Six teachers earn National Board Certification

Six Humble ISD teachers have passed all requirements to earn National Board Certification. This professional designation is held by a small percentage of teachers in Texas. Our school district values National Board Certification, and pays a $5,000 stipend to educators with the certification status.

“These teachers have spent hundreds of hours in preparation and study for the goal they have achieved,” said Janet Griffin, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources. “This is a great achievement for them personally, but it also is of tremendous benefit to their students and colleagues. They are role models whose expertise in the classroom positively impacts everyone around them.”

National Board Certification is a voluntary assessment program designed to develop, recognize and retain accomplished teachers. While state licensing systems set basic requirements to teach in each state, these accomplished teachers have successfully demonstrated advanced teaching knowledge, skills and practices. Certification is achieved through a performance-based assessment that typically takes one to three years to complete.

There are many requirements to meet. “They were required to complete an extensive portfolio containing video recordings, student work, detailed analysis and reflective commentary of their lessons,” Griffin said. “It required candidates to pass 10 components, four of which are performance-based and six of which are written tests addressing content areas and pedagogy.”

Humble ISD’s first National Board Cohort was led by facilitators Anne Black, Emily Garcia, Ana Mascolo, Cindy Cornwell and Kim Mouser. The facilitators coached and guided the candidates through the difficult certification process.
Humble ISD named to AP Achievement List

Humble ISD is one of fewer than 400 school districts in the nation being honored by the College Board with a place on its AP Achievement List for opening AP classroom doors to a significantly broader pool of students, while maintaining or improving the percentage of students earning scores of 3 or higher. From 2008 to 2010, Humble ISD increased the number of students participating in AP from 479 to 708 while improving the percentage of students earning AP Exam scores of 3 or higher, the score typically needed to earn college credit, from 66% in 2008 to 68% in 2010.

The AP Achievement List is made up of all school districts that are simultaneously expanding opportunity and improving performance.

"Participation in college-level AP courses can level the playing field for under-served students, give them the confidence needed to succeed in college, and raise standards and performance in key subjects like science and math," said College Board president Gaston Caperton. "The AP Achievement List districts are defying expectations by expanding access while enabling their students to maintain or improve their AP Exam scores."

"These districts are living proof that when access to AP is provided for the range and breadth of prepared and motivated students, districts can achieve even higher learning outcomes for their students – and the opportunity for so many more to earn college credit and placement – than when AP opportunities were restricted to a smaller segment of the high school population," said Trevor Packer, vice president of the College Board's Advanced Placement Program.

Inclusion on the list is based on the following criteria:
1. Examination of three years of AP data, from 2008 to 2010.
2. Increase in participation in/access to AP by at least 4% in large districts
3. A steady or increasing percentage of exams taken by African American, Hispanic/Latino and American Indian/Alaska Native students;
4. Performance levels maintained or improved when comparing the percentage of exams in 2010 scoring a 3 or higher to those in 2008, or the school has already attained a performance level in which more than 70% of the AP students are scoring a 3 or higher.

The College Board's Advanced Placement Program (AP) enables students to pursue college-level studies while still in high school. Through more than 30 college-level courses, each culminating in a rigorous exam, AP provides willing and academically prepared students with the opportunity to earn college credit, advanced placement or both. Taking AP courses also demonstrates to college admission officers that students have sought the most rigorous curriculum available to them.

Your Schools TV show

Check the latest Your Schools TV show at www.humbleisd.net/YSnews.
What you’ll see in this issue:
• Have a great time for a good cause at the Foundation Gala.
• Get health & safety updates while having fun and food at the Community Fair.
• Take the family for a fun free day at the Fine Arts Festival.
• Summer computer camp? You bet—and its packed! Camp IT.
• You’ve never had a class like this…Culinary Arts

Thanks to Lone Star College-Kingwood’s LSC-TV crew for the use of their equipment, expertise and air time, making this show possible for Humble ISD.

Quest Early College High School application deadline is Friday, April 15!

Please have all applications submitted to your student's school counselor by this date. The application is available from your student's counselor or you can access it on the QECHS web site here. Questions are welcome! Contact Gwen Geiser at 281-641-7303 or Kim Young at 281-641-7310
Quest Early College High School is the 2011 winner of ASCD’s annual Vision in Action: The ASCD Whole Child Award. ASCD (formerly the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development) honored Quest at a community-based award ceremony for students, parents, and community members.

The award recognizes schools that move beyond a narrow focus on academic achievement to take action for the whole child, creating learners who are knowledgeable, emotionally and physically healthy, civically active, artistically engaged, prepared for economic self-sufficiency, and ready for the world beyond formal schooling.

Quest Early College High School was selected as ASCD’s 2011 Vision in Action award winner because it has taken specific steps and produced exceptional results to ensure that high school aged students from all backgrounds are healthy, safe, engaged, supported, and challenged.

“We feel very honored to receive the Vision in Action award and believe that it truly recognizes our commitment to developing all aspects of our students: the academic, the social, the emotional, and the civic,” said Quest Principal Kim Klepcyk. “The award recognizes the incredible work our students and staff do together each day. They deserve to be a model of the ASCD Whole Child Initiative.”

ASCD Executive Director Gene Carter says, “ASCD continues to support a whole child approach to education in schools across the nation, and is thrilled to name Quest Early College High School the Vision in Action award winner for this year. Quest is truly a stand-out school that creates a supportive yet challenging environment for students by promoting respect and responsibility. Quest is a great model of what happens when the school improvement process focuses on educating the whole child.”

ASCD, a nonprofit, worldwide education organization, began its Whole Child Initiative four years ago to encourage schools and communities to work together to ensure that each student has access to a challenging curriculum in a healthy and supportive climate. Schools across the nation applied for the Vision in Action: The ASCD Whole Child Award. As the winner, five team members from Quest received an all-expenses-paid trip to ASCD’s Annual Conference in San Francisco, Calif., and will be featured on an upcoming ASCD Whole Child Podcast. ASCD will continue to share Quest’s expertise and exemplary practices with its 160,000 members and the larger education community.
Accomplishments and Honors

Finance department has been on the run recently! **Monica Kohlenberg** completed Jack’s Generic Triathlon in New Braunsfels in September. In November **Indra Hebert, Kim Poullard** and **Ida Schultze** completed the Rock and Roll Half Marathon in San Antonio. **Ida Schultze** completed the Texas Half Marathon on New Year’s Day. In February, **Kim Poullard** completed the Rock and Roll Half Marathon in New Orleans.

**North Belt Elementary** just had its highest number of students accepted in to Humble ISD’s Fifth Grade Honor Choir. Ninety-seven students were selected from across the district. Each student auditioned alone in front of three judges, and must agree to attend all rehearsals. **Crystal Lamb** is NBE’s music teacher.

North Belt 5th grader **Eric Cholico** was chosen as a winner in the State Youth Art Month Competition. His work, "Cityscape College" will be hanging at the Capitol in the North Extension from Feb. 26-March 6. Eric’s artwork was one of 100 pieces chosen from thousands across the state. Out of the 100 chosen for state, 10 will be chosen to hang in the Governor's mansion for a year. March marks the 50th observance of National Youth Art Month, which emphasizes the value of art education for all children and encourages support for quality school art programs. **Julie Gallow** is NBE’s art teacher.

**Kingwood Middle School** was named a Higher Performing School by the National Center for Education Achievement. Higher Performing Schools are identified by academic growth of students at the school and/or absolute achievement of students at the school using the TAKS Recommended performance level.

The National Center for Educational Achievement (NCEA) is a department of ACT, Inc. a not-for-profit organization committed to helping people achieve education and workplace success.

Public Information media coordinator **Robin McAdams** daughter, Arli Shults, graduated with high honors from Texas A & M University in December. She received a BS in Interdisciplinary Studies.

Maplebrook Elementary’s first ever Destination Imagination team recently placed 1st in the Houston area tournament. Destination Imagination is an educational program in which student teams solve open-ended challenges and present their solutions at tournaments. This team will be headed to Lubbock on April 1 to compete in the state tournament. Pictured in front is Annaliese Kramer; middle left to right, Peyton Wilcox, Fernando Johnson, Conner Hanks, Bryce Klosterboer and Elise Shauf. Back row, left to right are head coach **Diana Kramer**, Colin Scott and Administrative Intern **Andrea Scott**.

Pine Forest 3rd grade teacher **Becky Norris** completed the Disney's Princess Half Marathon at Disney World Feb. 27. This is a major accomplishment for Becky. She has been walking for only 5 1/2 months without the use of crutches or a cane since shattering part of her leg.

**Career & Technology** announces student winners in the District 8 Skills USA competition.

**Humble High** Automotive Technology under the direction of **Steve Clampitt** of HHS - All 8 student performed well and will advance to State Competition in Corpus Christi. Levels range from beginner to advanced mastery. Senior Jamie Arroyo placed 3rd overall and earned a bronze medal and a $500.00 scholarship to Universal Technical Institute.

**Kingwood Park** Computer Maintenance students under the direction of **Nanci Andrews** and **Bob McAndrews** (CATE) - Roger Furdak and Colton Meszaros received Blue Ribbons in the Computer Maintenance Project.

**Atascocita High** Computer Maintenance and Cisco students under the direction of **Nanci Andrews** and **Bob McAndrews** - Luke Carr, Brandon Gaare, and Vincent Hornbostel received blue ribbons in the Computer Maintenance Project.

**Kingwood High** Computer Maintenance student under the direction of **Nanci Andrews** and **Bob McAndrews** - Jay Carney received 4th place in Related Technical Math and 2nd Place in Job Interview.

These students will now advance to State Competition in Corpus Christi.
The Humble ISD Spelling Bee was held in February at Humble Middle School. **Riverwood** 8th grader Susan Xu was the District Winner for the 2nd time in a row. The winning word was “HEIRLOOM.” Susan will represent Humble ISD at the HoustonPBS Spelling Bee on March 26. It will air live at 2 p.m. on HoustonPBS Channel 8. Serving as Alternates are **Humble Middle School** 7th grader Julia Maia and **North Belt** fourth grader Katrina German.

**Riverwood** Middle 7th grader Maggie Talbot's art, a paper cut, is being exhibited at the Museum of Fine Arts Houston Glassell Junior School. The exhibit will be traveling throughout the Houston area to school district administration buildings. In fact, the exhibit will be at our Administration Building in 2012. RMS art teachers are **Darla Coogler** and **Janis McCorkle**.

The **Kingwood Park Boys Basketball** team finished their fourth season with a school record 26 wins and a first ever appearance in the 4A Regional Tournament. The class of 2011 established a standard of excellence on and off the floor for Kingwood Park Basketball. KPHS basketball coach is **Dominic Amorosa**.

Kingwood High School Girls Swim Team are State Champs! This marks back-to-back state championships for the swim team.

KHS BOYS team were Bronze Medalists as well. In the past 10 years, KHS Girls team had 10 top 7 finishes, 8 top 5 finishes, 5 top 3 finishes, and three state championships. KHS Boys had 10 Top 3 Finishes and four state championships. Congratulations to head coach **Russell Duin** and coach **Laura Ledlow**.

**Congratulations to the Kingwood Park Boys Swimming and Diving Team** for winning their third straight 4A State Championship! KPHS swim coach is **Greg McLain**.


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Oaks Elementary nurse Maureen Humes announces the Jan. 13 birth of her granddaughter, Brooke Elyse Zerby. She weighed 8 lbs., 11 oz. Mom Angie is a ’93 KHS graduate and a ’97 Texas A&M graduate. Whoop!

KHS teacher Michelle Palmer announces the March 10 birth of her daughter, Maycee Renee Palmer. She weighed 6 lbs., 7 oz.

SCHS testing coordinator Jamie Cliffe-DeBorde announces the Feb. 10 birth of her son, Haiden DeBorde. He weighed 8 lbs., 3 oz. and was 19 1/2 inches long.

Professional Development director Sirtrenia Turknett announces the March 9 birth of her granddaughter, Laundyn Nichelle Turknett. She weighed 6 lbs., 8 oz. and was 19 inches long. Dad John is a 1991 HHS grad.

Hidden Hollow instructional paraprofessional Leah Yager announces the Jan. 11 birth of her granddaughter, Jonlynn Blake Yager. She weighed 7 lbs., 2 oz. and was 19 inches long. Dad Nicholas Yager is a KPHS alumnus.

Deerwood Elementary diagnostician Ellyn Manning announces the March 10 birth of her grandson, Harper Dale Manning in New York City. He weighed 8 lbs., 6 oz. and was 21 inches long.

Summer Creek English teacher and head Girls Cross Country/Track coach Matt Frost announce the March 18 birth of his son, Miles Parker Frost. He weighed 8 lbs., 6 oz. and was 21 inches long.

Oak Forest 4th grade bilingual teacher Sylvia McDaniel announces the March 16 birth of her daughter, Mila Reyna.


Oak Forest 1st grade bilingual teacher Angie Lavios announces the Feb. 28 birth of her son, Leon Andre.

SCHS English Teacher and Head Softball coach Kelly Collins, and TMS History Teacher Curtis Collins announce the March 6 birth of their son, Micah James. He weighed 6 lbs., 13 oz.

Get Well

Jessica Callahan, AHS Communication Applications teacher and volleyball coach, is recuperating from surgery.

Cowgirl Cutie

Juliana Gruber, daughter of PFE math instructional coach Erica Gruber, supported the Humble ISD Education Foundation by participating in the Humble Rodeo Pageant. She participated in the Baby Miss Photogenic contest and Baby Miss Western Wear competition where she won the title of 2nd Runner Up.

Wedding Bells

Missy Ballard, Applied Skills Teacher at Pine Forest Elementary, announces the engagement of her son, Bradley Ballard, to his high school sweetheart, Rachel Herrington. Bradley is the youth minister at First Colony Christian Church and a junior at HBU. Rachel is a senior at HBU. A March 2012 wedding is planned.

Lisa Dufala, Maplebrook art teacher, announces her March 11 marriage to Kyle Jones.

Darlene Thompson, AHS White House 1 secretary, announces her Feb. 26 marriage to Curtis Walter.
Sympathy

Sympathy to Tammy McHale, Humble High School assistant principal, on the Feb. 6 loss of her mother-in-law, Martha Ann Copes, 80, from injuries sustained in a car accident.

Condolences to Lisa Turner, Timberwood Middle 6th grade counselor, on the Dec. 29 loss of her mother.

Sympathy to Teresa Manis, special ed. para educator at Timberwood Middle, on the Jan. 12 loss of her father.

Condolences to Jeanie Bassett, Timberwood Middle bookkeeper, on the Feb. 3 loss of her father.

Sympathy to Maria Skladzien, bus driver, on the March 10 loss of her sister Barbara Dugek. Barbara lived in Poland.

Condolences to Don Smith, bus driver, on the Feb. 13 loss of his mother, Ruby Smith, She was 93 years old.

Sympathy to Marty Bragg, Oak Forest principal, on the loss of her mother, Theta F. Stephens.

Condolences to Hidden Hollow assistant principal Cindy Hunt on the March 6 loss of her father, Gerald Church. He was 82 years old.

Sympathy to Jennifer Winter, desktop support specialist, on the Feb. 11 loss of her uncle, Bill Shaw. He was retired from the US Navy and was buried with military honors.

Condolences to Kathy Bash, cafeteria manager at Summer Creek High School, on the loss of her father.

Sympathy to Autumn Jackson, Atascocita Springs Elementary first grade teacher, on the loss of her grandmother.

Condolences to Ami Silva, Lakeland PPCD Teacher, on the loss of her Dad, Jimmy Reynolds, in Woodville, Texas.

Sympathy to Michelle Phillips, Greentree 5th grade teacher, on the loss of her father in law.

Condolences to Kyle Ivy, AHS economics teacher and coach, on the loss of his father.

ATPE members visit Capitol

The Humble ATPE leadership team represented Humble ISD ATPE at the Texas Capitol in February. Attendees included Humble ATPE president Stacey Ward (TE), vice president Yvonne Waggoner, (RMS), secretary Gayle Sampley (CLC), treasurer Allan Griffin (Transportation), membership chairman Gloria Reidlinger (DWE), Past president Melissa Crizer (RSMS), legislative chairman James Ellis (Retired HHS), and Brenda Rider (MBE).

Their objective was to build long-term relationships as constituent and education advisors, spread ATPE's messages on legislative priorities for this session, and discuss issues pertinent to Humble ISD.

The Humble delegation visited with every Texas Senator and Texas Representative who represent a portion of Humble ISD, including Amanda Montagne, General Counsel to Senator Tommy Williams SD4; Representative Dan Huberty HD127, Doug Clements, Legislative Aide to Senator John Whitmire SD15, Senator Dan Patrick and his Legislative Aide Marian Wallace; Gail Gallien, District Director to Representative Debbie Riddle, HD150; Stephanie Russell, Legislative Aide to Representative Harold V. Dutton, Jr, HD142; and Representative Senfronia Thompson HD141.

Book Donation for Bear Branch

Bear Branch has new books, thanks to Compass Bank. The books will be used to supplement BBE's summer reading enrichment program. Pictured are BBE PTA president Kelli Jones, librarian Derry Summer, Diane Salzman of Compass Bank, and students Charles Munoz and Lauren Ives.
As educators, we always look for ways to encourage more parent involvement. Andrea Scott at Maplebrook and Hollie Hanks at Timbers won an Humble ISD Education Foundation grant for their Rocking Reading project to increase parent involvement in literacy.

They felt that using best-selling children’s books from past decades would be a great way to provide opportunities for parents to share experiences for their childhood and stimulate literary conversations between parents and their children.

The Rocking Reading project began when ads went home via flyers, campus newsletters and school website. Parents and students chose books from a Retro Reading Library with titles categorized by decades.

For a month, students and parents could check out one title per week to prepare for the culminating event, a sock hop. This provided an opportunity for students and parents to read anywhere from one to four books together. Parents were encouraged to choose books from the list that they read as a child. A literacy activity sheet and reading strategies was provided with each book.

Students and parents read the books together and completed the activity sheets to earn tickets for the Rocking Reading Sock Hop. Students, parents and staff dressed in 50’s attire for the Rocking Reading Night in November. The cafeteria was transformed into a sock hop where students, parents and staff enjoyed 50’s rock music provided by a DJ. The commons area became a soda fountain. Throughout the event students and parents were asked to share information from the books they read together.

There were spotlights from staff members on their favorite childhood books. A slide show included childhood photos from staff members and parents. The yearbook photographer was available to photograph parents and students.

The Rocking Reading project at both Maplebrook and Timbers elementary provided the opportunity to get every student and parent actively involved in developing literacy. Now those books and materials purchased for Rocking Reading can be shared with other elementary schools to enhance parent involvement in literacy. Andrea and Hollie will gladly share plans and experiences with anyone interested in implementing this project.