

**Recognition**  
**Board of Trustee Meeting**  
**January 23, 2018**

**DENTON ISD**

**Myers Middle School counselor recognized in Educator Spotlight**

Ravin McCallum is more than a counselor to students at Bettye Myers Middle School. Depending on the student or situation, McCallum fills in as big sister, best friend, soccer coach and counselor. It's this special bond with students that makes McCallum a campus favorite at Myers and worthy of a turn in this month's Educator Spotlight.

**DENTON ISD**

**Blanton, Houston students selected for OAKE National Choir**

Students from Blanton Elementary and Houston Elementary will represent the Denton Independent School District at the Organization of American Kodaly Educators national convention by performing with the organization's national children's choir in Oklahoma City in March.

Olivia McDonald, Edie Knight and Makenzi Boccoleri earned spots from Blanton, while Karlen Pradier and Grace Jing earned spots from Houston. Nicolas Miranda is the music teacher at Blanton and Christine Beutner is the music teacher at Houston.

OAKE was founded in 1975 and is a teaching concept that works to train basic musical skills and teach the reading and writing of music while integrating the best ideas and techniques to spread music education. Its purpose is to promote the concept of "Music for Everyone" through the improvement of music education in schools.

For more information on the district's fine arts programs please contact Jackie deMontmollin, district fine arts director, at [jdemontmollin@dentonisd.org](mailto:jdemontmollin@dentonisd.org).

**DENTON ISD**

**Theatre students earn state honors**

The Denton Independent School District had 14 students recognized by the Texas State Thespian Convention for being among the top students in their craft.

Braswell High School was named a Texas Thespian All Star Troupe, one of only 10 schools from more than 300 that earned that distinction. In addition to their all-star troupe honor, Braswell qualified five students for the national convention.

The students honored included: Savannah Downing, Maddie Moore, Breanna Hoyt, N/Namdi Jelani, Arianna Bellolio, Tsunami Simien and Antona Johnson.

The Braswell High sponsors are Michelle Green, director, and Tayler Daniels, assistant director.

Denton High School also qualified seven students for the national convention after their performances at the state convention.

These students included: James Fite, Tyler Voyles, Jackie Taylor, Jackson Dean, Jack Kelley, Calista Martin, and Isaac Castillo.

The Denton High sponsors are Tom Stratton, director, and Kerri Peters, assistant director.

## **GUYER HIGH**

### **Guyer art students earn VASE recognition**

The Denton Independent School District had four students – all from Guyer High School – recently by the Texas Art Education Association’s annual state Visual Arts Scholastic Event.

The VASE award is one of the highest honors a student can earn, with each of the state qualifiers scoring by a panel of judges on artistic critique and an interpretive interview and must have scored a “superior” rating of four to qualify.

Additionally, three of the four students earned Gold Seal status. The Gold Seal is the highest honor an art student can achieve and of 35,000 works of art submitted only 150 received this honor.

The district’s VASE qualifiers included: Lydia Belinski, Matthew Hunter, Ashley Moudy and Rachel Reed. Matthew, Ashley and Rachel also earned the Gold Seal distinction.

Their art teachers are Tiffany Fitzsimmons and Christian Reid.