Band Hall



Kindergarten teachers planning together



Clear halls at WOHS & class underway



Clear hallway at WOES and class is underway



The new AJROTC flag is proudly displayed first day



First day class at WOHS