

# CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

COMMERCE ISD E-LETTER • MAY 2015

## Students advance to state competitions

It has been a banner year for CISD with students advancing to compete at the state level in art, drama, track and band.

D'Lance Sharp won a silver at the UIL State Track Meet in the 400-meter dash. He along with team members Darien Redd, Sam Rasberry and Jaystin Wilson won silver in the 4 x 100-meter relay with a time of 42.36, just 1/100 of a second off the winning time.

Amelia Martin participated in the Visual Arts Scholastic Event (VASE), sponsored by the College Board. Out of 28,760 entries state wide, 1481 were invited to attend the Austin event. In Austin, Amelia was one of 1026 earning the highest ranking of 4 for her 3D portfolio.

Over the Memorial Day weekend, five members of the CHS Band competed at the Texas State Solo & Ensemble Contest. Caitlin Sneed received a gold medal for her first division rating on her marimba solo. Gladys Marcos, Lily Selvaggi, Jennifer Mojica and Claire Dobbs received a second division rating on their ensemble, which is the equivalent of a silver medal performance.

CHS students Rachael Sheehan, Sarah Stogner-Dickinson, Philip Weise and Aaron Ferrell won first place in theatrical design at the State UIL academic competition.

Congratulations to all our State Champs!



Silver medalists in the 4x100-meter State relay were Darien Redd, Sam Rasberry, Jaystin Wilson and D'Lance Sharp. Sharp also brought home a silver in the 400-meter dash.



CHS Band students Claire Dobbs, Caitlin Sneed, Gladys Marcos, Lily Selvaggi and Jennifer Mojica competed in the Texas State Solo & Ensemble Contest. Dobbs, Marcos, Selvaggi and Mojica received a second division rating on their ensemble.



Caitlin Sneed (above and second from left above) received a gold medal for her first division rating on her Marimba solo at the Texas State Solo & Ensemble Contest.



Senior Amelia Martin was invited to the Visual Arts Scholastic Event in Austin





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## CHS Top Ten honored

Certain perks come for those who achieve the top ten student ranking at CHS. One of those honors is to be able to show gratitude to a teacher who has been influential in their life.

Each one of the top ten honors graduates chose a CISD teacher to invite to a dinner hosted by Superintendent Blake Cooper. The annual event is held prior to Honors Night at CHS.

As students and teachers were introduced, CHS Principal Steve Drummond shared what each student wrote about their honored teacher.

Parents and CISD Board members were invited to share the occasion.



*CHS teacher Karri Anderson and Daniel Neel*



*CES teacher Maegan Baxter and Kaitlynn Baxter*



*CHS teacher Earvin Larry and Christyan Sherwood*



*Kaitlyn Nicholson and CHS teacher Matt Brewer*



*CHS coach Sarah Fielden and Madison Wenrick*



*Sam Elwell and CMS teacher Celia Reid*



*Top ten students received a plaque and a Top Ten blanket during Honors Night. Front row, left to right: Salutatorian Amelia Martin, Campbell Reid, and Valedictorian Jacob Fairweather. Second row: Andres Cadena. Third row: Kaitlyn Nicholson, Kaitlynn Baxter and Samuel Elwell. Back row: Christyan Sherwood, Daniel Neel and Madison Wenrick.*



*Andres Cadena and CHS teacher Glenda Henderson*



*Campbell Reid and Jana Draughn, former teacher, now a speech therapist*



*CHS teacher Lisa Lipstraw and Amelia Martin*



*CMS teacher Pam Cole and Jacob Fairweather*



## Learning is fun at CES



## CES picnics indoors

The unusually cold and wet springtime forced CES to hold one of their picnic days inside. Local businesses provided food and the school accepted donations for lunch to benefit the proposed ArboREADum. Parents were invited to eat with their children. The school's current atrium will be transformed into the ArboREADum to provide technology access and novel opportunities to promote reading.



## Everyone loves annual circus

Kindergarten students once again became acrobats, lion tamers, strongmen and ringmasters as the annual kindergarten circus was held in the CES cafeteria. Although the program remains the same each year, the smiles and the student performance antics always please. Former CES kindergartners who are now CHS National Honor Society students helped with the production.

## Your opinion counts!

Please complete the online parent survey found at [www.commerceisd.org](http://www.commerceisd.org). Results help administrators plan for the new school year. The survey will be open through June 9.



## Spring Events Calendar

Baccalaureate . . . . . May 31 . . . 6 p.m. . . FUMC  
CMS Band Concert . . . June 1 . . . 6 p.m. . . CMS  
Graduation . . . . . June 5 . . . 8 p.m. . . A&M-C  
Staff workday . . . . . June 6



*Lancie the miniature horse visited CES. Principal Diane Stegall showcased the animal while its owner explained how the small creatures are being used as service animals*





## CHS band performs at Dallas' Meyerson

Many musicians only dream of performing at a world-class venue such as the Meyerson Symphony Center in Dallas. The CHS Wind Ensemble musicians had their dreams come true as they performed there recently. Band Director Dave Polk said it was a wonderful experience for his students.



*Senior Madison Wenrick has committed to play volleyball at Eastfield College. From left to right: CHS Principal Steve Drummond, Eastfield coach Brandon Crisp, Madison, Coach Sarah Fielden and Girls AD Jeff Davidson.*

## Register online for '15-'16

Parents will be able to register their children for the 2015-2016 school year from the comfort of their own home online beginning July 27. Parents must sign up at the school office for Skyward Family Access immediately for online registration access. An email message will remind parents this summer to register for the new year.

On-site registration will still be offered on August 6-7 at CHS for those without technology access; however, online registration is highly recommended. New student registration will be conducted from noon to 6 p.m., August 6 and from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on August 7 at CHS.





## CMS Honors Band brings home second Sweepstakes

Making ones will capture a sweepstakes trophy every time and the CMS Honors Band found a way to win two Sweepstakes trophies this year.



*CISD Superintendent Blake Cooper was the keynote speaker for the NETCAT Career Day at Texas A&M University-Commerce. Over 550 students from 10 area school districts attended the event where a variety of industry-recognized guest speakers talked to the eighth graders about careers in their fields. Cooper's speech focused on workforce soft skills and future employment opportunities.*



*CMS Principal Patrick Just turned over duties to Principals for a Day Becky Polk and Whitney Langley. They were excited about everything but lunch duty.*



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Kortni Toon's third-grade class celebrated Cinco de Mayo by making brightly colored Mexican clothing. They discussed the meaning of the celebration as well.



Fourth graders performed "Swept Back to a Texas Future" play for third and fourth graders.



Third graders visited the Perot Museum in Dallas.

## Showing their PRIDE

ACW students welcome the end of each six weeks with a PRIDE Party. Students who have exhibited PRIDE — Prepared, Respectful, Involved, Determined and Encouraging are celebrated and they receive a special reward time for technology or fitness.

