

ANTON ISD BOARD/STAFF NEWSLETTER

March 28, 2011

Congratulations to the Dogs and Lady Dogs on their outstanding accomplishments.

The following players received recognition for their performance on the basketball court this year. We are extremely proud of each and every one of them. Be sure to congratulate them next time you see them.

Girls Basketball

Reagan Mills – All-District & All Region Honors
Jordan Thetford - All-District
Maria Coronado – All-District
Chelsea Haston – Honorable Mention All-District
Lauran Smith – Honorable Mention All-District
Britni Parker – Honorable Mention All-District
Cassie Jones – Honorable Mention All-District

Boys Basketball

Clayton Blount – District MVP, All-Region, All-State
Brandon Wianeki – District Offensive MVP, All-Region
Justin Haston – District Defensive MVP, All-Region
Brantlee Sells – All-District
Bradley Turner – All-District
Rick Elizondo – Honorable Mention All-District
Cale Bloskas – Honorable Mention All-District
Steele Coleman – Honorable Mention All-District

- ***Junior High District Track Meet Today @ Whiteface starting at 3:30.***
- ***JH/HS Cheerleader Try-outs are on Wednesday & Thursday this week.***

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**Special School Board Meeting
Tuesday, March 29th @ 7:00 pm.**

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“It is amazing what you can accomplish if you do not care who gets the credit”

Harry S. Truman

March/April Events

- 3-28 JH District Track Meet
- 3-29 Special School Board Meeting 7:00
- 3-29 HS Golf @ Reese Golf Course
- 3-29 HS Tennis @ Littlefield
- 3-30 JH & HS Cheerleader Tryouts
 - Before Judges
- 3-31 FFA – Judging Contest
- 3-31 JH & HS Cheerleader Tryouts
 - Before Student Body
- 4-1 FFA Judging Contest
- 4-4 5th & 8th Math TAKS Test
- 4-4,5 HS District Track Meet
- 4-5 School Board Meeting 7:00 a.m.
- 4-5 5th & 8th Reading TAKS Test
- 4-7 UIL Concert/Sight reading
- 4-8-10 Band Trip to Dallas
- 4-11 HS District Golf Tournament
- 4-12 Area Track Meet
- 4-13,14 HS District Tennis Meet
- 4-14-16 State FCCLA Meeting in Houston
- 4-19 Baptist Senior supper
- 4-22 Student & Staff Holiday
- 4-25 Bad Weather Day – Holiday
- 4-26-29 TAKS TEST ALL WEEK

EXPECT THE BEST!

Thought I would share this letter written by a friend of mine that I met while attending some graduate leadership classes at Harvard 3 years ago. He is a first year superintendent and issued this letter to a few of our representatives prior to the "Make education a Priority" rally. I believe John echos many of our views on the current economic situation that has to a large degree been caused by the incompetence of the legislature.

Texas district schools chief issues plea in Alamo-like letter

This is an open letter issued by John Kuhn, superintendent of the [Perrin-Whitt Consolidated Independent School District](#). Addressed to Texas legislators, this plea for help is modeled on [the famous letter](#) that William Barret Travis sent from the Alamo right before it fell in 1836 (the text of which follows Kuhn's). Kuhn refers to plans by [Texas Gov. Rick Perry to cut billions of dollars](#) from public school funding.

Gentlemen,

I am besieged, by a hundred or more of the Legislators under Rick Perry. I have sustained a continual Bombardment of increased high-stakes testing and accountability-related bureaucracy and a cannonade of gross underfunding for 10 years at least and have lost several good men and women. The ruling party has demanded another round of pay cuts and furloughs, while the school house be put to the sword and our children's lunch money be taken in order to keep taxes low for big business. I am answering the demand with a (figurative) cannon shot, and the Texas flag still waves proudly from our flag pole. I shall never surrender the fight for the children of Perrin.

Then, I call on you my legislators in the name of Liberty, of patriotism & everything dear to the American character, to come to our aid, with all dispatch. The enemy of public schools is declaring that spending on a shiny new high-stakes testing system is "non-negotiable"; that, in essence, we must save the test but not the teachers. The enemy of public schools is saying that Texas lawmakers won't raise 1 penny in taxes in order to save our schools.

If this call is neglected, I am determined to sustain myself as long as possible and fight for the kids in these classrooms like an educator who never forgets what is due to his own honor & that of his community. Make education a priority!

With all due respect and urgency,

John Kuhn – Superintendent, Perrin-Whitt CISD

Legislative Update

Since the last time I updated everyone, the legislature has been kicking around various models for reducing school funding and most of them cut districts equally across the board. This type of approach appears fair, but when you dig deeper and see how schools are already funded inequitably, you see that this approach is such an injustice for schools like ours.

Take a look at a district such as Sundown ISD who receives \$12,541 per student or even Whiteface ISD \$9,547 per student and compare that to Anton ISD who receives only \$4,685 per student and you begin to see that there is not equality in the funding of schools.

If the legislature cuts all three schools equally at 15%, is that really fair and equal?

Hypothetically speaking this would reduce Sundown to \$10,600, Whiteface to \$8,115, and Anton to \$3,982. If all is really equal then all districts could raise the same amount of revenue with the same amount of students, but poor districts like ours can't raise the same amount of revenue as the property wealthy districts.

Based on our scenario above and for Hypothetical illustration purposes all schools have an equal enrollment of 250 students, this would be what each school could generate in revenue per student.

Sundown $\$10,600 \times 250 = \$2,650,000$

Whiteface $\$8,115 \times 250 = \$2,028,750$

Anton $\$3,982 \times 250 = \$995,500$

As you can see a 15% cut for Anton does not truly equal a 15% cut for Sundown or Whiteface. Since both Sundown and Whiteface have such large target revenues, even after a 15% cut they continue to maintain an enormous funding advantage over districts like ours. As you can see that even with reductions we are still \$1,000,000 short of both districts in our area.

Does our state really provide a fair and equal public education for all Texas children?