



## Kudos!

Congratulations to the following students, staff and schools for these recent achievements.

### GRAMMY

#### Signature School

Plano Senior High School is one of 14 schools nationwide to be selected as "GRAMMY Signature Schools for 2008." The award includes \$5,000 and a GRAMMY, presented by The GRAMMY Foundation.

#### State Honor Orchestras

Plano West Senior High has captured this distinction for the fourth time in nine years; Rice Middle School has been named exemplary 7 of 8 years. TMEA has named a PISD orchestra tops in state for 11 consecutive years.

#### Secondary Science

Texas Junior Academy of Sciences Awards: Plano students captured 5 grand prize awards and 9 of 12 first place awards. Beal Bank Dallas Regional Science and Engineering Fair: Of 700 students who attended the fair, Plano students had 73% of projects qualify for the state event and earned 6 of the 8 grand prize awards.

#### Destination ImagiNation

Plano ISD has a record six teams advancing from state to the DI Global Tournament to be held in May in Tennessee. Congratulations to teams from Aldridge, Hightower, Wyatt, Frankford, Shepton and Plano Senior High.



#### Academic Challenge

Plano Senior High School JROTC won first place among 40 competing schools in a recent skills meet testing students' knowledge of government, history and situational leadership.

To learn more about these and other awards, visit our website at: [www.pisd.edu](http://www.pisd.edu).

## Superintendent's Service Award Nominees to be Honored at 43rd Annual Employee Recognition Banquet on April 17

Dr. Doug Otto has announced the following nominees for his Ninth Annual Superintendent's Service Award. All nominees will be honored at Plano ISD's 43rd Annual Service & Retirement Event to be held on Thursday, April 17, at Southfork Ranch. Surprise awards presentations of the top few winners will be among the evening's celebration. Read more about the award online at: [www.pisd.edu/superaward](http://www.pisd.edu/superaward).



#### Jeanne Abrams

Mitchell Secretary

#### Mary Adamé

Wilson Special Ed.  
Teaching Assistant

#### Yow-Yi Amstutz

Mitchell Campus  
Technology Assistant

#### Beth Ann Apt

Hedcoxe Special Ed.  
Teaching Assistant



2007 winners were (pictured, clockwise from top) Chuck Chiamulera, Dollie Thomas, Dee Garza and Luz Dalia Valentin.

**Candace Aslanian** - Miller Special Ed. Teaching Assistant

**Galexia Austin** - Armstrong Special Ed. Teaching Assistant

**Maria Berry** - Brinker Special Education Teaching Assistant

**Connie Bowman** - Rasor Campus Technology Assistant

**Donna Brandenburg** - Christie Special Ed. Teaching Assistant

**Suzy Charney** - Shepton Office Manager

**Linda Coon** - Haggard Attendance Clerk

**Anastasia (Sissy) Cox** - Christie FANS Manager

**Betsy Croslin** - Skaggs Office Manager

**Debbie Dempsey** - Clark Counseling Secretary

**Jan Doughtie** - Technology Help Desk Specialist

**Sharon Eaheart** - Mendenhall Special Education

Teaching Assistant and PASAR Site Manager

**Charles Ervin** - Distribution Center Route Driver

**Mark Fetchko** - Telecommunications CATV Technician

**Linda Filipski** - PSHS Study Skills Teaching Assistant

**Jackie Focke** - Beaty Teaching Assistant

**Tracy Fox** - Wells Special Education Teaching Assistant

**Ceil Gandolfi** - Administration Building Receptionist

**Sherry Gandy** - Beverly FANS Manager

**Mary Garcia** - McCall Bilingual Teaching Assistant

**Penny Grego** - PWSH Library/Teaching Assistant

**Dawn L. Halsell** - Jackson FANS Employee

**Mona Halverson** - Saigling Library Assistant

**Darlene Hammond** - Clark Special Ed. Teaching Assistant

**Waverly Hammond** - PWSH Building Technician

**Dieta Harris** - Hunt Secretary

**Karen Heflin** - Mitchell Special Education Teaching Assistant

**Diana Henderson** - Jasper Office Manager

**Linda Holland** - Shepard Special Education Teaching Assistant

**Senida Idrizovic** - Rasor Special Education Teaching Assistant

**Tammy Jaggi** - Thomas Special Education Teaching Assistant

**Norma I. Jones** - Forman Parent Liaison /

PASAR Site Manager, Physical Education Assistant

**Betty Knott** - Clark Receptionist / Independent Study Room

**Aretha J. Lafayette** - Harrington Clerk/Secretary

**Quincy Lara** - Facility Services East Cluster Master Electrician

**David Lewis** - Facility Services IPM (Independent Pest Management) Coordinator

**Debra Lewis** - Centennial FANS Manager

**Tsui Ling Ma** - Mitchell FANS Cashier

**Carol Long** - Hickey Special Education Teaching Assistant



**Robyn MacMeeken** - Carpenter Receptionist

**Debra A. McElyea** - JROTC Property Book Officer

**Suzette McGowen** - Mitchell Office Manager

**Cathy Mitchell** - Robinson Office Manager

**Randy Mitchell** - Shepton Special Ed. Teaching Assistant

**Nabih Moussa** - Daffron Campus Technology Assistant / Library and Teaching Assistant

**Eunice Navarro** - Mitchell FANS Employee

**Shae Newton** - Frankford Special Ed. Teaching Assistant

**Kathy Parry** - Hedcoxe Secretary

**Blake Pi** - Pearson Campus Technology Assistant and Teaching Assistant

**Janice Pi** - Pearson Structured Classroom Assistant

**Ethel M. Powell** - Davis Campus Technology Assistant

**Connie Prince** - Andrews Special Ed. Teaching Assistant

**Leigh Radetsky** - PWSH Finance Secretary

**Helen Reas** - Bettye Haun Special Ed. Teaching Assistant

**Cynthia Royal** - Aldridge Special Ed. Teaching Assistant

**Imelda L. Ruvalcaba** - Head Start Teaching Assistant

**Lennie Scales** - Distribution Services Secretary

**Nina Serra** - Weatherford Dual Language Teaching Assistant

**Debbie Sewell** - Vines Receptionist

**Liliana M. Silva** - Human Resources Department Secretary

**Lori Stanley** - Head Start Office Manager

**Barbara Stohl** - Rose Haggard Campus Technology Assistant

**Linda Summerford** - Bowman Attendance Clerk

**Melinda Thomasson** - Beverly Special Ed. Teaching Assistant

**Betty Thompson** - Facility Services Warehouse Secretary

**Kim Thompson** - Brinker Special Ed. Teaching Assistant

**Maurice Tyson** - Distribution Services Route Driver

**Sue Uecker** - Barron Special Ed. Teaching Assistant

**Tina Venegas** - Secondary Curriculum Secretary

**Rita Wallace** - Huffman Secretary

**Tammy Welch** - Holifield Science Center Receptionist

**Barbara West** - Saigling Office Manager/PASAR Site Manager

**LouVonne Willis** - Mitchell Teaching Assistant

**Mike Yeager** - Transportation Field Trip Specialist

### Collin County Adventure Camp Open House April 27

Plano ISD fourth grade students and their families are invited to a Collin County Adventure Camp open house from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 27. The "come and go" event will include tours of the facility where students will attend outdoor school this fall. For information and directions, visit this website: [www.collincountyadventurecamp.org](http://www.collincountyadventurecamp.org).



## Retirees to be Honored April 17

Plano ISD salutes the following employees who are retiring or voluntarily separating from the district. Retirees will be honored at the 43rd Annual Service and Retirement event on April 17. A list of individual retirement receptions is posted online at: [www.pisd.edu](http://www.pisd.edu).

### Congratulations, Retirees!

Debra Kay Arnold - Mendenhall  
 Julia Bailey - Beaty  
 Joyce Bernie - Schimelpfenig  
 Ann Borshard - PSHS  
 Daphne Brown - Rose Haggar  
 Candy Case - Schimelpfenig  
 Jane R. Chapman - PSHS  
 Michael Coe - PSHS  
 Norma Sue Corey - Bowman  
 Anne Donaldson - Shiloh  
 Margie Y. Eldridge - Wells  
 Lundy Forbes - Rose Haggar  
 Diane Gammons - Mendenhall  
 Nancy Giles - Bowman  
 Xiude Guan - FANS  
 Barbara Holmes Hodges - Brinker  
 Heidi H. Hubbard - Vines  
 Margaret Hughes - Hughston  
 Suzanne Johnson - Student & Family Services  
 Bishara M. Kavar - Transportation  
 Julianne Lebovitz - Miller  
 Freida L. Lee - Carpenter  
 Michael P. Mariano - PESH  
 Barbara Parker McCoy - Sigler  
 Karen S. Michael - Wyatt  
 Hannah Montgomery - Carlisle  
 Yarsean Moore - FANS  
 Dan Morrow - Wilson  
 Vicki Prouty - Wells  
 Lois J. Rogers - Financial Services  
 Katherine (Kitty) Schieck - Jackson  
 Manju Shah - FANS  
 Jeanne Shilstone - Mendenhall  
 G. "Fritz" Steininger - Guinn Center  
 Becky Sullivan - Carlisle  
 Becky Taylor - Superintendent's Office  
 Nancy Taylor - Bowman  
 Debbie S. Trimble - Bowman  
 Gale Vaughan - Gullede  
 Linda K. Watson - Shepton  
 Susan Weiner - Renner  
 Donna Wenger - Wilson  
 Margaret Widlund - Bowman

## May 10 Bond Election ~ Questions & Answers

An ongoing series to inform employees about Plano ISD's \$490 million bond proposal.

**What curriculum and technology initiatives are included in the bond proposal?** Plano ISD's curriculum and technology needs, which total \$66 million, grew out of the intensive study of focus groups conducted among school faculty and staff, students and parents that resulted in a state-approved technology plan for 2007-2010. They include:

- Replacement of computers, servers, TVs/monitors, projection systems, science lab equipment and other peripheral equipment placed in schools as a result of the 1996, 2000, 2003, and 2004 bond elections.
- 41 curriculum area improvements.
- Video display cameras to replace overhead projectors in classrooms.
- Video projection systems in all elementary classrooms similar to those installed in secondary classrooms from previous bonds.
- Career and technology classroom equipment for newly adopted courses such as Criminal Investigations and Marketing Dynamics.
- Classroom computers for all elementary art classrooms to meet new TEKS standards.
- Science facilities and equipment that are up-to-date and meet safety standards and provide for the new state science requirements.
- Assistive technology devices for special education students' identified needs.
- Classroom computers in all middle school mathematics classrooms to take advantage of new learning software.

### Are other capital improvements included for curriculum and instruction?

A total of \$10.5 million is included in the bond proposal to purchase equipment for science labs, career education classes, libraries, fine arts programs, and lockers for PE classes.

### Are there any other capital projects included in this bond?

The bond proposal includes \$13.4 million for these district wide capital projects: • Food and nutritional services - replacement of obsolete equipment. • Bird Center - parking lot renovation. • Energy efficient lighting - retrofit lighting that has an estimated three year payback to the general fund. • Water conservation irrigation upgrades (technological) that have an estimated four-year payback to the general fund. • Athletics - anticipated upgrades and capital needs over the next four years. • District wide projects - annual requests that traditionally are funded through the Maintenance & Operation Fund.

### How will the security of schools be affected by the bond dollars?

Safety and security of our students and staff are essential components of providing a quality education. Approximately \$4 million in safety and security bond dollars will fund: • Additional cameras at all schools. • Upgrades of existing cameras and equipment. • Additional Rapid Eye units. • Upgraded cabling, wiring and data support for all systems. • Computer upgrades for alarm and access systems to continuous online monitoring. • Fire system upgrades. • District wide visitor identification system: Raptor.

**Website** - [www.pisd.edu](http://www.pisd.edu)  
**eNews** - [elist.pisd.edu](http://elist.pisd.edu)

**Hotline** - (469) 752-8010  
**Speakers** - To schedule, call (469) 752-8147.

**E-mail** - [askpisd@pisd.edu](mailto:askpisd@pisd.edu)



Plano ISD's April, 2008, community newsletter "Plano Proud," features information about the May 10 bond election. The newsletter has been mailed to PISD's 81,000 taxpayers. It may be viewed online at [www.pisd.edu/2008bond](http://www.pisd.edu/2008bond).



## National Library Week Celebration April 14-18

"Join the circle of knowledge @ your library!" ~ Plano ISD librarians invite you to visit your school library during National Library Week, April 14-18, to enjoy books, online resources and a variety of planned activities.

School trustees honored several school librarians (pictured) in attendance at their April business meeting with a resolution recognizing Library Week, which will be celebrated with special activities at all school levels.

## Notable Notes...

### Congratulations to these proud parents and grandparents:

☐ **Tina Verri Cone and Matt Cone**, PSHS business math teacher and social studies department chair, respectively, welcomed son **Marshall Duwayne** (7lbs 6ozs) on Feb. 6; **Chad Hurst**, Hendrick teacher/coach, and his wife **Erica** welcomed a son **Carson Kenneth** (9lbs 3ozs) on February 8; **Michelle McAlister**, Rasor kindergarten teacher, and her husband **Leslie** became the proud parents of son **Brayden Andrew** (6lbs 12ozs) on February 20; **Pam Rand**, Dooley CTA, and her husband **Sonny** announced the February 20 birth of grandson **Zachary Derek** (9lbs 7ozs), son of **Leisel and Stephen Rand** of Allen; **Kristen Moore**, Wyatt music specialist, and her husband **Matt** became the proud parents of son **Joshua Matthew** (6lbs 12ozs) on March 10.

☐ **Ashley Bearden**, Rasor third grade teacher, and her husband **Roger** welcomed daughter **McKenzie Grace** (7lbs 3 ozs) on March 11; **Joey and Jason Cobb**, Meadows and Memorial PE coaches, respectively, welcomed son **Caleb Thomas** (6lbs 4ozs) on March 13; **Louann Dunkle**, Haun fourth grade teacher, became the proud grandmother of **Caleb Seth** on March 12. Proud parents are **Jamie and Chris Dunkle**; and **Sarah and Shawn Perry**, Hendrick sixth grade teacher and Jasper administrative intern, respectively, welcomed daughter **Morgan Grace** (7lbs 14ozs) on March 31.

### Sympathy is extended to these employees:

☐ **Teresa Brown**, Jasper attendance clerk, whose mother **Maurine Turner** passed away on March 16; **Ricki Hart**, Boggess third grade teacher, whose brother **Roger Klein** of Earleville, Maryland, died on March 8; **Nancy Kramer**, instructional support specialist, and her husband **John**, Hedgcoxe PE teacher, whose father and father-in-law, respectively, **Thomas Ward** died on March 20; **Tina Mehl**, Schimelpfenig special education teacher, whose grandmother **Patricia Morsani** died in late March; and **Jennifer Bonfessuto**, Andrews ESL teacher, whose father **Bill Buckenroth** died on March 26.

### Thought for the Week:

"Dreams are free, so free your dreams."

~Astrid Alauda

## District Digest

E-mail: [digest@pisd.edu](mailto:digest@pisd.edu)

Phone: (469) 752-8030

Website:

[www.pisd.edu/news](http://www.pisd.edu/news)

eNews listserv:

[www.pisd.edu/eNews.htm](http://www.pisd.edu/eNews.htm)