

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

Meeting Date: March 19, 2012

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: Kiah Chism, Cedar Hill Collegiate High School

Teacher-of-the-Year: Ashley Duncan, Cedar Hill Collegiate High School

Pledge Leaders: Thaddaeus Bacon, Cedar Hill Collegiate High School
Riley Cruce, Cedar Hill Collegiate High School

RECOMMENDATION:

None

BOARD ACTION REQUIRED:

None

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, Cedar Hill Collegiate High School

Kiah Chism was born February 7, 1996 on a Wednesday morning. She is the only child of Tiffany Haynes and Kenneth Chism. She has lived in numerous cities, but her favorite places to live were Oak Cliff, and DeSoto, Texas. She currently attends Cedar Hill Collegiate High School, where she is not only earning a high school degree with a GPA of 3.4, but also an Associate Degree with a GPA of 3.778. She plans on going to Baylor University in Waco, Texas, and double majoring in Business Administration and Journalism.

Ms. Chism is a young lady in love with sports. She is on her school dance and track teams, and she is a coach for Desoto Chargers Cheer Team. But she is also President over *Student Government Association*, President over *Collegiate Cares*, soon to be in Phi Theta Kappa, and a school Ambassador. Her goal is to gain as many leadership skills and experience as she can before she goes off to college. One of her long term goals is to intern at Baylor for journalism, and become one of the best to run in the Women's 100m dash. Track is a big part of Kiah's life and she is striving to do all that she can to run for her Baylor Bears one day, and then for the *USA*.

Teacher-of-the-Year, Cedar Hill Collegiate High School
Ashley Duncan

Ashley A. Duncan was educated in Dallas and DeSoto Independent School Districts. She received a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff and a Master of Education degree in Curriculum and Instruction from Concordia University of Texas. Ashley Duncan began teaching in Cedar Hill ISD in the fall of 2005 as a Chemistry and Biology teacher at Cedar Hill High School. During her four years there, she worked diligently to increase the student achievement and student interest in Science on all academic levels. She served as the Chemistry pod leader and a mentor teacher. It was during her first year of teaching that she learned the importance and impact of establishing relationships, having high expectations, and holding students accountable regardless of their gender, race, academic level, or preconceived notions about science.

In 2009, Ms. Duncan accepted the Chemistry position at Cedar Hill Collegiate High School. She currently serves as the Science Department Head, Campus Technology Liaison, and Campus Webmaster. She is the co-sponsor of the Collegiate Ladies Club. She raised the bar of academic achievement during the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 school years by having 100% passing on the 10th Grade Science TAKS Test with 74% of those students meeting the Career and College Readiness Standard established by the National Center of Educational Achievement. Last year she was also chosen by two of Cedar Hill High School's top seniors to receive the STAR Educator Award.

What Ms. Duncan enjoys most about Cedar Hill ISD is that they honored her with her first teaching position and have provided her with the training and support to become a respected teacher in this district and surrounding areas. Ms. Duncan enjoys working at Collegiate High School because she has the opportunity to work with a principal who is instructionally sound, supportive, and always available to address concerns and needs. Ms. Duncan also appreciates the opportunity to work with a team of teachers who are

positive, hard-working, and willing to make decisions and sacrifices to help students be academically ready to take on the world. She is elated to be chosen by her colleagues as Cedar Hill Collegiate High School's teacher of the year because it is an honor to be respected and revered by some of the best teachers in the state of Texas.