

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

COMMERCE ISD E-LETTER • DECEMBER 2019



Winter Arts Festival showcases student talent



Students displayed their creative talents at CISD's annual Winter Arts Festival held Wednesday, December 11 at Commerce High School.

Upper left: The ACW Pride Choir, led by Eilene Weimar, brought harmony to familiar and new Christmas songs. Upper right: The CHS Jazz Cats entertained guests as they arrived for the winter event. Lower left: Each campus displayed visual art in the CHS library. Lower right: The CHS Wind Ensemble wished guests a "Merry, Merry Christmas" to top off the evening.



CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS Winter Arts Festival



Combined CMS and CHS choirs were directed by Amy Santiago Quinones.



The CHS Theater Department presented "Letters to Santa," a compilation of staff and student-composed letters that intertwined to tell a story.



The CHS Wind Ensemble brought Christmas cheer with their festive musical performance, which was directed by Kara Wallace.

Early release December 20 • Winter break December 23 – January 7

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CMS places at District UIL One-Act Play competition

CMS brought home third place honors from the District UIL one-act play competition.

Individuals cited for their performances were Abigail Knight, outstanding technician; Sally Walker and Pace Eilers, honorable mention All-Star Cast; and Oliver Roberts, All-Star cast.



Pace Eilers



Oliver Roberts



Abigail Knight



Sally Walker

Digital Fluency Academy graduates 16 educators

In December, 16 Commerce ISD K-12 educators graduated from The Digital Fluency Initiative. DFI is a professional development opportunity provided by Region 10 Service Center and was led by Kathryn Laster, Digital Learning Consultant. Teachers completed various projects throughout the four sessions and ended their coursework with a reflective blog. The coursework was centered around the International Society for Technology in

Education (ISTE) Standards and aimed to deepen educator practice, promote collaboration with peers, challenge educators to rethink traditional approaches and prepare students to drive their own learning. Heather Kilgore, Instructional Technology Coordinator, is excited at the success of the program and the positive feedback received from the educators. She is looking forward to bringing the DFI back to the district next fall.



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CES Students of the Month

Commerce Elementary School students were chosen for Students Of The Month for December. Students were chosen for their hard work, dedication to learning, and their leadership.

Pictured in order from left to right.

Back Row: Second Graders Eli Rattan and Arianna Ledezma; First Graders Logan Bruister and Journey Pham

Front Row: Pre-K Allen Cisneros and Quinn Romans; Kindergarten David Ramirez and Annslee Rich



Sixth graders test their grit



Teamwork and confidence are two skills and traits sixth graders work on as they tackle the challenging ropes course at Texas A&M University-Commerce. The Commerce Schools Educational Enrichment Foundation has funded this experience for sixth graders for several years.

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Around the District...



The CHS Principal's Council visited Oak Manor Nursing Home bringing Christmas cheer by way of their furry friends. Residents love to see and pet their friendly visitors.



Second grade teacher Mahra Sanders (seated) was honored at her retirement party by three current and former principals. Left to right: Diane Stegall, former CES principal; Wanda Beane, current CES principal; and Reba Barnard, former Celeste Elementary principal. Ms. Sanders is retiring after 28 years in education.

Christmas card art recognized



Raelynn Guerro, CES winner



Each year CISD art teachers ask students to produce artwork suitable for the CISD holiday greeting card. This year the winner was Wenyan Ni, a freshman at CHS.



Other campus winners include Daykota Wright, ACW (center); and Maribella Regadon, CMS (right).

Wenyan Ni displays her winning entry which adorned the District's card.

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Merry Christmas to all from CISD especially Bus 22, the yellow-dog reindeer.

