

December Heart at Work Winner

Keller ISD's Heart at Work Employee of the Month for December 2024 is Carrie Oaks, a Special Education Counselor. Carries was nominated by Timber Creek HS Core Teacher, Jared Swart, who shared the following:

“Words cannot express the lengths that Carrie will go through to care for her students. She spent almost 12 hours at the hospital with one of her students as the student's father was passing away. She made sure both siblings were not alone as they had no other family in Texas to help care for them. She refused to leave them until after everything was over and the girls were on their way home. Having witnessed Carrie's kindness firsthand, I can honestly say she has one of the greatest hearts of anyone I have ever met. You are a blessing to all of our students, Mrs. Oaks. The district is a better place because we have you! Thank you for everything you do!”

Staff Recognitions presented by KISD Human Resources

The HR Hero Award honors the outstanding contributions of a campus, district, or department administrator, who demonstrates exceptional collaboration skills, flexibility in the face of challenges, and kindness even in the toughest situations. These remarkable individuals not only excel in their administrative roles but also inspire positive workplace interactions. This month's HR Hero Award is presented to Cheryl Hudson, Willis Lane Elementary School Principal.

FACE Awards recognize members of KISD's hard-working Operations teams in Maintenance, Grounds, Child Nutrition, Custodial, Warehouse, and Natatorium staff. FACE stands for Friendly, Above & Beyond, Customer Service, Excellence – and celebrates individuals who not only exemplify these outstanding qualities daily, but who have an unwavering commitment to making every customer interaction in Keller ISD a positive, efficient, and enjoyable one. This quarter's FACE Award recipients are John Dorre – Woodland Springs ES Security Office; Enma Martinez - Park Glen Elementary's Child Nutrition Specialist; and Brenda Maldonado Buenrostro - Maintenance and Operations Building Custodian.

Elementary Holiday Card Contest Winners

Woodland Springs Elementary fourth-grader Brunette Rodriguez was named this year's winner in the District's annual Elementary Holiday Card Contest. In addition, Bluebonnet Elementary fifth-grader Vianey Vega and Caprock Elementary third-grader Jasmine St. Thomas were both selected as this year's talented Finalists. Their designs were selected from over 350 pieces of artwork submitted by KISD elementary students and will be featured in the District's electronic holiday card, which is sent to the community and long-time supporters of Keller ISD.

Marching Band State Achievement for KHS and TCHS

Marching bands from Keller High and Timber Creek High both qualified for the UIL Class 6A State Marching Band Contest on November 11-12 in San Antonio and represented Keller ISD well, finishing in the top half of the competition. In the preliminary round, KHS finished 13th and advanced to the Finals, while TCHS finished 17th out of the 40 bands competing, just missing out on being the top 14 bands advancing. In the Finals, KHS improved its standing, finishing 12th overall.

KHS Drum Majors & Color Guard Captain

Nathan Davis, Drew McCullough, Candice Santoso, and Kaydin Hager

TCHS Drum Majors & Color Guard Captain

Anastasia Czechowicz, Courtney Newton, Lee Stanhope, Kate Margason, and Katherine McGovern

These outstanding students are under the direction of: KHS – Director of Bands Daniel Bloss; Assistant Directors Richard Alvarado, Julianna Fletcher, and Connor Koriath and Color Guard Director Edward Camarena. TCHS – Director of Bands Brad McCann; Assistant Directors Daniel Malacon and Dean Surface; Percussion Director Dan Shinohara; Color Guard Director John Kregler.