

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

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Schools celebrate 100th day of school

The 100th day of school provides many learning opportunities and the staff at Commerce Elementary and A. C. Williams Elementary Schools never misses a chance to make learning fun.

Zero the Hero made his annual appearance at CES where he joined students in counting many different ways to 100 during the morning assembly. Students and staff wore garments with 100 items pinned, glued or sewn onto them. Children estimated how many candies and toys were in a jar and made trail mix using 100 pieces of cereal, candies and nuts.

ACW is always ready for a celebration and students and staff there had an action-packed day based on the book, "If the World were a Village."

Students played games from around world and studied global art along with art students from Commerce High

School. Lunch had an oriental theme with eggs rolls, rice and oriental vegetables and entertainment by Angela Neal and her music students.

During the afternoon assembly, PE teacher Matt Hargrove and Principal Wes Underwood led students through the "If the World were a Village" scenario using the student body as a representation of the world population. Students could visualize the global population in that four ACW students represented Oceania, 225 students represented China and only 19 students represented North America. Using statistics from the book, Underwood and Hargrove asked specific students to stand to show a representation of how many people had clean water, access to education and spoke English or another language.



Teacher Beverly Galyean explains a display about India to ACW students during the 100th day celebration.



Above left, Prekindergarten students proudly show their 100th day creations.

Right, Zero the Hero visits Michelle Rector's PPCD class.



**Exemplary
Expectations**

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS



Randles to students: Touch all four bases

Jon Randles, a nationally known motivational speaker for sports organizations and corporations, spoke to CHS students February 3 about what it will take to be successful in the 21st century.

He explained to students that they will not be able to grow into the jobs that their parents have because those jobs won't exist.

“With a knowledge base that doubles every eight to nine months, you must get yourself ready to compete for jobs. There's more opportunities for success than ever before but there's also more opportunities for failure than ever,” he added.

He encouraged students to touch all the bases which include: 1) a quest for excellence in everything, 2) discipline to carry through, 3) clear goals and 4) “don't let anyone talk you out of your dream.”

Motivational speaker Jon Randles told CHS students that the decision to use alcohol should be delayed until they are 21 years old. Brain function can be severely damaged if students drink before their brain has fully developed.

Texas Public Schools Week March 8-12



March 9

A.C. Williams Elementary
Art Show & Sale 6-7 p.m.
Commerce Middle School
Open House 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Internet Safety & Cyberbullying
CMS Auditorium
7:30 p.m.

Presentation by Region 10
Education Service Center for families

The focus is on the latest trends and solutions to the next generation of bullying and Internet safety. Participants will leave with ways to combat cyberbullying in schools and at home.

March 11

Commerce Leadership Institute
visits campuses
Commerce Elementary School
Open House. 6-7 p.m.



Thespian designers unmask their talents

CHS students in Karri Anderson's advanced theatre arts classes used their imagination and skills to produce masks. Anderson explained that masks are important aspects of theatre arts instruction because of the origins of theatre. The ancient Greeks, Japanese Noh theatre, Italian Renaissance theatre and Elizabethan drama used masks in performances. Mask making also helps students understand the process of creating from a design, according to Anderson. The students will use masks in their next production which will be “Shakespeare Abridged.”

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS



Students Noe Leija and Phoebe Hailes presented information about the Pennies for Peace Campaign to Commerce City Council members. The students gave council members a collection jar and a penny and encouraged them to fill the jars to contribute to building a new school in Afghanistan or Pakistan.

ACW students raising pennies for international schools

Students at A.C. Williams Elementary School are gathering pennies with a goal of raising enough to fund a school building in Afghanistan or Pakistan. In these remote countries, a penny will buy a pencil and \$50,000 will build a new school and support it for five years.

The Pennies for Peace Campaign was begun in 1996 and since that time over 100 schools have been built. Giving children in Afghanistan and Pakistan an opportunity to be educated offers them an alternative to the cycle of terrorism and war, according to Kelly Cotton, ACW technology teacher and local organizer.

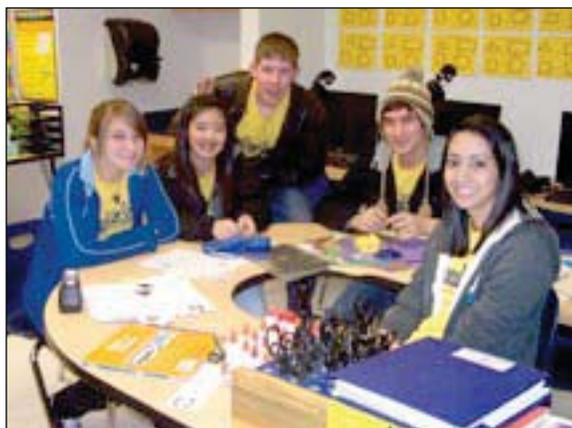
The fundraising effort will continue through May.

Hands-on science labs essential for learning

CHS student Michael Lay assembled a block-and-tackle pulley system that lifted a mass hanger with $1/5$ as much force as it weighed recently in the scientific research and design class. Teacher Wes Roberts explained that whatever force is applied to it, it applies five times as much force to the object.

The class utilizes research-based, hands-on learning to help students employ their preferred learning styles and their personal interests, according to Roberts. Self-directed projects make learning relevant to students' life and interests while increasing their marketable knowledge and skills.

Classroom presentations to peers also develop their public-speaking skills and confidence, according to Roberts.



CHS National Honor Society members chalked up community service hours by helping with the ACW International Night January 28. Students helped with a book table and refreshments. They also helped in the computer lab and led activities in the gym.

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS



Debora Lytle's art students at CMS have been creating hanging fish sculptures for the Northeast Texas Children's Museum Daddy/Daughter Dance. The sculptures will help provide "An Enchanted Evening Under the Sea" for the daddys and daughters who attend.

CMS powerlifters overpower the competition



The Commerce Middle School Tigers took five first place finishes out of 10 possible classes February 2 at the Second CMS powerlifting meet. Commerce power lifters also racked up five second place medals, three third place medals and many fourth and fifth place finishes. Outstanding lifters were:

Name	Weight Class	Place
Gerado Sanchez	220+	1st
Rodrick Jackson	220+	2nd
Jabaree Jackson	220	2nd
Mac Robinson	198	1st
Keland Dirks	181	1st
Conner Ellis	181	2nd
Ramon Mojica	165	1st
Robert Jackson	148	2nd
Able Arce	148	3rd
Skylark Green	132	3rd
Brandon Gibson	123	2nd
Darian Redd	114	2nd
Darius Lacy	114	3rd



Learning while helping others

CHS student Clint Sneed is learning to sew through his vocational program. He's not only learning a skill—he is using his new skill to help others. His current project is making pillowcases to donate to pediatric hospitals. Teacher Terry Buckley says Clint is excited about the project and he does a great job. She thanked Stitches N Heaven Quilt Shop in Quinlan for providing fabric for the project. She also said that the class could use more one-yard cotton material pieces if someone would like to donate to the effort.