# **Midway Independent School District**

Action: Consent Agenda: Presentation: Information:

Supporting Documents: Date for Consideration:



**Subject: Recognitions** 

MISD Board of Trustees: December 17, 2024 Agenda Item – 5A-E

# **Background Information**

## Recognitions:

# A. December Recognition Days

December 2 National Special Education Day
December 9-15 Computer Science Education Week

#### B. ACDA National Honor Choirs

Five River Valley Middle School students were selected for the 2025 American Choral Directors Association National Honor Choirs. **Davis Eggleston**, **Eden Flowers**, **Raylan Gorham**, **Noah Myers**, and **Ben Satterfield** earned their spots through a competitive audition process that began with over 1,000 students from across the United States competing for only about 200 seats.

River Valley Head Choir Director **Megan Gackle**, who participated in ACDA National Honor Choirs as a student herself, is continuing the tradition by leading her own students in auditioning for these ensembles. In March, she will accompany her five students to Dallas to participate in the ACDA Convention. Over the course of three days, the students will rehearse and perform as members of ACDA National Honor Choirs alongside some of the most talented young vocalists from across the U.S.

## C. Holiday Card Artists

Each December, Midway ISD showcases the work of student artists on the district's holiday cards. Artwork featured on this year's card was created by South Bosque Elementary first graders **Pippin Benham**, **Adleigh Horner**, **Claire Marlin**, **Wesley Morgan**, and **Avery Washburn**; Woodway Elementary second graders Mya Graham and Paige Johnson, and fourth graders **Emmy Beard**, **Lydia Castillo**, **Emma Eskew**, **Hannah Kriegel**, and **Willow Williams**.

Designing artwork for the annual holiday card is a volunteer commitment from Midway art teachers and their students. Special thanks this year to art teachers **Beth Cockerham** at South Bosque Elementary and **Ashley Schupp** at Woodway Elementary.

## D. B.E.S.T. Award

Midway High School Science Teacher **Jason Fletcher** is a 2024 recipient of the statewide B.E.S.T. Award honoring dedicated public school educators in Texas. The annual B.E.S.T.—Baptist Educators Serving Texas—Award is presented to select graduates of Texas Baptist institutions who currently serve in the Texas public school system. One graduate is selected from each university.

Fletcher is a graduate of Baylor University and is one of only eight public school educators statewide to receive the B.E.S.T. Award this year. Since the B.E.S.T. Award was introduced in 2020, Fletcher is the third Midway ISD educator to receive it.

## E. U.S. News 2025 Best Elementary and Middle Schools

U.S. News & World Report evaluated thousands of elementary and middle schools across Texas, recognizing multiple Midway ISD campuses in their 2025 Best Schools rankings.

**Midway Middle School** is ranked #1 in Midway ISD middle schools and is in the top 8.5% of over 4,000 middle schools in Texas. Additionally, **South Bosque Elementary School** is #1 in Midway ISD elementary schools and in the top 100 in Texas at #84, ranking among the top 1.2% in the state. Joining South Bosque is **Woodway Elementary School**, ranked #2 in Midway ISD and in the top 6.5% of over 6,600 elementary schools statewide.

The U.S. News rankings evaluate schools based on student proficiency in math and reading, factoring in both test scores and socioeconomic demographics to highlight high-achieving schools that effectively educate students from all backgrounds.

Midway Middle School principal is **Jay Fischer**, South Bosque Elementary School principal is **Sheri Burns**, and Woodway Elementary School principal is **Nicole Grygar**.

# **Contact Person**

Katy Durham