

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

COMMERCE ISD E-LETTER • AUGUST 2018

Welcome to 2018-2019 school year!

Students were greeted by local leaders from the City of Commerce, Texas A&M University-Commerce, the Chamber of Commerce, school board and the CHS cheerleaders as they headed back to classrooms early Monday, August 13.

Pictured at right, Dr. Mark Rudin, new president of Texas A&M University-Commerce, joined CHS Principal Steve Drummond, right, in welcoming students on the first day of school.



State troopers add layer of extra security at schools

CISD, along with seven other Hunt County school districts, is partnering with the state Department of Public Safety in a program that increases law enforcement presence around schools and provides troopers office space on school grounds during classroom hours.

This is a win-win situation for both entities, according to CISD Superintendent Charlie Alderman.

"As we looked at efforts to increase safety and security at our schools, this program was a natural fit because it benefits both parties," he said.

Other efforts include increasing staff awareness about maintaining exterior access control and requiring adults to wear identification at all times.

CISD Chief of Police Joe Venable said he welcomes the troopers' presence and looks forward to other initiatives to increase safety in our schools.

Venable has been with the district police department since its inception in 2007. Officer Dave Contreras and K-9 Coco are beginning their second year with the CISD PD.



Troopers Hernandez (left) and Sagnibene share an office at Commerce Middle School.

CES students enjoy time to play outdoors



Dee Dee Harris' class (left) returned to the air conditioning after their recess. Temperatures are monitored to ensure safe conditions and water is always available.

Reading is a top priority, School Board says



Reading levels are assessed at the beginning of school for all third graders. Charting a course for success means assessing where students are and then developing a plan. Kim Bruister, below, wastes no time getting to assessments during the first week of school.



Assistant Principal Patricia Nelle (left) and Principal Wanda Beane make up the new leadership team at CES. Mrs. Nelle was a math teacher at CMS and Mrs. Beane was assistant principal at CES before being named CES leaders.



Susan Talbert (left) joins CMS as counselor along with Nick Smith (right) who has been named assistant principal. They are shown with CMS Principal Dr. Shenequa Miller.



Darcie Rochester is the new counselor at ACW.



Michelle Mayo is the library/media coordinator for the district. Her home campus is ACW.

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Brightening the lunch room...

CMS parent Janice Angel completed her second mural to grace the walls of the school. This year, the cafeteria has a new tiger with the theme “Have big dreams, you will grow.” Angel’s first mural can be found in the library.



Getting ready for Friday nights...



▲ The Tiger football team prepares for their season opener against Edgwood on August 30 at Memorial Stadium.

◀ Jason Wallace is the new band director at CMS. He comes to the District after nine years as a head middle school band director in Plano and Rockwall ISDs.



CHS Band Director Kara Wallace (center) begins with the basics at marching practice. Wallace served as associate director of bands at Forney and Rockwall High Schools. The Wallace husband and wife team plan a cohesive band program from 6 – 12 grades.

The CHS volleyball team had a team fun day at the Texas A&M University-Commerce pool after their first scrimmage.





In partnership with the Boys & Girls Club of Northeast Texas

Commerce ISD is excited to announce a new program that could impact Commerce for generations to come.

CISD, along with Boles ISD, has been awarded a Texas ACE grant which will provide afterschool and summer programs for all students. The goal of the federally funded grant program is to help foster students' academic success. CISD's portion of the four-year grant is \$850,000 annually. Working with the Boys & Girls Club, CISD envisions the program extending beyond the four-year term of the grant.

All services are offered **free of charge** to any CISD student in grades K–12. Site coordinators will manage activities Monday–Friday from school release until 6:30 p.m. at each campus.

Activities include:

- Dinner and a snack
- Homework help with CISD teachers
- Enrichment activities with trained Boys & Girls Club staff including robotics programs, technology, fine arts, outdoor/physical and field trips
- Transportation home
- Special parent meetings including meals

Enrollment opens soon! · Program begins September 4

For information about the Texas ACE program: <https://www.texasace21.org/>

