

**Denton Independent School District**  
**Board of Trustees**  
**Certificates of Recognition**  
**Tuesday, March 25, 2014**

**DENTON HIGH**

**MYP Coordinator selected for prestigious IB Academy**

Kim Villarreal-Thaggard, the Middle Years Program Coordinator at Denton High, was selected to attend the International Baccalaureate Academy.

Mrs. Thaggard was one of only a handful of candidates elected from North and South America for entrance into the IB Academy. The Academy was in Seattle.

Mrs. Thaggard has been a member of the Texas Association of Student Council Board of Directors and a participant in Oxford University Roundtable.

She has her bachelor's degree in political science and American literature from University of Southern Mississippi and her master's degree in history from University of North Texas. She has been at Denton High for 10 years as a teacher and IB coordinator.

**RYAN HIGH**

**RHS journalism teacher nominated for UIL Sponsor Excellence Award**

Karen Guenther recently received the 2013 University Interscholastic League's Sponsor Excellence Award.

She is the journalism teacher, department coordinator and publications advisor at Ryan High. She also serves as the sponsor for the school newspaper, "*The Raider Review*" and the yearbook, "*The Legend*."

The UIL Sponsor Excellence Award recognizes outstanding sponsors who continually pursue excellence in their students' extracurricular talents.

All winners received a \$1,000 award along with a personalized certificate from the UIL.

Mrs. Guenther has spent 30 of her 33 years in education teaching in Denton ISD and has been at Ryan High since the school opened in 1996.

**DENTON ISD**

**Swimmers compete in UIL state contest**

Students from Denton and Guyer high schools represented the Denton Independent School District in five events at the recent Class 4A UIL Swimming and Diving State Championships at the University of Texas at Austin.

As successful season that saw the boys and girls swimming and diving teams from both Denton and Guyer send 10 or more swimmers to the 4A Region I meet. Of those regional qualifiers, seven qualified for the state championships.

Although only one reached the podium, earning his school's first-ever swimming medal, each of these swimmers and divers exemplified the hard work and dedication the district requires of its student-athletes.

These individuals included:

### **Guyer High**

**Boys:** Tristen Parish, senior; state runner-up in the 100-yard breaststroke  
(won Guyer's first state swimming and diving medal)

**Girls:** Brandi Ruvang, senior; 11<sup>th</sup> place in 1-meter diving.

### **Denton High**

**Boys:** D.J. Lang, senior; sixth place in 100-yard and 200-yard freestyle.

**Girls:** 200-yard individual medley relay team, 14<sup>th</sup> place  
(Bri Broussard, senior; Rachael Crews, junior; Elise page, sophomore; Kayla McGill, senior)  
Chris Cullen is the Denton ISD swim coach.

## **COUNSELING SERVICES**

### **Two Denton ISD campuses repeat as CREST Award recipients**

The district had two campuses receive the CREST Award, which annually recognizes the top counseling staffs in the state - by the Texas School Counselor Association.

Harpool Middle and McNair Elementary earned the honor for a second consecutive year. This marks the fourth consecutive year at least one Denton ISD campus has received a CREST award.

CREST stands for Counselors Reinforcing Excellence for Students in Texas. Each of the recipients was honored in February at the CREST Luncheon at the annual TSCA conference, in Houston.

This year's honored counselors include:

**Harpool** – Darlene Kent, Annette Price, Mario De La Garza;

**McNair** – Deanne Harrup.