

**Cedar Hill Independent School District
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Meeting Date: December 12, 2011

Presented by: Mr. Horace Williams, Superintendent of Schools

Subject: Star Student/Teacher of the Year/Pledge Leaders

Information Item

BOARD GOAL:

Expect, promote and support a safe and orderly environment.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Star Student: Angel Peña, High Pointe Elementary
 Ethan Magdaleno, Plummer Elementary

Teacher-of-the-Year: Janae Anderson, High Pointe Elementary
 Inass Barnes, Plummer Elementary School

Pledge Leaders: Tyrell Oliver, High Pointe Elementary
 Brendon Walker, High Pointe Elementary
 Essence Joseph, Plummer Elementary
 Reagan Packer, Plummer Elementary

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Trustees recognize the above-named staff and students.

BOARD ACTION REQUIRED:

Recognition of staff and students.

POLICY AUTHORIZATION:

EHBK(LEGAL); AE(LOCAL)

CONTACT PERSON (S):

Dr. Homer Carter, Chief Academic Officer
Dr. Chanda McGhee, Director of Student Support and Community Services

FUNDING SOURCE:

N/A

ENCLOSURES:

See attachments.

Star Student, High Pointe Elementary

Angel Peña, 4th Grade

Angel Peña is a kind and studious 4th grader at High Pointe Elementary School. This is his second year in Cedar Hill ISD. He has a twelve year old brother named Victor and a three year old sister named Melany. Together they like to go to the park, play video games, and play basketball and baseball. Angel is proud of the fact that he can speak both Spanish and English. When he grows up, he wants to be a pitcher for the Texas Rangers and win the World Series. His favorite subject is math. Angel is always using good manners at school, he works hard at everything he does, and he is always willing to lend a helping hand. All of his teachers adore him and are proud to call him their student. High Pointe Elementary School is very lucky to have such a Star Student!

Star Student, Plummer Elementary

Ethan Magdaleno, 4th Grade

Ethan Magdaleno was born on July 10, 2002 in Anaheim, California. He moved to Texas when he was just a toddler. He currently attends Plummer Elementary. He is nine years old and in the fourth grade. Ethan lives in Cedar Hill with his parents, two brothers, and two sisters. His parents are Sarah and Pablo Magdaleno and his siblings are Alex, Elijah, Airiana, and Ava. He loves to spend time with his family. Ethan's favorite subjects in school are Math and Science. Some of the things he likes about these subjects are division, algebra, multiplication, graphs, charts, observations and experiments. He also likes "Specials." His favorite "Special" is gym. It allows him to burn off his massive amount of energy. Outside of school, he plays baseball. He is pretty good at it, too! He has participated in several World Series and won a few. Ethan is a special team player and adds a lot of excitement to the game. He also participates in other activities such as: robotics, church activities, and choir. These activities allow him to spend time with his friends, who are also very important to him. Ethan is a great student who is caring, trustworthy, and respectful. His teachers consider him a role model for his peers. Ethan has a wonderful attitude and exceptional character. He is a light in his classroom, a gift to his school, and someday will be a valuable asset to his community.

Teacher-of-the-Year, High Pointe Elementary School

Janae Anderson

Janae Anderson was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan. She graduated from Eastern Michigan University in April 2007, with a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education. In that same year she relocated to Texas, where teaching opportunities were more abundant. She is married to a wonderful man, Tom, who is her high school sweetheart. They have two beautiful children, T.A., age 5 and Jada, age 2. She has been teaching at High Pointe' for almost 5 years and she absolutely loves it. This is her second year as team leader and first year as committee chair for writing.

Mrs. Anderson comes from a long line of educators and has always wanted to be a teacher. She feels that in order to be a great teacher you must have a passion for learning and for children. She believes teachers do more than teach the basic subjects of reading and math. They must teach children to make good choices, to be responsible, and to become lifelong learners. Mrs. Anderson is very dedicated to her career and gains satisfaction from making a difference in children's lives.

Teacher-of-the-Year, Plummer Elementary School

Inass Barnes

Inass Barnes is a fourth grade teacher at Plummer Elementary. She has taught fourth grade at Plummer for 13 years. Mrs. Barnes has received many awards and accolades throughout her teaching career: Plummer Teacher of the Year 2006 and 2011, Cedar Hill ISD Teacher of the Year 2011, and most recently Office Max Teacher of the Year 2011. She grew up in Dallas, but she is originally from Beirut, Lebanon. She came to America in 1976 at the age of 5. Mrs. Barnes speaks both Arabic and English. She graduated from Texas Women's University in Denton. Mrs. Barnes is a part of many organizations/committees including PTA, Writing PLC, and Beautification of Believers. She also serves as a teacher representative for the Texas STAAR review. Her educational philosophy can be summed up by the quote, "Never let yesterday's disappointments overshadow tomorrow's dreams." –Author Unknown. She motivates her students to not let failures of the past hold them back from what they can become. All who know Inass Barnes say she is a person of great character that cares not only for her students but for all students, staff, and community. Mrs. Barnes now lives in Desoto with her two sons and husband, Marshall. When she's not teaching, Mrs. Barnes enjoys watching her boys play football and baseball, jogging, and keeping up with the Dallas Cowboys.