



H-J HEADLINER

A RECOGNIZED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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January 2007

FROM THE DESK OF SUPERINTENDENT HOLMES.....

The Hardin-Jefferson Independent School District is examining its school facilities and working to form potential solutions to the facilities needs of the district. This process involves a collaborative effort between the school board, the school administration and faculty, and the Hardin-Jefferson Community.

The district began this process after the Lamar University Educational Leadership Department conducted a facilities review for two of its four campuses in the summer of 2006: China Elementary School and Henderson Middle School. The results of this study produced a rating of 'Poor' for both campuses. These ratings prompted the district to contract with Educational Service Center Region 4 in Houston for a comprehensive facility study for all four campuses.

Additionally, the district has formed a community facilities committee to examine the facilities needs of the district and to discuss potential solutions to address those needs. The 26 member committee is comprised of three representatives from each of the six major communities in the district: Cheek, China, Nome, Sour Lake, Pine Ridge, and Pinewood/Country Wood. Each of these communities has a community representative, a business representative, and a parent representative. Additionally, other community groups have representation such as the Ministerial Alliance and community youth activity groups. One teacher from each of the four campuses serves as representation for the faculty. The committee elected two co-chair persons: Merlin Breaux and Dianne MacKenzie.

This committee began meeting in early November to analyze information surrounding all aspects of potential facilities solutions such as the condition of current facilities, taxing implications, demographics, financing options and many other areas of concern. The goal of the committee is to bring a recommendation for a solution to the school board in February. The School Board is aware of the increasing facilities needs of the district and is awaiting a recommendation from the facilities committee in February. If the recommendation requires a bond referendum, the school board must decide whether or not to call for a bond election by March 12, 2007 for a May election.

All information given to the facilities committee is available at the facilities committee webpage. You can view this information by visiting www.hjisd.net and clicking on the facilities committee link on the right hand side of the screen. Additionally, all meetings are open to the public and community members are encouraged to attend.

HARDIN-JEFFERSON ISD GOLD PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGMENTS FOR 2006

The Gold Performance Acknowledgment (GPA) system acknowledges districts and campuses for high performance on indicators other than those used to determine accountability ratings.

Hardin-Jefferson High School: Recommended High School Program (Class of 2005), Attendance (2004-05), Texas Success Initiative (TSI) ELA, Texas Success Initiative (TSI) Mathematics, Commended on Social Studies and Comparable Improvement: Reading/ELA

Henderson Middle School: Commended on Writing, Reading/ELA and Social Studies

Sour Lake Elementary School: Commended on Science and Writing

China Elementary School: Commended on Reading/ELA and Mathematics

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LABS OPEN TO PUBLIC

The Hardin-Jefferson ISD reminds everyone that computer labs are open to the public on all campuses on Mondays from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Basic computer instruction is taught at China Elementary. All other campuses have a computer lab open for patrons, parents, secondary students and staff. They will be able to access the internet, do research, take on-line courses, and/or practice keyboarding and other computer skills. Students will be able to work on assigned projects.

FCCLA LENDS HELPING HAND

The Future Community and Careers Leaders of America (FCCLA) elected their officers for the 2006-07 school year. They are President-Ashley Decker, Vice-President-Macario Lopez and Secretary-Lisa Bonvillion. The students participated in a Christmas service project for the Department of Family and Protective Services. The students baked about 1000 cookies and provided door prizes for the annual CPS Christmas Party held on December 9. Also, the students participated in the Downtown Christmas Parade held in Sour Lake on December 14. The FCCLA Chapter had a booth and sold Corn-on-the-Cob, Funnel Cakes, and Wassail. A great time was enjoyed by all. The students are busy in class and planning projects for the 2007 school year. The FCCLA Chapter is sponsored by Paige Arnold and Elizabeth Gallier.

UP FOR THE CHALLENGE

The Academic Challenge Team fell to 4th place and lost in the Channel 6 Challenge. The team is seriously practicing now for the Lamar Challenge, to be held at Lamar on February 3, 2007. Members of the challenge team are: Valerie Juarez, Ryan Rogers, Ryan Redmond, Christy Floyd, Justin Floyd, Cheyenne Elkins, Emily Phoenix. We wish them the best of luck and continued success.

GIRLS' SOCCER KICKIN' IT UP!

The Lady Hawk Soccer Team is gearing up for the 2007 season with intense workouts. Team members are as follows. Seniors Kasey Brown, Roya Clubb Rachel LeDoux and Ashley Loya; juniors Chasity Gloston, Kallie Holder, Madelyn Kay, Jennifer Russell, Amber Valcin, and Marissa Zimmerman; sophomores Brittany Birdwell, Stephanie McBride, Blake McGlaun, Kelsey Ogden, Hannah Radley, Elizabeth Rook, Kacy Shaffer, Blake Sparks, Taylor Sutherland, and Amber Taylor; and freshmen members Kendra Dillard and Kay Fuller. Head Coach Terri Smith invites everyone to come out and support the Lady Hawk Soccer Team this season.

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
1/23	*Central	Away	5:30
1/26	*Vidor	Home	5:30
1/30	*PN-G	Away	5:30
2/02	*Silsbee	Home	5:30
2/02-03	PN-G Kickoff	PN-G	TBA
2/06	*Lumberton	Away	5:30
2/09	*Ozen	Home	5:30
2/13	*Nederland	Away	5:30
2/20	*LC-M	Away	5:30
2/23	*Central	Home	5:30
2/27	*Vidor	Away	5:30
3/2	*PN-G	Home	5:30
3/6	*Silsbee	Away	5:30
3/09	*Lumberton	Home	5:30
3/13	*Ozen	Away	5:30
3/16	*Nederland	Home	5:30

HMS STUDENT COUNCIL CARE PROJECT

The Henderson Middle School Student Council sent Christmas care packages to three soldiers that are presently stationed in Iraq. These soldiers are all related to faculty members at Henderson Middle School. The three soldiers are: Sharonda Aplon (daughter of Mrs. Sherry Hadnot, Joseph Carr (nephew of Mrs. Melissa Means) and Kevin Raney (nephew of Mr. Jeff Raney). The care packages weighed about 65 pounds each and were loaded with everything imaginable for the soldiers. The student council members, along with Henderson Middle School

faculty, collected various items that ranged from all types of snack foods to toiletries to games. We are very proud of the Student Council members for their effort in this project. If you have a Hardin-Jefferson graduate that is in the military, please send a picture and/or address to Henderson Middle School for future projects. The 2006-2007 Henderson Middle School Student Council members are: 6th Grade - Hunter Blanchard, Corlee Means, Dalton Richardson, Taylor Thomas, and Jake Wheeler - 7th Grade - Kassie Chatelain, Hayden Greer, Jordan Hinds, Joseph Persohn, Katie Waddell, and Keene Wilson - 8th Grade - Greg Ames, Tess Bryan, Corey Colbert, Bailey Fontenot, Garrett Gustafson, Alex Harrington, Joshua Kerl, Willie Melancon, MariAnne Ortega, Briana Price, and Sadion Vallery



ORPHANAGE THANK YOU

Mrs. Carol Hargraves and her husband would like to thank the students and staff of SLE for collecting items for the orphanage in Mexico for this past Christmas. This is always such a tremendous help to them and it is greatly appreciated.

SPIRIT OF FREEDOM AT HMS

Students of the Social Studies, Fine Arts, Language Arts, and Technology Departments of Henderson Middle School presented their second annual "Spirit of Freedom" program on Thursday, November 10th. This program was held in recognition of Celebrate Freedom Week, which was established by the Texas Legislature with House Bill 1776 to honor our founding documents and "to prepare thoughtful, active citizens who understand



the importance of patriotism and can function productively in a free enterprise society with appreciation for the basic democratic values of our state and national heritage." The celebration was scheduled in the same week as Veteran's Day, in order to honor the service of all veterans who have defended our freedoms for over two hundred years.

Standing in front of patriotic decorations of bunting and stars, Briana Price opened the program with a warm welcome and introduction. She was followed by Breanna Moses, who read Prayer for the Nation by Thomas Jefferson. The student body, faculty, and guests were invited to stand and sing as the HMS Honor Band played The Star-Spangled Banner.

The following students presented patriotic readings selected from famous American documents, quotes, speeches, and poetry: Daniel Peeler, Adam Reeves, Grace Howarth, Luis Arriaga, Jr., Coko Springer, Amanda Poyner, Justin Fesco, Kayti Browning, Carly King, Joseph Hoyt, Kirsten Deckert, Monica Chimeno, Ben Blanchard, Robnashea Saunders, Victoria Scott, Brittani Kilgore, Dakota Ratcliff, Taylor Peace, Shane O'Bannion, Morgan Chimeno, Brody Lewis, Logan Gibson, Dalton Richardson, McKaulia Bushnell, Kenya West, Sara Teel, Brooke Meehan, Shaketha Martin, Kristin Hammons, Shelby Elkins, Waylon Chesnutt, Jessica Mullin, and Amanda Gibson.

The Henderson Choir treated the crowd with wonderful tunes entitled Our America and The Spirit of Freedom. Featured singers were Laura Clifton, Mackenzie Parker, Justin Lewis, Tyler Starr, Shelby Smith, Alley Martel, Savanna Reinhardt, Ashley Decaney, and Grace Hebert.

Joining in our salute to liberty, the HMS Spirit Team danced in their patriotic sailor attire to the rousing and familiar Andrews Sisters' rendition of Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy. Pre-AP Language Arts classes presented outstanding dramatic interpretations of Emerson's Concord Hymn, and Lazarus' The New Colossus. Led by Lionell Stagg and Kayla Johnson,

all Language Arts 8th grade students recited Langston Hughes' poem, I, Too, Sing America. An added backdrop for the speakers and presentations was an ongoing patriotic PowerPoint developed by 8th grade technology students.

Holding and saluting a folded American flag, Boy Scout Dalton Horn joined Kara Timberlake and Ally Martel as they explained flag etiquette.

In a tribute to veterans, Caitlyn Downs read an excerpt from a poem entitled Currency, in which the retired Army author asks that we "please be worth the blood" they shed. The program was dedicated to the brave men and women of the United States military, especially those who are family members of Hardin-Jefferson students and staff. The program concluded with a poetic tribute to Old Glory and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Ashley Lopez.

HMS Spirit Team members

Left to right: Jessie Y'Barbo, Carly Piepenhagen, Victoria Scott



SPIRIT TEAM DANCES THROUGH THE YEAR

Over the summer the new team worked diligently at boot camp in order to learn the routines for the football season. They learned three hip hop routines for the pep rallies as well as chair, military and pom routines to perform at the football games.

Everyone on the team contributed to the success. The team will begin working on their new routines for their Winter Show in February and for competition in April. This year the team will travel to San Antonio to compete. After competition, the team will enjoy the rest of the day at Sea World. Before leaving San Antonio, the team will



visit the historical sights and enjoy a day together shopping.

WORKING TOWARDS SUCCESS

The H-J Business Professionals of America students are looking forward to another successful year. In October the group went to China Elementary for their annual safety project to provide safety tips to the students for Halloween. Students dressed in costume and handed out tips while visiting with each class about what they knew regarding Halloween and how to be safe. Throughout the fall semester, students have been preparing for their upcoming regional competition. The Area 5 Region 1 Business Professionals of America competition will be held on Saturday, January 27 at Dayton High School. Last year 13 students competed at the regional level. This year 29 students will be competing in both individual and team competitions. They are looking forward to another year of advancing to the state level.

HOLIDAY SPIRIT AT SLE

Mrs. Coatney's third grade class at Sour Lake Elementary gets ready to experience the Polar Express. Mrs. Coatney made the engine for the students at Sour Lake Elementary. As part of the Christmas celebration, students participate in activities centered around The Polar Express while PTO parents serve hot chocolate and cookies.



FAMILY SCIENCE FUN AT CE

China Elementary will host a "Family Science Fun Night" on February 13, 2007, from 5-7. Parents and students will view animals from the Houston Zoo, meet Greg Bostwick from Channel 6 Weather Department, learn about grafting plants from a Master Gardener, and make GAK with the Mad Scientists from Houston. Food will be served and of course, there will be door prizes! We hope to see you all there!

SPECIAL "H-J STUDENT EXCELLENCE" EDITION

FFA PLACING AT THE TOP

Winnie Rice Festival Results

Rice Judging – 2nd Place

Jacob Luna – High Point Individual, Jamie Abney, Britney Guidry, Taylor Schooley, Jason Haygood, and Miles Myers

Livestock Judging – 3rd Place

Dana Haygood – 3rd High Point Individual, Jamie Abney, Britney Guidry, Jacob Luna, Jacob Hoffman, Ben Baldwin, and Jason Haygood

Southeast Texas State Fair Results

Livestock Judging – 2nd Place

Jamie Abney – 2nd High Point Individual, Dana Haygood, Britney Guidry, Jacob Hoffman, Jacob Luna, Ben Baldwin, Jason Haygood, and Bradley Choate

Aisle Award

Texas Forestry Essay Contest-Jacob Luna

Livestock Division: Johnny Lively – Grand Champion Steer, Jake Bernsen – Reserve Champion Steer, Garrett McNeely – 5th Place Steer, Jessica Copeland – 2nd Place Goat, Jamie Abney – 11th Place Swine, Cody Hood – 10th Place Swine, Brandi Griffin – 36th –Place Swine, Jake Bernsen – 37th Place Swine, Jessica Copeland – 7th Place Broiler, Jessica Copeland – 14th Place Broiler, Kelsey Fesco – 26th Place Broiler, Jason Haygood – 1st Place Heifer and Kassie Chatelain – 22nd Place Swine

District Leadership Results

G. H. Quiz Team – 4th Place

Meghanne Baldwin – 6th High Individual

Ryan Dosser – 7th High Individual

Justin Floyd

Sr. Creed Speaking—Jessica Copeland

Sr. Quiz Team—Jamie Abney, Britney Guidry, Jacob Luna and Taylor Schooley

Farm Radio—Dana Haygood, Heather Wilkins and Michael Hartel

Sr. Farm Skills—Jace Deshotel, Seth Hill, Aaron Treece and Michael Hartel

Welding Team— Britney Guidry, Ben Baldwin, Kevin Martel and Elton Booze

Wildlife Contest Results

2nd Place in District, 5th Place Overall and

12th Place Regional. Team members consisted of: Jamie Abney, Michael Hartel, Trey Hidalgo, Matt Fracht, Chris Long, Whitley Benjamin and Drew Daigle.

In the spring the H-J FFA will be participating in numerous activities including the calf scramble. Ben Baldwin will be representing H-J in Houston, Ft. Worth, & San Antonio while Jacob Luna will represent H-J in Houston. Several individuals and companies will also be coming to talk to students about their future plans. Thank you to all who are giving of their time to these students: Dragon Products, Gulf Coast Fabricators,

Rohm Hass Chemical, Mustang Equipment, UTI, LIT, and others.

SLE UIL TAKES TOP HONORS

The Sour Lake Elementary students had another remarkable year at the UIL Competition that was held at Kirbyville Elementary. Congratulations to all the participants and to the students who placed in their events. A big thank you to the UIL Coordinator Mrs. JoLynne McCraw and all the coaches.

Storytelling: 2nd Grade Coach Hetty Brown. Participants: Hannah Gieseke, Brooke Bledsoe, Kevin Tucker and Kayla Bell. 3rd Grade Coach Darla Gaspard. Participants: Audrey Cammack 2nd Place, Chance MacKenzie 3rd Place, Brett McCraw and Kenedy Padgett.

Oral Reading: 4th Grade Coach Donna Nobles. Participants: Kaitlin McFarland 3rd Place, Madelyn Evans 5th Place, Kathryne Padgett and Angela Morris. 5th Grade Coach Doris Long. Participants: Kyle Walker 4th Place, Alex Meade 5th Place, Collin Bledsoe and Bailey Bledsoe.

Creative Writing: 2nd Grade Coach Jodie Bushnell. Participants: Gage Sattler, Maddisen Robertson, Nancy Marsh, and Luke Kasner.

Ready Writing: 3rd Grade Coach Karey Lyn Williams. Participants: Jacob Joosten 3rd Place, Kyle Devillier 5th Place, Levi Kasner and Taylor Trahan. 4th Grade Coach Carol Hargraves. Participants: Ryan Gajeske 2nd Place, Taylor Aldrich 4th Place, Danielle Scott and Anna Rothenberger. 5th Grade Coach Stacy Menard. Participants: Anna Clifton 3rd Place, Maggie Sykes, Julie Towne, and Rhianna Campbell.

Art Contest: 4th Grade Team Coach Melody Taylor—receiving 1st place team members Natalie Hasson, Alissa Carre, Michael Scott and Dylan Richardson. 5th Grade Team Coach Jolie Hartwick. Participants: Brittani Bowman 1st Place, Hannah Love 2nd Place, Michelle Nolan 2nd Place and Sarah Fontenot 2nd Place.

Maps, Charts & Graphs: 4th Grade Coach Jackie Kohlman. Participants: Janie Davis 1st Place, Dakota Jeffcoat 5th Place, Braxton Choate, and Catherine Morrell. 5th Grade Coach Sandy Taggart. Participants: Marshall Browning 2nd Place, Alex Robertson 6th Place, Luke Thomas and Alex Legarda.

Spelling: 2nd Grade Coach Susie Beavers. Participants: Reid Yentzen 1st Place and Jack Dunwoody. 3rd Grade Coach Jennifer McShan. Participants: Kaylie Brown 4th Place and



SPECIAL "H-J STUDENT EXCELLENCE" EDITION



Kevin Mullins. 4th Grade Coach Susan Jarrell. Participants: Garrett Mireles 1st Place, Taylor Gilbert 2nd Place, Zack Fish 6th Place and Chase Carr. 5th Grade Coach Karen Cates. Participants: Ryan Mireles 1st Place, Kullen Ritter 2nd Place, Alaina Morris 5th Place and Richie Hall.

Music Memory: 4th Grade Team Coach Jackie Green. Participants: 4th Place team members Angela Grisham, Kevin Sanders and Jacie Neel. 4th Grade Team Coach Melissa Salinas. 3rd Place team members: Dylan Frazier, Brandon Salinas, Brody Fesco and Travis Coe. 5th Grade Team Coaches Waynette Cooley and Suzanne Swift. Participants: 3rd Place team members Tracy Bledsoe, Kesha Broussard, Mar'shayla Thomas and Tyler White.

Dictionary Skills: 5th Grade Coach Shelia Studdert. Participants: Dylan Orrenmaa 2nd Place, Larenz Jefferson 4th Place, Trevor Cantu 5th Place and Sarah Adams.

Listening Skills: 5th Grade Coach Shana Boone. Participants: Kelsey McCraw 3rd Place, Alexis Gallier 3rd Place, Hannah Whitaker 5th Place and Sarah Love.

Math: 2nd Grade Coach Micki Bertino. Participants: Austin Copeland 4th Place, Maddie Thomas 5th Place, Myla Sykes 5th Place and Jack Raney. 3rd Grade Coach Debbie Hatton. Participants: Cutter Dela Rosa 3rd Place, Mason Julian 5th Place, Morgan Cody 6th Place, and Logan Hearn.

Number Sense: 4th Grade Coach Shannon Flowers. Participants: Jacob Johnson 2nd Place, Maleik Bodley 4th Place, Gabe Herrod 6th Place and Jewel Satterfield. 5th Grade Coach Kathy Brown. Participants: Aaron Piepenhagen 3rd Place, Coy Draper 6th Place, Michael Fontenot and Peyton Gloston.

STARLETTES "BOWL" OVER THE FANS

The Hardin-Jefferson Starlette Drill Team spent New Year's Day performing at the AT&T Cotton Bowl Game in Dallas, Texas. This was a National debut for this small drill team from Sour Lake, Texas. The Starlettes shown the brightest out of the 323 dancers there with pride for themselves and their representation of H-J High School. "We were just so proud to dance in front of all those people. We work so hard for all performances and love supporting H-J." said Starlette Captain, Erika Rodriguez. "I am so proud of all that these girls can accomplish. They are truly the most well behaved and disciplined girls. We have a lot of fun" said Mrs. Love, director of the team. The Starlettes will travel to



New York in May. Starlette tryouts will be in April. "We hope more people will want to join this great group of girls". For more information on becoming a Starlette, contact Mrs. Love anytime.

HARDIN-JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE

Congratulations to seniors Valerie Juarez, Adam Morris and Bailey Radley. Valerie has received a letter of recommendation from the National Hispanic Recognition Program, part of the College Board, for her outstanding performance on the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. She was also named AP Scholar by the College Board's Advanced Placement Program (AP). Valerie and Adam were both named as Commended Students in the 2007 National Merit Scholarship Program.

Congratulations to Bailey Radley for being selected as our Daughters of the American Revolution Award Recipient. She will be asked to compete in the local Col. George Moffett Chapter Essay Contest and hopefully advance to the state level competition contest for the opportunity to win a scholarship.

READING "MAKES WAVES" AT CE

China Elementary Library held its Bi-Annual Reading Rainforest Book Fair in October to raise funds for China's library. Students enjoyed browsing through books in the rainforest and even got to pet a sugar-glider and a caiman. China's library will host another book fair where students can "Catch a Reading Wave" during the week of February 26-March 2, 2007. Make sure you "Catch a Wave" and "surf" into this book fair! China Elementary would like to announce their first 2006-07 "Accelerated Reader Principal of the Day," second grader, Payton Sirmons.

LOOKING FOR MORE INFO? CHECK OUT WWW.HJISD.NET

Student achievements and projects can be found on individual teacher websites. To locate a teacher website, go to www.hjisd.net. There will be links on the left side of the screen listing individual campuses. From there you will be able to locate the individual teacher and their website. The district website is updated frequently and will showcase students as well as include any announcements, upcoming school meetings, proposed school calendar, etc. Please take a moment to visit the site and feel free to contact the webmaster for comments.

**HARDIN-JEFFERSON
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 490
SOUR LAKE, TX 77659**

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The Hardin-Jefferson Independent School District does not discriminate against its students or employees on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or handicapping condition.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

February 8, 2007	Facilities Committee Meeting, Administration Building, 5:00 p.m.
February 12, 2007	Facilities Committee Meeting, Administration Building, 5:00 p.m.
February 13, 2007	Family Science Fun Night, China Elementary, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
February 19, 2007	School Board Meeting, Administration Building, 7:00 p.m.
February 19, 2007	Facilities Committee Presentation to School Board, 7:00 p.m.
February 13-15, 2007	TAKS Testing
February 16, 2007	Early Release
February 23, 2007	Report Cards To Be Distributed
March 12-15, 2007	Spring Break
March 19, 2007	School Board Meeting, Administration Building, 7:00 p.m.
April 5, 2007	Early Release
April 6, 2007	Easter Holiday

F O R Y O U R I N F O R M A T I O N

All legal notices for Hardin-Jefferson ISD (i.e., school board meetings, elections, etc.) will be posted at least 72 hours in advance of the event in the following locations:

- H-J Administration Building
- Hardin-Jefferson High School
- Henderson Middle School

- Sour Lake Elementary School
- China Elementary School
- H-J Transportation Building
- Gulf Coast Special Education Co-op
- Hardin County Newspaper
- City Halls-Sour Lake, China & Nome

Some special events are also posted in the Beaumont Enterprise Newspaper and on Timberlake Cable TV. If you have a question about any postings for the school district, please call the superintendent's office at 981-6400.