

Inside

Northside Weekly

Northside Independent School District, San Antonio TX 78238-1606

June 4, 2018

Woods' Kudos IncreDible Cardinals are incredible at global contest



Pictured are Lucy Cedio, Aaron Cedio, Jelissa Scott, Julia Jimenez, Mary Cedio, Kimberly Leal, Aubrey Herrera, Railyn Rodriguez, and Leticia Jime.

The IncreDible Cardinals Destination Imagination Team from Northwest Crossing ES placed 7th in the world at the recent Destination Imagination (DI) Global Finals. In addition, they received a Renaissance award for their outstanding presentation, an award not presented annually.

DI combines STEM, the arts, creative and critical thinking, and is completely student-led learning. While at Global Finals, the team also participated in over 30 different workshops and hands-on learning experiences including coding, engineering, chemistry, aeronautics, poetry writing, improvisational acting, and Shakespeare.



“This is Northside”

is the theme for the 2018 Back-to-School Convocations to be held Aug. 21-23 at Northside Sports Gym. The suggested attire for the event is campus spirit attire. The theme will focus on all of the things that define us as Northside. Additional “theme” information will be announced later in the 2018-19 school year.



A celebration to highlight students' abilities

Transitioning from student to young adult can sometimes be daunting. But for some students, it is a life goal that takes determination, dedication, diligence, and drive.

The Nellie Reddix Center held a “Transition Celebration” to mark the beginning of adult life for 52 students who are transitioning from an education setting into a work setting.

On average, the students are 20 to 21 years old and have received training for employment and independent living. The majority also give back to their community by volunteering at a number of agencies including Meals on Wheels, animal shelters, and assisted living facilities.

At the emotionally-charged ceremony, each student was given the opportunity to tell where they were working and/or volunteering, what they liked to do in their spare time, and their mode of transportation to these various locations.

Student Mark Andrade (pictured) addressed his fellow students saying, “Believe in yourself and have confidence in yourself and you will be successful.”

Andrade, who has been accepted into Northwest Vista College for next fall also addressed the Reddix teachers, “I don’t see you as my teachers – I see you as part of my family. Thank you.”

Chelsea Burris, who volunteers at Pets Alive and accesses her community using Via Trans also addressed the Reddix teachers saying, “Thank you for helping us achieve our dreams.”

“These students have spent countless hours training to make their dreams come true,” said Principal Robin Fields. “They’ve learned how to ride VIA, VIA Trans, and Uber instead of the yellow school bus. They’ve learned how to work and volunteer. They’ve learned how to make plans with their friends to go out and have fun. Tonight is a celebration of their accomplishments.”

“Today is a special day,” said student Matthew Fisher. “We need to always be ready for our grownup life. It’s like a mystery box – you never know what is going to come our way.”



Two NISD students score perfectly



Jasmine Manansala, an 11th grade student at Communications Arts HS, received a perfect score on the ACT Exam. On average, only one-tenth of the percent of students who take the ACT earn a top score. In the U.S. high school graduating class of 2017, only 2,760 out of more than 2 million graduates who took the ACT earned a composite score of 36. In addition, Matthew Su, a student at Brandeis HS, earned a perfect score on the SAT Exam. Out of the 1.7 million students who take the SAT every year, only about 300 get the highest possible SAT score of 1600.

Campus Roundup

Westwood Terrace ES

Fourth and fifth grade students at Westwood Terrace ES performed with the San Antonio Symphony at the Tobin Center using recorders, violins, and some singing. To commemorate this occasion, the school's cafeteria staff prepared a banquet for the students complete with table cloths, centerpieces, and a full service dining experience.



Pictured are (from l-r, first row) Alma Barrientos, Laura Ramirez, Teresa Vicuna, and Donna Kenner; and (back row) Principal Tom Knapp, Vice Principal Sandra Estrada, Gloria Perez, Julie Valenzuela, and Karvin Sims.

Jordan MS

Teachers at Jordan MS know how to make a book come to life. To engage their 7th grade students, English/Language Arts teachers decided to dress as Elders from the book "The Giver" by Lois Lowry. The group later dressed in appropriate job assignment attire for the novel's Ceremony of 12 that they read about later in the day. Some of the assignments included fish hatchery attendant, street cleaner, nighttime nurturers, food delivery drivers, bicycle repairmen, birth mother, and gardening crew. The purpose for the dramatization was to assist students to remember the message of the book for years to come.



Pictured are Meghan Ashcraft, Tami Neal, Shannon Carr, Denise Larson, Demise Gatian, and Cary McCarthy.

Clark HS

Students at Clark HS have taken on a mission: to "Sock it to Cancer." Catherine Pisano organized multiple community service projects focusing on spreading kindness and bringing positivity to people in need. After brainstorming with a counselor and other students, the idea of collecting new socks for cancer patients to provide warmth and support during chemotherapy was brought to the forefront.



Pictured are Clark HS students with nurses from The Start Center.

Staff and students collected more than 800 pairs of socks and slippers in a three-week period. In addition to the donations, students wrote encouraging messages for the patients. Leaders and members of student organizations volunteered to deliver the socks to The Start Center for Cancer Care. Due to the success, it will now be an annual event.

PERK OF THE WEEK

Soak up sun and savings

This summer, cool down your electric bill. South Texas Solar Systems is offering NISD employees, friends, and family a free solar energy consultation and 10 percent off the cost of a solar energy system. Employees must present a NISD ID. [Click here to find how you can go solar for a discount.](#)



Woods named Region 20 Superintendent of the Year



Superintendent Brian Woods has been selected as the regional Superintendent of the Year in the annual competition sponsored by the Texas Association of School Boards.

Woods, who was nominated by the NISD Board of Trustees, now will vie for Texas Superintendent of the Year with other regional winners. The statewide winner will be announced at the annual convention for the Texas Association of School Boards and the Texas Association of School Administrators in Austin Sept. 28-30.

The state is broken into 20 regional education service centers. Northside ISD is located in Region 20, which includes more than 50 school districts in 18 counties in South Central Texas. Superintendents for all school districts are eligible to be nominated for Superintendent of the Year.

Campus Roundup (Continued)



Pictured with Dr. Brian Woods, Superintendent, are students from Cody ES.

communities. They also discussed the transition to middle school and asked questions to set themselves up for success in the coming years.

The gentlemen are encouraged to help others in their school and home communities. These acts can be simple things such as taking out the trash or helping mom carry in groceries. At school, it may be helping stack chairs at the end of the day or helping sort books in the library. They receive "slips" for each good deed that are read out loud at their meetings. Slips are then entered into a drawing for a prize. Currently, 14 NISD campuses have YGOs.

Young Gentlemen's Organization

An end-of-the-year celebration was held for students participating in the Young Gentlemen's Organization (YGOs) at several elementary and middle schools. YGO is a new and inspiring way to motivate young boys and men to be successful in life. The mission of the organization is to give young gentlemen the character-building education they need to achieve their greatest potential.

This past year, the YGOs have focused on character, leadership, and service in their schools and

Fernandez ES



Pictured with the students are teachers (from l-r) Taylor Harmon, 1st grade; Chelsie Myklebust, 1st grade; and Kourtney Waggoner, Kindergarten.

It was Girls Week for fifth grade students at Fernandez ES. To help prepare them for the transition to middle school, special guest speakers were invited to talk on a variety of topics. Topics included women in technology, beauty and confidence, modeling success, and social media. They concluded with a "Tea Time" at which the girls put all they learned to test by entertaining other important successful women in the community. Pictured are some of the participants.

Grant of the Week

Digital Wish Lesson Plan Grant

Have an innovative technology-based lesson plan you want to share? Submit your lesson plans to Digital Wish for a chance at receiving one of 50+ classroom technology grants. All of your uploaded lesson plans can then be shared with colleagues and educators across the country.

Click here for additional details on Digital Wish, or contact the Grants and Recognitions Department at 210-397-8562.

This week's "This is Northside" visits Glenoaks ES to meet students who are the "cat's meow" when it comes to reading, and shows how students at Holmes HS turn a construction area into a work of art. [Click here to watch these two stories.](#)

This is the last edition for this school year of "This is Northside." We hope you have enjoyed these weekly glimpses into NISD, brought to you by Northside Media Productions. Continue to follow the NISD-TV crew on Twitter @NISDMediaProd.

This is Northside



Students are constructive during reconstruction



Holmes/Business Careers HS has been under construction for over a year. Due to renovations, the beautiful views of the city have been blocked with large sections of plywood, creating dark and dreary passageways.

To improve the climate of the school, staff invited students to “construct during reconstruction” by painting murals on the plywood sections. Thanks to a Northside Education Foundation (NEF) grant, supplies such as paint, paintbrushes, and rollers were purchased for the project. One by one, the murals began to emerge.



“I have two favorite things about these murals,” says Dr. Elizabeth Holbrook, counselor. “First, the students creating the murals have shown an amazing level of commitment, creativity, and teamwork as they work on the project. And secondly, as students walk by these murals, they are having discussions about the colors, composition and meaning, so the murals have provided an intellectual

discussion related to the arts.”

There are a total of 20 murals representing the following: 2018 Senior Class, National English Honor Society, Gifted and Talented Program, Cosmetology, Holmes Cheer, Environmental Club, ROTC, Business Management, Art Club, Art classes, Communities In Schools, Golf Team, Special Education Department, and Math Department.

[Click here for additional pictures and to read a more in-depth article written by student Anna Borenheim for the school newspaper.](#)

Graduations start this week

Strains of Pomp and Circumstance will be heard starting this week when more than 6,700 seniors don their caps and gowns and collect their diplomas at one of 11 commencements.

Those wanting a keepsake of any of the graduations [can purchase a professionally-produced DVD or Blue-ray](#) of the complete graduation ceremony online.

In addition, all graduations will be streamed live on www.nisd.net.

New this year: The Alamodome now has a clear bag policy. [Click here to learn more about what types of bags are allowed inside the Alamodome.](#)

Here is the schedule of ceremonies:

Held at Northside Sports Gym

Health Careers HS

June 7 at 7 p.m.

Held at the Alamodome

Stevens HS

June 11 at 3 p.m.

O'Connor HS

June 11 at 7 p.m.

Taft HS/Communications Arts HS

June 12 at 3 p.m.

Marshall HS

June 12 at 7 p.m.

Clark HS

June 13 at 3 p.m.

Holmes HS/Business Careers HS

June 13 at 7 p.m.

Warren HS/Construction Careers Academy

June 14 at 3 p.m.

Brandeis HS

June 14 at 7 p.m.

Jay HS/Jay Science & Engineering Academy

June 15 at 3 p.m.

Brennan HS

June 15 at 7 p.m.

Please check the [District's graduation website](#) for ceremony rehearsal times and additional information.