

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

COMMERCE ISD E-LETTER • MAY 2017

CHS Class of 2017 wraps up the year

School Board members and administrators sent 120 graduates out into the world after graduation exercises held May 26 at the Texas A&M University-Commerce Fieldhouse.



Taking their traditional Senior Walk, CHS graduates heard shouts of congratulations and applause as they passed through the hallways for CES, ACW and CMS. Here, students lined the hallways of ACW to proudly acknowledge this year's 12th graders.



The top ten graduating seniors were honored during the CHS Honors Ceremony May 16. The students, along with their parents, honored their most influential CISD employee during a dinner prior to the ceremony. Pictured left to right starting with the back row: Madison Shaw, Salutatorian Rachel Scarcelli, Valedictorian Claire Dobbs, Nicole Barrett, Riley Davidson, Luke Hooten, Jacey Sturch, Gladys Marcos, Teddy Walker and Kassady Todhunter.



Outgoing student body president Claire Dobbs passed the gavel to the incoming president Nolan Myers during CHS Honors Ceremony.



CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

ACW Pride Choir celebrates gold

Twenty-nine third and fourth graders making up the ACW Pride Choir brought home gold from the Texas A&M University-Commerce SPLASH Festival in mid May. The choir has participated in the festival the last four years, bringing home two silver and two gold awards. The CMS and CHS choirs also brought home gold.



SPLASH TIME — The ACW Pride Choir enjoyed time in the Morris Recreation Center pool after their winning competition.

CMS celebrates Cinco de Mayo

CMS students and staff celebrated Cinco de Mayo with music, poetry, drama and dancing. Students learned more about the culture associated with the celebration.



CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS



CSEE Foundation awards over \$34,000 in grants

After a successful year of fundraising, the Commerce Schools Educational Enrichment Foundation notified teachers that their grant proposals had been funded with much fanfare. Foundation board members traveled to each school with bells and balloons to celebrate the occasion.

Winning grants were proposed by Jessica

Duckworth, Karen Davis, Wendy Bridges, Tracy Crews, Randy Phillips, Lisa Burden, Kortney Clayton, Patricia Nelle, Julie Brown, Tracy Brown, Pam Eilers, Karri Anderson, Cari Sturch and Kathy Myers.

Over \$34,000 was awarded for 13 grants for the 2017-2018 school year.

Staff receives treats during Teacher Appreciation Week

Teachers were honored for their commitment to students during Teacher Appreciation Week May 8-12. Students brought gifts and PTO members provided snacks and full meals. The Central Office administration treated teachers and aides to a special lunch during the week.

Shown clockwise from top left are Rhonda Overman and Diana Pemberton, CES; Misti Gardner, CES; Mary Wyse and Evelyn McIntyre, CHS; and CHS College and Career Coordinator Jenna O'Neal.



Kindergarten Circus 2017

The annual CES Kindergarten Circus is always a treat for parents and staff alike. Cute little clowns, animals, muscle men and other circus performers carried off their tricks well to the delight of their families.



Can't tame these lions...



Beautiful dancing bears!

Meet the Teacher nights set

CES

5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, August 2

ACW

2:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Friday, August 4



CHS National Honor Society members helped the tiny circus performers prepare for the big show.



Fearless sword swallows

School starts August 7

It's going to be a short summer for CISD students and staff as school starts August 7 for the 2017–2018 school year. Many Texas school districts approved an option to start school earlier than normal, which was allowed by the District of Innovation designation. Superintendent Charlie Alderman said the early start gives teachers more time to prepare their students for spring STAAR and EOC assessments.

The district will close for one week after the first grading period — October 16–20. School will close for the Thanksgiving week. Christmas holidays begin December 22. Students will return on January 10. Spring break will be observed March 12–16. The last day of school is Friday, May 18, 2018.

Research shows that breaks between grading periods helps alleviate burnout among students and teachers.

Online registration opens July 17

Registration will open for returning students on July 17. Visit www.commerceisd.org for instructions on July 13.

Annual end-of-year picnic honors teachers and staff



Veterans retiring — Eddie Barker, CHS science teacher and coach; and Mary Wyse, a CHS English teacher for 33 years. received rocking chairs in commemoration of their service.



20 years of service — Shawn Bronson and Donna Lunsford



10 years — Sondra Feduccia, Joe Venable and Chris Beard



Teachers of the Year — Lisa Young, left, Elementary; and Tracy Brown, Secondary. They will be honored at a Texas Rangers game and at a Region 10 ESC luncheon in August with other winners throughout the region.



15 years — Karen Davis, Jackie Amos and Samantha Bland



Superintendent Charlie Alderman thanked his former math teacher Jennifer Garrett for 25 years of service.



5 years service — Jim Williams, Jessica Duckworth, Lauren McPherson, Amber Sanders, Kortney Clayton, Eddie Barker, Jackie McMinn, Christy Hansen, Dave Polk, Denny Yoakum, Josh Rhodes, Shelbie Embro, Eilene Weimar and Curt Hale.

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Outstanding accomplishments featured at staff picnic



Exemplary support staff are awarded the STAR award. Left to right starting at top: Dave Slater, Bill Hodel, Don Lott, Donna Lunsford, Lesley Loncaric, Heather Marshall and LeTrece Washington.



Campus Teachers of the Year — Matthew Brewer, CHS; Tracy Brown, CMS; Sheila Waits, ACW and Lisa Young, CES.



▲ R.J. Nanny and Vickie Wood received Citizen Hero awards from CISD Chief of Police Joe Venable.



Google Academy graduates were recognized. Teachers included were (front row, left to right) Lisa Lipstraw, Amy Nolan, Kortney Clayton, Eilene Weimar, Terrie Thompson, Diana Pemberton and Tracy Crews. Second row Latisha Britton, Katie Ritchie, Tina Christian, Brittany Scott, Lisa Webb, Lisa Burden, Autumn Deason, Patsy Nelle, Julie Brown, Cari Aaron, Sheila Waits and Sondra Feduccia. Third row is Kirby Gilbert, Amber Hammons and Carrie Campbell. Back row: John Dobson, Earvin Larry, Nick Smith and Scott Wilson.