



BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

## KELLER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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**1A. Report**

**March 27, 2006**

**SUBJECT: STUDENT AND STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS**

**BOARD GOAL: All students will achieve educational excellence.**

**FISCAL NOTE: None**

**Parkview Elementary recognized by TEA for performance:** Parkview Elementary School was recently recognized by the Division of No Child Left Behind Program Coordination at the Texas Education Agency for outstanding academic performance.

Parkview was one of only 69 schools in Texas to be recognized for outstanding performance and only one other school in Region 11 also received this achievement.

**KISD named blue ribbon school district:** Keller ISD was recently named a Blue Ribbon School district by *Expansion Management* magazine's 15<sup>th</sup> annual Education Quotient. The magazine evaluated more than 2,800 districts to determine how well the district is preparing its students to be part of the work force after graduation.

**KHS Teacher earns award from Abilene Christian:** In February the President of Abilene Christian University presented Liz Bonham, an art teacher at Keller High School with "The Change the World Award" from the university. The award recognizes individuals who quietly make a difference in small or large ways in the community and throughout the world. This was given to Liz for her volunteer work and publishing success.

**Central art students garner awards:** Students from Central High School recently competed in the Visual Arts Scholastic Event (VASE) art contest on Feb 25. Fifty-one students received superior (top) ratings on their artwork and interview, and 24 students received excellent ratings.

These students are regional winners and are advancing to state competition at the University of Houston on April 7-8. Regional winners are selected from the top 10 percent of each division who made superior scores. Freshmen advancing to state are Bruno Li and Sergio Ruan. Sophomore Krista Murphy and juniors Hannah Han, James Flook and Heather Ziesel along with seniors Xia Cage, Wes Cotton and Angelique Gamino will also compete at state.

**CHS Student represents Texas in national boxing competition:** Central High School student Chap Huggins recently won the Open Division Title in the Texas State Golden Gloves on March 4 at John Justin Arena. With the win, Chap advances to the National Golden Gloves tournament scheduled for April 22-30 in Omaha, Neb.

Prior to his state win, Chap won the Open Division Title at Fort Worth Regional Golden Gloves Amateur Boxing competition.

**KHS wrestlers claim district/state awards:** The Keller High School wrestling team experienced a tremendous February. It began with the team claiming the District 10 team title. Ten wrestlers finished in the top four to produce Keller's first team title since 2003.

Four wrestlers claimed individual titles and qualified for the regional meet the following weekend. Camron Couch, Jordan Couch, Matt Lupardus and Chad Bahr helped Keller finish 8th out of 44 teams at the regional meet, and all four qualified for the state meet. Matt Lupardus earned a regional title, while Jordan Couch and Chad Bahr finished in third place. Camron Couch earned 5th place at regional and was able to challenge the fourth place finisher for the right to compete at state.

At the state meet, Keller placed 8th out of 93 teams. Three state medals were earned this year. Jordan Couch finished in 6th place, Matt Lupardus earned a 3rd place medal and Chad Bahr claimed the first individual state title in Keller High history.

**FRHS Sun Dancers find success at competition:** Fossil Ridge Sun Dancers received numerous awards at their competition. Officers were awarded the Sweepstakes and Award of Excellence for 90's and above from all judges on all three dances. The Sun Dancers also received a Judges' Award, the Sweepstakes and Award of Excellence for all three routines as well as two Judges' Awards, the Gussie Nell Davis Award for Technique, the Choreography Award, the Precision Award and Best in Class.

Kristan Bruner was second runner up in the solo finalists and freshman Brianna Jung won first place in solos.

**FRHS forensics league competes at state:** The Fossil Ridge Forensics League recently competed at the Texas Forensic Association State tournament. Randall Williams competed in Student Congress and made it to the semi-finals, missing the finals by .67 points. He was awarded a TFA state patch for placing in the semi-finals.

**Central Lightning Dancers reap awards at competition:** The Central Lightning Dancers participated in the Crowd Pleasers Dance Showcase Contest on Feb. 17-18 at Central High. There were 38 teams competing. The Lightning Dancers took eight solo performers and two duets who all received Division I ratings. The dance officers earned a sweepstakes and super sweepstakes for their three routines. The team earned a sweepstakes and super sweepstakes for their military, modern and kick. They were also awarded Best in Class for their modern routine. The Lightning Dancers were named 2nd runner up in the overall competition.

**Indian Springs Middle School yearbook staff honored:** The ISMS 2005 yearbook staff was honored in the Taylor Publishing "Yearbook Yearbook." The 2006 (current) yearbook staff received the "Sweepstakes Award for Theme" at the Taylor Publishing summer workshop.

**KISD students excel at midcities tournament:** On Feb. 25, 14 KISD teams participated in the Midcities Creativity Regional Destination Imagination tournament at Colleyville Heritage High School. Two teams won first place in their challenge and will be going to the state tournament to be held March 31-April 1 in Corpus Christi.

Florence Elementary sent three teams to the Regional Tournament. Stella Greer's team, DI Falcon Eye, placed first in the Challenge "How'd that Happen?" Team members are Michael Greer, Cody Hawthorne, Michaela Dinger, Ryan O'Rourke, Gregory Gordon, Justin Pappy and Jessica Pharis.

Keller Middle School also had a first-place winner in the Challenge titled "Back at You." Team Manager was Ellen Allen. Team members were Kevin Allen, Katie Thompson, Alexandria Reetz, Julia Thurber, Jacob McAdmas and Jordan Douglass.

The Hidden Lakes Team placed second in "Back at You" in the elementary level. South Keller Intermediate had a team that placed third in the challenge "Inside Dimension." Several teams placed fourth in their division.

Two teams also received special awards for outstanding skill in engineering, design, or performance. The Renaissance Award went to our two first place winning Keller teams.

**Fossil Ridge teacher named teacher of the year:** Scott Killam, Fossil Ridge Math Department Chair and teacher, was named by the local chapter of the Air Force Association as Teacher of the Year for the State of Texas. Scott also received the Christa McAuliffe Memorial Award - AEF State Teacher of the Year Award.

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Respectfully submitted,

Jason Meyer  
Director of Communications