

# Monaco Elementary School

## School Board Communication

### September 2015

On August 24<sup>th</sup>, approximately 466 students entered our campus wreathed in smiles, a few tears, and anticipation for a new school.

We began our new year with **Academic Night** on September 1st. This also included our annual **Watch D.O.G.S. Kickoff**. We provided two sessions, one at 5:00 pm and one at 6:00 pm to help accommodate all the parents.

We were fortunate to have lunch provided twice this month. On the 2nd, **PTO** wowed us with a **Luau Feast** and **Mom's on Main** joined in with a luncheon of sandwiches with all the fixin's (Texas Style) on the 9th. YUM!

In honor of **Grandparents Day**, on September 14<sup>th</sup> students invited their grandparents to come share a muffin breakfast at their school. It was a huge success with around 300 grandparents .... so much fun! Thank you to our marvelous PTO for helping out.

We commemorated September 11 with several teacher planned activities across the campus.

On September 15<sup>th</sup>, our **Campus Site-Based Team** met to edit and update the Campus Improvement Plan for 2015-2016. Parent, community, teacher, and administrative members came together on this evening to complete the project.

**Choir** will begin on the 22nd and 24th of this month. Choir members choose which morning they wish to attend practice. They always do an excellent job and we look forward to what they have in store for us this year.

Our campus wide annual **fundraiser** will be kicked off on the 25th with 'fox' collecting being the driving force of sales this year. Not only will we have cookie dough, pies, and rolls but we will also have Chaparral sport cups available for purchase this year.

The entire weeks of September 14th – 18th and September 28 – Oct. 2nd will be devoted to **TPRI Testing** in grades K-2. This testing is a valuable tool in assessing reading skills in our young students.

**Student Council** is up and running with all feet on the ground. Many 4th grade students are learning the art of campaigning. We love to see their inventiveness in the posters they display and unique ways they garner votes. Mrs. Hilburn will start her maiden voyage as sponsor for this unique group. She has big shoes to fill but we know she is up to the task and will lead them to great things.

At Monaco Elementary, our theme this year is once again ***“Catch the Excellence at MES!”*** We have adopted the FISH! Philosophy once again. We vow as teachers, staff, and student to make an effort to- *Be There, Play, Make Their Day, and Choose Your Attitude*- in all aspects of the school day.

The campus is currently reading “Mindsets in the Classroom” by Mary Cay Ricci. We are learning to have and teach a growth mindset to our students.

As the school year began, Dr. James A. Monaco Elementary School received our accountability rating from the Texas Education Agency. Monaco received 5 out of 5 possible distinctions, the highest awards we were capable of achieving:

- Academic Achievement in Reading/ELA
- Academic Achievement in Science
- Top 25 Percent in Closing the Performance Gap
- Top 25 Percent in Student Progress
- Postsecondary Readiness



**MES...Has got it going on!!**