

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

COMMERCE ISD E-LETTER • APRIL 2015

CSEE Foundation's annual Boots & BBQ adds to success

The Commerce Schools Educational Enrichment Foundation held its 11th annual celebration and fundraiser at CHS on April 11 amidst scores of benefactors, grant recipients and students.

Teachers were on hand to explain how grant funds were used this year to increase student achievement. First graders read books, which were purchased by a grant, to guests. Teachers Keiondra Simpson and Sherry Rector explained how they used technology to engage students. Two seventh graders read stories they wrote in Rebekah Jacobson's Writing Camp.

Over \$18,000 was raised for grants which will be awarded in May for the 15-16 school year. There were 77 Foundation Champions giving at least \$200.

The Foundation has given over \$375,000 to CISD over the last 11 years.



Seventh-grade English/Language Arts teacher Rebekah Jacobson showcased her student writers.



CHS teacher Katie Ritchie, former CISD board president Dr. Mary Hendrix and current CISD Board President Ted Oats joined the celebration.



Superintendent Blake Cooper



First graders read books purchased by the CSEE Foundation to dinner guests.



Kindergarten teachers Sonya Mathews, Ashley Sepulveda and Maegan Baxter Jones show their display to a student.



Kindergarten teacher Stephanie Pullen helps a student with a mini iPad.





CES hosts book fair for families

During the CES Spring Book Fair in mid-March, staff hosted a promotional day where parents were invited to eat lunch, read a book with their child in the atrium and go to the book fair to shop for a book. The school was decorated to enhance the theme for the book fair, which was “Under the Ocean.” The atrium featured an underwater display with fish snacks and ocean-related books for parents to read with their child.



Free GED, ESL citizenship classes to be held at ACW

A. C. Williams Elementary School will be home to Navarro College’s Adult Education Program featuring free citizenship, ESL and GED classes. Commerce Community Plaza Director Maria Garza says classes will begin in May and are open to all Hunt County residents who are at least 18 years old. For GED classes, 17 year olds must complete a youth packet and an official withdrawal from last school attended. A student 16 years old must have a completed youth packet, an official withdrawal from last school attended and a court order on file with the Adult Education Program office at A.C. Williams School.

Interested students should call 903 875-7464 or 1-800-NAVARRO ext. 7464 for information before the April 29 deadline..

Bad weather make-up days scheduled

School will be in session on May 22 to make up for a day missed in February due to bad weather.

Spring Events Calendar

CHS Drama Club Banquet. . .	May 5 . . .	6:00 . . .	CHS
Athletic Awards	May 7 . . .	6:00 . . .	CHS
Senior Parent Banquet.	May 11 . . .	7:00 . . .	CHS
CES World of Music.	May 14 . . .	6:00 . . .	CMS
CISD Board Meeting	May 18 . . .	7:00 . . .	Admin
ACW Pride Choir & 3rd-grade Star Search	May 19 . . .	7:00 . . .	ACW
Top 10 Dinner	May 19 . . .	5:30 . . .	CHS
CHS Honors Night.	May 19 . . .	6:30 . . .	CHS
CHS Band Concert.	May 21 . . .	7 :00. . .	CHS
CHS Prom.	May 23 . . .	8:00	
School in session	May 22		
Memorial Day holiday	May 25		
CHS Band Banquet	May 26 . . .	6:30 . . .	CHS
Fourth-grade play.	May 28 . . .	6:30. . .	ACW
CHS FFA Banquet.	May 28 . . .	6:30 . . .	ACW
Baccalaureate	May 31 . . .	6:00. . .	FUMC
Graduation	June 5 . . .	8:00 . . .	A&M-C
Staff workday	June 6		

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One help leads to another at ACW

Shaggy the llama visited the fifth-grade gifted and talented classes recently. Shaggy lives at Shady H Ranch with her owners CISD Board member Kathleen Hooten and family. The class raised funds during Christmas to send a llama and a goat to a family in a third world country through the Heifer International program. When Hooten contributed to the fundraiser she thought the students would enjoy seeing and learning more about the llama. During her visit, she explained all the benefits that a family living in an impoverished country would have from owning a llama.

CCP continues to serve Hispanic families

The Commerce Community Plaza has started a bilingual class for children ages two and three years old. The purpose of the class is to give the children a head start before they begin school, according to Maria Garza, director. The children's parents come to the Plaza at ACW two nights a week to complete their primary or secondary education.



CMS Honor Band takes top honors

The CMS honor band competed at the Region 3 UIL concert and sight reading contest on March 25 and brought home a sweepstakes award. Director Elizabeth Bialecki says a sweepstakes is the highest award given at this contest.

Congratulations Band! You worked hard for this!



Top 5 percent recognized by Rotary Club

Members of the Commerce Rotary Club will host a luncheon honoring the CHS top five percent scholars and their parents on April 22 at the CISD Administration Building.

Ninth graders who will be recognized include Ernesto Balderrama Jr., Alan Galicia, Joseph Jang, Vineet Nippani, Lily Selvaggi, and Merilia Villanueva.

Tenth graders in the top five percent include Clara Barrett, Riley Davidson, Claire Dobbs, Luke Hooten, Rachel Scarcelli and Madison Shaw.

Junior top scholars include Chelsey Beane, Aaron Ferrell, Emily Gruver, Courtney McCloney, Sierra Patterson and Jackson Singleton.

Seniors making the top five include Andres Cadena, Samuel Elwell, Jacob Fairweather, Amelia Martin and Campbell Reid.

Hats off to these high-achieving students and their parents!

TESTING CALENDAR STAAR TESTS

Grade 5 Math	April 20
Grade 8 Math	April 20
Grades 3–4 Math	April 21
Grades 6–7 Math	April 21
Grade 8 Social Studies	April 21
Grades 3–4 Reading	April 22
Grades 6–7 Reading	April 22
Grade 5 Science	April 22
Grade 8 Science	April 22
Algebra I	May 4–8
Biology	May 4–8
U.S. History	May 4–8

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Dodge for funds

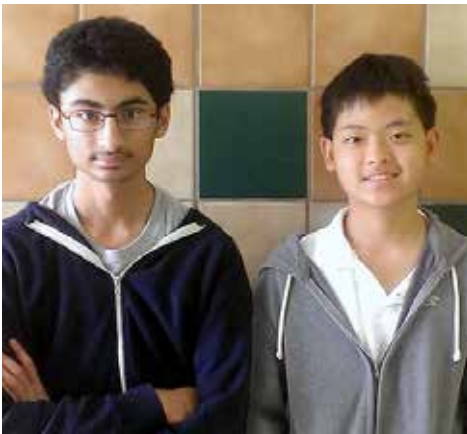
CHS held a dodgeball fundraiser to raise money for this year's prom. Team Faculty (right) took on Team Skittles (above).



◀ Unfortunately, Team Faculty member Ed Barker (seated) broke his wrist during the dodgeball game. Assistant Principal Steve Drummond is shown at left.



▼ CHS had a great showing at the District Track Meet held in Van Alstyne with the varsity and JV boys teams finishing first. Other first-place finishers are D'Lance Sharp in 100 meter and Trey Wilson in 100 hurdles and 300 hurdles. JV first-placers are K.D. Williams in 100 meters, Markuis Finney in discus and Juan Olivo in triple



◀ Freshmen Vineet Nipanni and Joseph Jang are advancing to UIL Regional Academic contests in Tyler on April 25. Nipanni had the top score in Physics and Jang was first in Number Sense. Other CHS students placing were Jacob Fairweather, fourth in Calculator Applications; Megan Eborn, fifth in Math; and Amelia Martin, fifth in Literary Criticism.

jump. In the 4x100 relay, CHS had first place for varsity and JV teams. The JV team won first in the 4x200 relay and 4x400 relay. Jacorain Savage won first in the long jump for the JV team. Fourteen boys have qualified for area. For the girls team, Alyssa Redd, Chloe Horn, Kristina Gorsuch, Keyera Bloodsoe and Alexis Spruell will be going to area. In addition, the 400m relay team of Dominique Dugan, Alexis Spruell, Ali Matlock and Chloe Horn will go to area as well the 800m relay team of Dominique Dugan, Alyssa Redd, Chloe Horn and Alexis Spruell.

