



BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

KELLER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

1B. Report

January 24, 2005

SUBJECT: STUDENT AND STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

BOARD GOAL: Academic Excellence

FISCAL NOTE: None

Pennies of Promise campaign: Students throughout Keller ISD have been bringing their pennies and spare change for Pennies of Promise, a district-wide campaign to collect funding for tsunami relief efforts in Southeast Asia. So far, Keller ISD has pledged \$15,000 to the Indonesian Red Cross, and our campuses are continuing to collect money. The goal is for each school to collect 150,000 pennies, which represents the number of people reported lost so far from this disaster. Once that goal is reached, Keller ISD will have collected more than \$40,000 in aid for blankets, clothing, food and other supplies.

The program was developed by Gayle McGuire and Mark McAlister, two teachers at North Riverside Elementary who wanted to help their fourth-grade students understand and respond to all the images they're seeing about the tsunami. The effects of this program are three-fold: 1) It helps students visualize the enormity of the number 150,000, and relate to the number of lives lost; 2) It shows them that they can make a difference, no matter what their contribution; and 3) It provides them a positive way to contribute to the tsunami effort. The coins are being collected in clear containers so the students can see how large a number 150,000 really is.

In addition, the City of Fort Worth has joined the effort and is working to create a county-wide POP drive that involves Fort Worth and Northwest school districts as well as possibly businesses and community/civic organizations in the Fort Worth/North Tarrant County region.

All-State Band and Choir: Congratulations to six Keller ISD high school students who earned All-State band and choir recognition. All-State Band members are: From Keller High, Zack Gauvain; From Fossil Ridge High, Gabriella McBride, Saloni Ghandi and Monika Hooi-Rodriguez. Zack and Gabriella both play the clarinet. Saloni and Monica, who both play the flute, are first and second alternates, respectively. All-State Choir members are: Megan Starkey, an Alto 1 from Keller High; and Stephanie Martinez, an Alto 2 from Fossil Ridge High. These students will perform with other All-State winners during the Texas Music Educators Association Convention on Feb. 10-12 in San Antonio.

FHMS Math students win national award: Seventh- and eighth-grade students at Fossil Hill Middle recently earned a Math Award from the United States Math Academy. This award qualifies them for two scholarship programs, and their biographies will be published with the USAA National Awards Program. Seventh-grade winners are: Zach Smith, Bao-Tram Vuong, Jacob Tankersley, Clinton Collins, Ashraf Uddin, Victoria Kirkman, Tia Robb, Elizabeth Cordes, Jenny Bolton, Bryan Le, Brandon Stormes, Kamrine Poels and Stanley Bastien. Eighth-grade winners are: Pamela Dobberstein, Alison Minor, Carmody Sagers, Ryker Ferrarro, A.J. Keith, Danielle Kizer, Dylan Aguilar, Bao Nguyen, Shan Modi, Veronica Perry and Mary Pacheco. Congratulations to these students.

+++++

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Meyer
Director of Communications