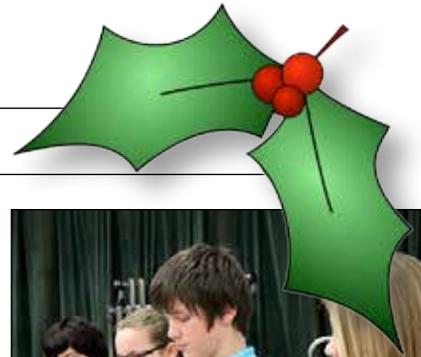


# CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

COMMERCE ISD E-LETTER • DECEMBER 2014



## Festival celebrates the season and the arts

The community gathered at CHS December 11 for the fifth annual Winter Arts Festival. Each campus displayed talents in art, music and drama. The evening closed with guests joining in singing, "We Wish You a Merry Christmas."



CHS Band



The second-grade choir, directed by Eilene Weimar, sang Christmas favorites



CMS band



ACW Pride Choir



CHS players performed Rapunzel from Frumpled Fairy Tales

CMS performed their one act play, "The Wind, the Witch and the Wardrobe."



For more photos, see [www.commerceisd.org](http://www.commerceisd.org)

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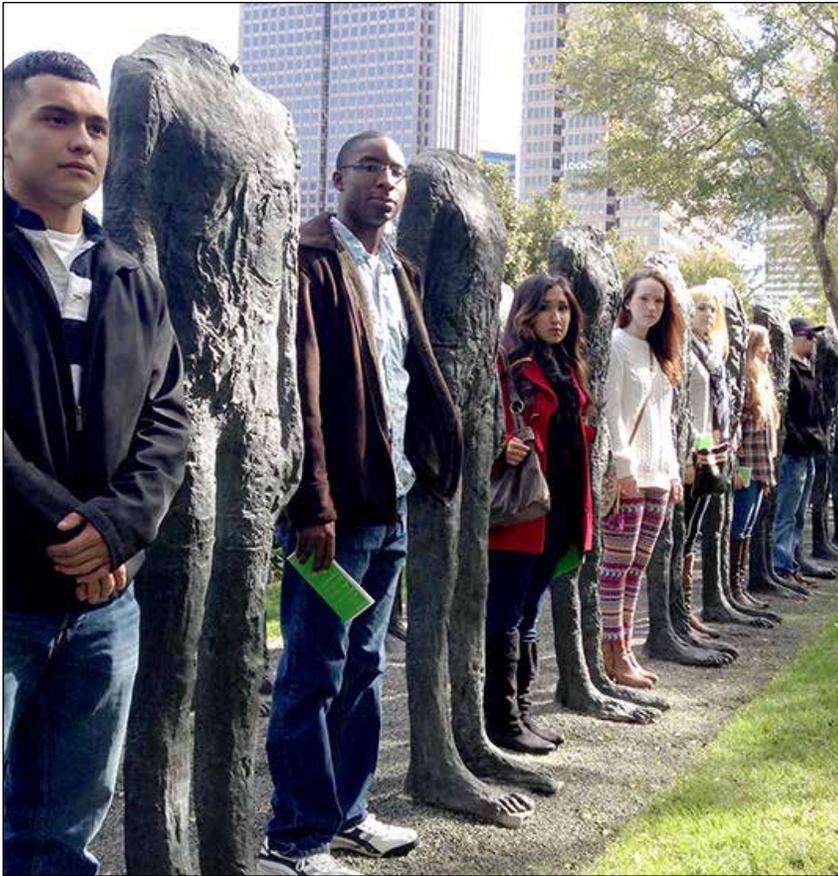
## A season of giving...

Members of the CHS National Honor Society upheld their yearly tradition of helping students select \$50 worth of clothing during the Clothe-A-Child event at Walmart. CES Counselor Belinda Miller, who coordinates the event, says over 600 Hunt County children were provided a new set of clothes.



*CMS students and staff made sure CISD Police Chief Joe Venable won the Kiss a Pig Contest, benefiting the Commerce Police Department and Lil' Angels. CMS Principal Patrick Just sold burgers for \$3 with proceeds of over \$560 going to the project.*

*NHS students also continued their tradition with the Salvation Army bell and bucket.*



The CHS AP art class visited art galleries in Dallas with their teacher Katie Ritchie. Stops included the Nasher Sculpture Center (above), the Dallas Museum of Art and the McKinney Avenue Contemporary.



In Stephanie Pullen's kindergarten class, students used Augmented Reality alphabet cards during reading center. The activity engages students through the use of technology. Students in Pullen's class also learned about many countries during the Christmas Around the World unit. One week, Sinter Klass came all the way from the Netherlands and left goodies in their shoes placed outside their classroom doors. Pullen said the students enjoyed learning about Christmas customs and traditions celebrated around the globe.



Educators attending a Community Schools Transformation Alliance meeting visited CISD classrooms to see technology integrated into lessons. In Misti Gardner's second-grade classroom, students excitedly prepare to answer a question.



Eighth-grade math and Algebra students participated in the Turkey Games in Patricia Nelle's class before Thanksgiving. Students worked at their own pace to complete various math tasks and earn badges for their journals. They worked on a variety of tasks including online quizzes, composing vocabulary presentations and making their own video game to review facts. The 24 students went above and beyond to achieve the grand prize of an ice cream "drumstick" the last day of the event, according to Nelle.

## Technology use in classrooms exciting for teachers

Teachers attending the advanced Digital Fluency Academy called Rebooted took a moment away from their workshop to display their excitement. During their year-long commitment, teachers learn to integrate technology into their lessons. These teachers were in the inaugural class last year. Another beginning class also began this year.



*Pictured left to right, back row are Shelbie Embro, Christi Coplin, Misti Gardner, Carrie Campbell, Lisa Lipstraw and Patricia Nelle. Front row includes Stephanie Pullen, Tina Christian, Glenda Henderson and Terry Buckley.*

## Meal promotion increases student participation



*Winners of the Chartwells breakfast scratch off promotion were Aundrey Heath, Tevin Davis, Jackson Richardson, Kyree Holback, and not pictured, Andres Cadena. Cafeteria Manager Donna Lunsford (right) presented movie tickets along with Principal David Welch (left) and Food Service Director Gene Weinkauf.*

The aim of the Chartwells Food Service promotion held this fall was to increase breakfast participation. Of 500 tickets given away for getting a breakfast meal, 245 winners received snacks, ala carte food items and drink prizes. The five winners received movie tickets to the Majestic Theater in Greenville.

## Special Olympics track meet set for April 16

Teachers are gathering donations for the first Special Olympics track meet on April 16. Funds are needed to cover the cost of athlete and volunteer t-shirts, lunches and athlete medals. Teacher and sponsor Terry Buckley says donations can be made to CHS Special Olympics.



## Joe fish!

*Long-time CISD employee Joe Reynolds sponsored a fishing trip for several students who had never held a rod and reel. Reynolds, along with several of his transportation colleagues, taught the novices the basics of fishing and then treated them to a fish fry.*

**EARLY RELEASE**  
Friday, December 19  
three hours early

**HOLIDAYS**  
Dec. 22 – Jan. 2