

News Bulletin



May 2009

Plano ISD Employees Contribute \$113,800 to Education Foundation

Plano ISD employees reinforced their commitment to "Touch the Heart of a Child" by generously contributing \$113,800 to the Plano ISD Education Foundation whose programs support the school district's students

and staff. Despite a national economic recession and local financial belt-tightening initiatives, 100% of Plano ISD schools and service departments contributed to the annual employee campaign to support the Foundation.

Some 3,013 employees contributed more than \$113,800. Fifty-one of 77 schools/departments met or exceeded their goals. A total of 317

employees donated \$100 or more and will receive "I Love Plano ISD" yard signs.

Top Contributors:

- Superintendent & Area Assistant Superintendent's offices - 848%
- Communications - 275%
- Hunt Elementary - 220%
- Jasper High School - 174%
- Centennial Elementary - 119%
- Bethany Elementary - 116%
- Business Services - 108%
- Frankford Middle School - 63%
- Shepton High School - 61%
- Carpenter Middle School - 40%
- Bowman Middle School - 39%

Thank you to ALL schools and departments for your participation!

Continued on page 2

Foundation Facilitates the 2009 Innovations in STEM Teaching Award

Frankford and Bowman Teachers Earn Prestigious Honor

Teachers Stephanie Schinnerer and Michelle Poovey were presented with the 2009 STEM Awards at the April 7 meeting of the Plano ISD Board of Trustees. The two winners each earned \$5,000 cash awards

and \$5,000 for classroom technology and professional development from the Texas Instruments Foundation. Four additional Plano ISD teachers were honored as STEM finalists with \$500 cash awards from

Continued on page 2

Save the Date:

- **May 28, 2009 - Donor Recognition Program, Gleneagles Country Club**

Foundation Website:

Visit the Plano ISD Education Foundation website to see the latest Foundation video. It features highlights from great Foundation programs.

<http://www.pisd.edu/foundation/>

"Education is not the answer to the question. Education is the means to the answer to all questions."

-- William Allin



Ralph Stow, Beth Webb and Employee Campaign Chair, Jeff Bailey, pose at the presentation of the generous funds given by PISD employees.

Contributors Also Meeting or Exceeding Goals during Employee Campaign

Andrews Elementary School - 95%
 Student & Family Services Department - 79%
 Frankford Middle School - 63%
 Shepton High School - 61%
 Davis Elementary School - 49%
 Carpenter Middle School - 40%
 Bowman Middle School - 39%
 Wells Elementary School - 37%
 Schimelpfenig Middle School - 37%
 Forman Elementary School - 35%
 Mitchell Elementary School - 35%
 Memorial Elementary School - 34%
 Hendrick Middle School - 34%
 Harrington Elementary School - 32%
 Daffron Elementary School - 31%
 Hightower Elementary School - 31%
 Spec. Programs Center (Elementary) - 31%
 Head Start Program - 29%
 Hedgcoxe Elementary School - 25%
 Christie Elementary School - 24%
 Beaty Early Childhood School - 22%
 Hughston Elementary School - 19%
 Aldridge Elementary School - 16%
 Beverly Elementary School - 16%
 Weatherford Elementary School - 12%
 Athletic Department - 11%
 Schell Elementary School - 10%
 Armstrong Middle School - 10%
 Huffman Elementary School - 9%
 McCall Elementary School - 9%
 Skaggs Elementary School - 8%
 Murphy Middle School - 8%
 Rice Middle School - 7%
 Human Resources Division - 6%
 Mathews Elementary School - 5%
 Razor Elementary School - 4%
 Barksdale Elementary School - 3%
 Renner Middle School - 3%
 Carlisle Elementary School - 1%
 Dooley Elementary School - 1%
 Rose Haggard Elementary School - 1%
 Hickey Elementary School - met goal
 Saigling Elementary School - met goal
 Special Programs Center (Secondary) - met goal

STEM Teaching Awards, continued

Plano ISD Education Foundation, which also facilitated the grant.

room is truly electric.

Stephanie Schinnerer - STEM Winner

Bowman Middle School 6th

Grade Regular and Honor Mathematics

Stephanie is a talented and nurturing teacher who has enhanced student achievement and increased student interest in math. When you first walk into her room, there is no mis-

Michelle Poovey - STEM Winner

Frankford Middle School 6th Grade Science

Michele works to provide a classroom in which her students are safe to learn and express themselves; she encourages critical thinking, creative expressions and questioning. Michele's philosophy is that, "Facts may be forgotten but the desire and thirst for knowledge and the love of learning last forever," and she hopes to instill that in her students. Michele's class-



take that she is a math teacher—student work is displayed and colorful vocabulary words brighten the walls. Her principal said it best: "Her caring, 'can do' spirit seems infectious as students remain hopefully on task pioneering the difficult world of fractions, decimals and probability."



STEM Award Winners (seated, l-r) are Stephanie Schinnerer and Michele Poovey. STEM Award Finalists and award officials are (standing, l-r) Torrence Robinson, TI director of public affairs; Finalist Whitney Evans, Dr. Jim Wussow, PISD secondary academic services executive director; Finalists Susan Appleton and Kelly Reichenberger; Monica Shortino, Plano ISD Education Foundation executive director; Finalist Kathy Fritz; Dr. Jim Wohlgehausen, PISD secondary mathematics coordinator; and Linda Flack, PISD secondary science coordinator.

Susan Appleton - STEM Finalist

Jasper High School Chemistry I and Pre-AP Chemistry I

Susan is an innovative leader of students and of her fellow teachers. She delights in sharing her fascination and enthusiasm for science with her students. She explains that chemistry is an abstract course but by making it more "do-able" students can prove their ideas through labs or link a complicated idea to something they have seen on the internet, a movie, book or television show. Susan works with her students to incorporate many hands on activities and real world examples.

Whitney Evans - STEM Finalist

Wilson Middle School 8th Grade Mathematics Department Head

A strong leader and visionary teacher, Whitney says that her role in the classroom is to explain a mathematical concept to a student in a way that he or she has never heard before and add emphasis on making connections between mathematics and the real world. Whitney over the last 10 years has

helped pilot, revise and implement Connected Mathematics on the curriculum writing team.

Kathy Fritz - STEM Finalist

Plano West Senior High School AP Statistics and Algebra II

A teacher who is excellent at instructing, supporting and connecting with students, Kathy says that the learning environment in her classroom is such that students feel free to ask questions and discuss topics. She encourages creative explorations and investigations while students are actively developing the mathematical concepts.

Kelly Reichenberger - STEM Finalist

Vines High School 9th and 10th Grade Biology

A teacher who strives to go beyond the basics to reach every learner, Kelly believes that the more connections her students make the more likely they are to remember information. She uses various activities and strategies to reach her students. She works to foster a positive sense of community in her classroom.

**We Need Your
Feedback!!**

**Please complete the
survey:**

<http://alturl.com/koec>



Did You Know?

Your Investment Has Huge Returns!

- The Foundation will gift nearly \$1 million to the district this year alone for district wide initiatives benefitting the 54,000 students of Plano ISD.
- The Foundation's \$70,000 gift for Educator Grants impacted 16,000 students and families this year.
- The Foundation has committed \$300,000 to mathematics improvement in Middle School. The improvement initiative includes a curriculum update; hiring a Middle School Math Specialist; online training courses and professional development for teachers. The completion of the program will allow all students the opportunity for four additional advanced math courses.
- The Foundation funded after-school tutoring programs across the district, impacting thousands of students.

Capital One donates 2,000 books to Plano Family Literacy Program and PISD



Thrill of the Grill 5k Raises Funds for Schools

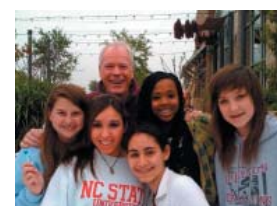
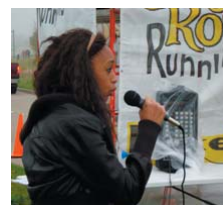
Despite the April showers more than 300 runners turned out for the first annual Central Market "Thrill of the Grill" 5K Run benefiting Plano ISD Education Foundation on April 18. Runners and spectators were welcomed by Chris Darling, General Manager of Central Market, and Dr. Doug Otto, Plano ISD superintendent. Just before runners took their marks, Jasper High School student, Tahira Clayton, performed the national anthem.

Plano ISD students Matthew Miller, Sam Tillery and Christopher Buxton captured the top three slots, all finishing in just over 17 minutes. Plano ISD employees attended with running teams from across the district, with substantial turnouts from Bowman Middle School; Andrews, Aldridge and McCall Elementary Schools; and the Finance De-

partment. More than 100 high school students volunteered to show their support. Clark High School cheerleaders were found along the route cheering the runners on; Girl Scouts distributed T-shirts; Plano Senior and Plano West National Honor Society Members registered guests, manned water stations and the Plano Senior High English Department students assisted with the race and filmed the event for a community service documentary.

Other sponsors included: Central Market Plano, Ben E. Keith, Luke's Locker, The Pradera, Wright Choice Gourmet and Plano Chamber of Commerce.

Additional photos are available on www.pisd.edu.



Special Thanks

- Atmos Energy - gift of \$5,000 for Family Literacy program
- Baylor Regional Hospital - gift of \$10,000 for Plano ISD Convocation 2009
- Texas Instruments - gift of \$25,000 for STEM Partners-Middle School Math Program
- Thrill of the Grill volunteers & participants