

 **Inform**  
Stay up to date on  
current events

 **Involve**  
Get involved in campus  
and district events

 **Engage**  
Share your news  
with us

 **Connect**  
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in the district

# campus —chronicles

**Edition I | September 2015**



A one stop shop for all your  
**Campus News**

## **Campuses Celebrate Grandparents Day!**

*Several Pasadena ISD schools decide to “do something grand” and invite grandparents to visit campuses for National Grandparents Day.*

*Story continued on page 4* 



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## Upcoming Events: October

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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 <b>Lights on Afterschool</b>	21 <b>Lights on Afterschool</b>	22 <b>Lights on Afterschool</b>	23 <b>Lights on Afterschool</b>	24 <b>Walk for Sight</b>	25	26
27	28	29	30	31 <b>Rayburn Fall Festival</b>		

***Tweens Read***

Celebrate the annual Tweens Read Book Festival at South Houston High School.

***Sam Rayburn HS Fall Festival***

Rayburn invites students and families in the Pasadena community to the fall festival for free family fun.



## How to Submit Campus News:

The Office of  
Communication invites  
campuses to submit news  
and photos about programs,  
events and student and  
employee recognition, please  
click on the button below!

**SUBMIT**

### Deadline:

All news items must be  
submitted by noon on the  
third Friday of the month.

*Receipt of this submission does not guarantee  
posting on the Pasadena ISD website or in any  
other Pasadena ISD publication. Inclusion is  
an editorial decision based on factors such as  
timeliness, appropriateness, space, etc.*

## What is Campus Chronicles?

From student and employee achievements to events, the Campus Chronicles is a one-stop-shop for school-centered news.

This newsletter strives to inform, involve, engage and connect the district through storytelling and photography. These stories are produced by campus staff and will be featured online each month by the Office of Communication.

With more than 56,000 students and over 7,400 faculty and staff, amazing things are happening every day. Our storytellers help to reinforce the positive image Pasadena ISD has continued to maintain for years.

## Who We Are

The Office of Communication works collaboratively with campus communication liaisons to share news happening in schools throughout the district. Comprised of campus staff, liaisons are appointed by school administrators to pitch story ideas and provide information and photos regarding student and staff recognitions, events and more.

Campus staff are encouraged to contact communication liaisons so they can submit newsworthy items to specialists in the Office of Communication.

### Editorial Staff

**Reesha Brown**  
*Communications Specialist*

**Melissa Trevizo**  
*Communications Specialist*

**Jade Wise**  
*Graphic Designer*



# Cover Story

*Continued From Page 1* 

## Pasadena ISD celebrates National Grandparents Day

Several Pasadena ISD schools decided to “do something grand” and invited grandparents to visit students at their campuses for National Grandparents Day, September 13. The day recognizes the importance of familial relationships and pays tribute to grandmothers and grandfathers for providing their support, compassion and

wisdom to loved ones. Campuses celebrated with various activities including an open house, lunch and breakfast with their grandchildren.

At the Lewis Career and Technical High School, a crowd of grandparents filled pre-kindergarten classrooms to take part in various activities with Junior Academy students.

Activities ranged from arts and crafts, story time to an ice-cream party.

National Grandparents Day is observed on the first Sunday after Labor Day.





## Parks Elementary

### *Lakeshore Learning Store donates supplies*

Parks Elementary staff have developed a blossoming relationship with local business partners. Lakeshore Learning Store representatives, Richard Gomez and Chad Minor, stopped by the school to treat staff to lunch and special gifts just before the first day of classes. Staff said it was a day to remember. Thank you Lakeshore for putting a smile on our teachers' faces.



## Gardens Elementary

### *Walmart goes on giving spree*

Walmart donates over \$1,300 worth of school supplies to Gardens Elementary!

## Moore Elementary

### *Students meet new teachers*



Pictured: Third grade teacher Maury Klann with new students Kristin Do, Tripp Harris, Teagan Staton and Kayla Lam.



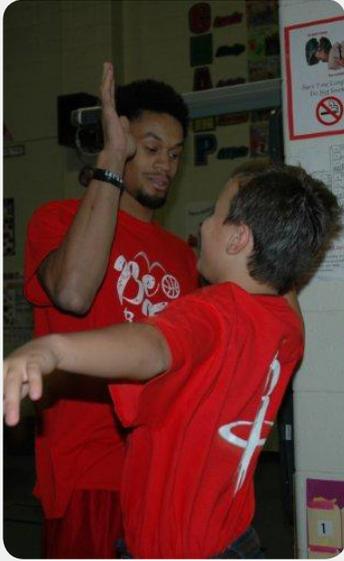
Pictured: Second grader Dominic Moya with her mother Amy Moya; fourth grade teacher Jennifer Christen; fourth grader John Moya with his father John Moya.



Pictured: Third grader Genille Yarbrough with her third grade teacher Dora Flowers.

# Turner Elementary wins Be Fit Challenge

*Houston Rockets NBA player K.J. McDaniels parties with students*



The Houston Rockets NBA star K.J. McDaniels paid a special visit to Turner Elementary after students won the Houston area Be Fit Challenge for the third consecutive time.

Under the instruction of P.E. teacher Jackie Caver, students kept track of time spent exercising and eating healthy food using a point system over a three-week period. Turner achieved one of the highest scores, winning new fitness equipment for students and an opportunity to party with the Rockets basketball player.



# Pearl Hall Elementary

*Local meteorologist visits students*



ABC Channel 13 meteorologist Travis Herzog gets Pearl Hall Elementary students excited about meteorology.

# L.F. Smith Elementary

KSBJ radio personality Johnny Bravo surprises students at L.F. Smith Elementary for his Say the Pledge segment.

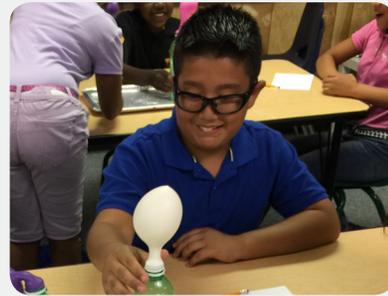




## Stuchbery Elementary

### *Students experiment with STEAM Lab*

Stuchbery Elementary is integrating science, technology, engineering, math (STEM) and art into the curriculum with the school's first STEAM lab, led by Melisa Nichols, science teacher.



## Stuchbery Elementary

### *School celebrates local heroes on Patriot Day*



## Parks Elementary

### *Families selected to receive bags of fresh fruits, vegetables*

Parks Elementary School has been selected to receive 30 lbs. of fruits and vegetables, courtesy of Brighter Bites, a non-profit organization. Brighter Bites will deliver

35,000 grocery bags, each containing about 25-plus servings of fruits and veggies, to Parks students and staff beginning October 5. In addition to bags of nutritious

items, students and staff will receive educational resources with recipes and techniques for improving health.



## Shaw Middle School

### *Creativity, courage on display*

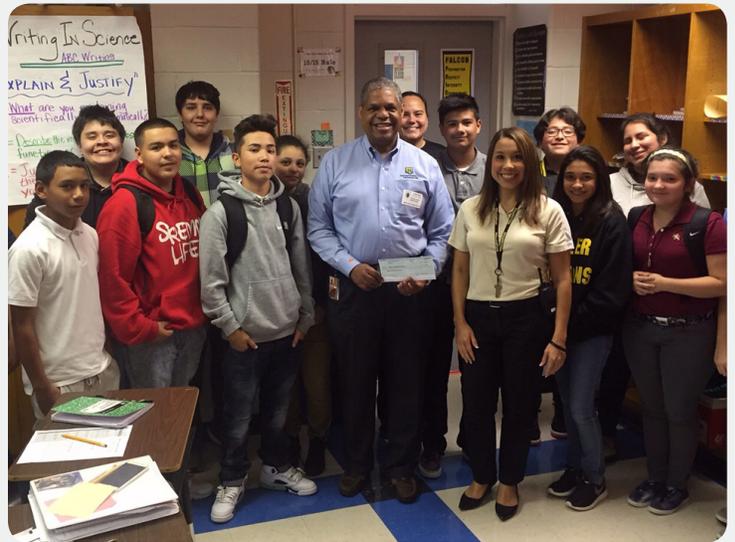
Shaw Middle School celebrated International Dot Day, a global celebration of creativity, courage and collaboration that began when teacher Terry Shay introduced his classroom to Peter H. Reynolds' book *The Dot*, September 15.

Each student and faculty member created a dot to be placed on the tree in the hallway. Many teachers wore dots to school yesterday to celebrate.

**SAVE THE DATE**

**NOV. 6<sup>th</sup>**  
**5:30-7PM**

If you would like to attend, please RSVP to SanJuanita Villarreal at 713-740-0460 or [SVillarreal@pasadenaisd.org](mailto:SVillarreal@pasadenaisd.org).



## Miller Intermediate

### *Shell Pipeline donates check*

Phil Barker from Shell Pipeline delivered a donation check to Miller Intermediate students, September 21 in support of their academic achievement.

“We are so excited about our community partnership and look forward to working on future projects together,” Vanessa Reyes, Miller principal said.

## Thompson Intermediate

*JJ Watt Foundation provides cheer supplies*



The JJ Watt Foundation has given Thompson Intermediate School something to cheer about. The organization, which promotes after-school opportunities for middle school students, donated cheer mats to assist with tumbling, stunt skills and safety training for Lions cheerleaders.

“Thompson Intermediate is extremely thankful to the J.J. Watt Foundation for providing the resources to help students expand their abilities as cheerleaders,” Carol Waters, campus communication liaison said.

## Thompson Intermediate

*Lions Camp attracts over 400 students, parents*

Just before the start of school, over 400 incoming seventh graders and their parents participated in Thompson Intermediate’s annual Lions Camp.

The event gives attendees an opportunity to connect with homeroom teachers, the school’s principal, Melissa Allen said.



“We were excited to welcome so many of our incoming seventh grade students and their families on Friday for our Lion’s Camp,” she said. “It’s a wonderful opportunity for our seventh graders to connect with their homeroom teacher, fellow students and see our eighth graders demonstrate Thompson Lion Pride.”

## Beverly Hills Intermediate

*Campus welcomes new teachers*



## Sam Rayburn High School

### *JROTC performs at Houston Texans game*

Well before Sunday's noon kick-off between the Houston Texans and Tampa Bay Buccaneers, the Sam Rayburn High School U.S. Army's JROTC National Champion color guard practiced before heading to NRG Stadium. After months of preparation, students were given the opportunity to present the colors during the National Anthem for the Texans' second home game of the 2015 regular season.

The JROTC performed in front of over 70,000 fans at NRG during the Houston Texans' 19 to 9 victory over the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. It was a proud moment for Sgt. James Schneider, JROTC color guard coach.

"Presenting the Colors for the Houston Texans is a huge honor for our JROTC cadets, particularly since this is the Texans first win of the 2015 regular season." Schneider said.



## South Houston High School

### *Culinary students win chili cook-off*

The South Houston High School culinary arts team placed first, second and third for Pasadena ISD in the Pasadena Livestock Show and Rodeo chili cook-off. Congratulations to the SHHS Culinary Arts Team!

## South Houston High School

### *Tweens Read – October 3*

Students, parents, educators and book enthusiasts are invited to celebrate the written word at the greater Houston area fifth annual Tween's Read Book Festival, October 3, at South Houston High School.



## Wedding Bells

Congratulations to Desiree Medina, Rick Schneider Middle school fifth grade science teacher, on her engagement to Bacilio Gomez.

## Baby News

Congratulations to Williams Elementary music teacher Anthony McKinney on the birth of his twin girls, born Friday, Sept. 18.

Gerry Cole, Pasadena Memorial health teacher, is proud to announce the arrival of his sixth grandchild and first granddaughter, Cadence Elizabeth Cole. She was born Tuesday, Sept. 15, weighing 6 lbs. 8 oz. and 20 inches long.

There's a new wildcat at Jackson Intermediate. Jessica Priestley, ELA teacher, and her husband Mark welcomed David Allen Priestley to the family on Thursday, Sept 10. He weighed 7 lbs. and 10 oz. Both are home and doing well.

The Park View Intermediate family is happy to announce that Emily Nguyen and her husband Patrick are the new proud parents of a baby boy. Oliver was born on Labor Day (no pun intended) and weighed 7.7 lbs. and 21 inches.

Congratulations to Linda Flores, human resources, and Linda Horodyski, Community School, on the birth of their first grandchild, Madeline Marie Flores, born on September 3. She weighed 6 lbs. 8oz. and 19.5 inches long.

Tabitha Da Silva, Garfield Elementary kindergarten dual-language teacher, welcomed a new baby girl to the family. Joliana Da Silva was born Tuesday, Sept. 8 weighing 7 lbs. 5 oz., 20.5 inches long.

## Condolences

We offer our condolences to the friends and family of Robbie Biggerstaff. A librarian, coach and middle school reading and writing teacher, Biggerstaff retired from Pasadena ISD after 30 years.

Please keep Erika Box, Carter Lomax peer facilitator, and Mary Walker of Dobie High School, in your thoughts and prayers. Erika's mother, Pasadena ISD Volunteer of the Year Ann Blackmon, passed away recently.

We offer our condolences to the family and friends of Carlota V. Medina, who passed away after 89 years of age on September 22. Carlota retired from Pasadena ISD in 1990 after 21 years of service. Grieving Carlota's passing is her daughter-in-law, Dee Medina of the Lewis CTHS and her granddaughter, Desiree Medina of Rick Schneider.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Cynthia Henderson, Burnett Elementary principal, on the loss of her mother, Mary Henderson. She passed away Sunday, Sept. 20.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Kerry Henderson, Beverly Hills Intermediate Special Ed. paraprofessional, on the loss of her grandmother, Rachel Stafford. She passed away after 105 precious years of age.

We offer our condolences to Jason Watson of Meador Elementary and Makenzie Watson of Williams Elementary on the loss of Jason's father, Jerry Watson. He passed away Sunday, Sept. 20.

Please keep Demetrius Scott, behavior response team specialist, in your thoughts and prayers. His stepfather, Norman D. Gates, passed away September 7.

Please keep the Castillo family in your thoughts and prayers. Ventura Castillo

passed away on September 9. Castillo has a long history with the district as a retired ESL teacher at South Houston Intermediate. He will be greatly missed by all.

Betty Springman, the grandmother of Julie Lanham, fifth grade teacher at Fred Roberts Middle School, passed away Thursday, Sept 3.

Betty Springman, the grandmother of Julie Lanham, fifth grade teacher at Fred Roberts Middle School, passed away Thursday, Sept 3.

Our condolences to Dora Martinez, South Houston High School secretary, on the recent passing of her father Florencio Turrubiarres.

## Bragging Corner

**Diana Medellin, Golden Acres appraisal clerk, was named staff member of the week for the week of September 21-25.**

## SUBMIT

The Pasadena ISD Family Update is a weekly e-newsletter that features personal news items from staff across the school district. Campus communication gather the news items and submit the information through the online submission form. Family Updates are shared via email and the staff page each week.