- Benchmark Testing Our English teachers gave their first benchmark for English I and II on February 4. Algebra I students also took their first benchmark that same week. US History and Biology are scheduled in the next two weeks.
- UIL We have the largest group of students participating in academic UIL
  this year than we have had in decades. Nearly 70 students will be competing
  in March. Mr. Goodson is our UIL coordinator, and he has scheduled several
  practice matches to get our students ready for the actual competition. For
  the first time, we had 4 teams compete in Cross-X debate. One of those teams
  scored high enough to be chosen as alternate at State.
  - o One Act Play March 24
  - o Academic UIL March 25
  - o Computer Science and Speaking Events March 26
- Local scholarship packets were handed out to seniors on Friday, February 6. They are due no later than Friday, March 6. Thousands of dollars are available for our seniors from local organizations. We spent a great deal of time with them explaining the importance of following directions and completely filling out the applications. We will also work with any seniors who need help.
- FCCLA Mrs. Patty Hawkins took the Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America students to compete in the annual Region 2 Leadership Conference on February 5-7. We had several students place and one student, Stacy Melo, was selected as a state officer.
- Senior Portraits February 12 for girls, and February 13 for boys.
- The band Winter Drum Line competed with several other schools on Saturday, February 7 and placed 3<sup>rd</sup>. This is a new event for our band this year.
- The band Winter Guard competes on February 14. This is also a new event for our band this year.
- Our soccer program continues to gain momentum. They played Palestine on February 9 and tied. They have another home game on February 16 at 6:00.
- Our band will be performing a Band Music Showcase" concert in the Multipurpose building on Tuesday, February 17 at 7:00 PM.
- On February 19m a group of 50 randomly selected seniors will be taking the NAEP test. Our school was selected, along with other schools to take this test for the US Department of Education to see if senior students across America are prepared for college and career.
- On February 20, the band will have their UIL Solo and Ensemble competition in Pine Tree.

- Our DECA students who qualified for state will be competing in the state competition in Dallas from February 25-27.
- On February 27, Mrs. Deborah Armstrong will take a group of students to compete in STEM Day at Region 7. Students will attend workshops in the morning, and then they will work on group projects in the afternoon for competition.
- Our boy's basketball team still has a chance of getting into the playoffs. As of this date, they are 7 and 4. The next two games will determine whether or not they will continue their season.
- The Anchor Club State Convention will be held from February 26-28. Mrs. Abbott will be taking several students to participate in this event in Frisco.
- Our softball and baseball teams are warming up for a great season. Both teams have been practicing and scrimmaging other schools to prepare for district play.
- On March 30 and 31, our freshman and sophomore students will begin taking the End-of Course STAAR tests for this school year. English I is on March 30 and English 2 is on March 31.