

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**Richardson Independent School District**  
**Richardson, Texas**

**Date:** May 5, 2008

**Department:** Communications

**Submitted by:** Celina Cárdenas, Community Relations Coordinator

**Briefing Date(s):**

N/A

**Study Session**

N/A

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**INFORMATION ITEM**

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**TOPIC:** Commendations – Recognition of Board Members, Community, Staff, Schools and Students

**Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Pledge**

Mohawk Elementary

**Community**

The Board recognizes the outstanding efforts of community partner, the **University of Texas at Dallas student volunteers**, represented by **Vincent Tran** and **Paul Ingram**. The Board also recognizes **The Salesmanship Club**, for its support of RISD, represented by **Mike Murphy**.

**Staff**

Berkner school nurse **Janet Rambo, R.N.** has been selected as one of the “Dallas-Fort Worth Great One Hundred Nurses” for 2008 by the Texas Nurses Association and the Dallas-Fort Worth Hospital Nurse Administrators’ Forum. The panel of professionals chose her from among thousands of nominations received this year.

The Leadership Development Academy, comprised of RISD teachers aspiring to become building administrators, graduated last week.

The graduates include: **Kcee Blevins, Audelia Creek Elementary; Michelle Coleman, Westwood Jr. High; Beth Crisp, RISD Academy; Melinda Dickens, Hamilton Park Pacesetter Magnet; Josh Eason, Lake Highlands High School; Ronald Francis, Wallace Elementary; Melissa Fields, Forest Lane Academy; Roxxy Griffin, Spring Creek Elementary; Mary Kellagher, Language Arts; Amber Leblond, Stults Road Elementary; Suzanne Mann, Dover Elementary; Lanette Massey, Mark Twain Elementary; Leila Mills, Christa McAuliffe Learning Center; Dolores Onstott, Language Arts; Bobby Rush, Pearce High School; Stephanie Schilling, Parkhill Jr. High; Katrina Shackelford, Audelia Creek Elementary; Laurie Taylor, Language Arts; Kimberly Wainwright, Forest Lane Academy; Jennifer Wilson, Yale Elementary; and Russell Wooten, Prestonwood Elementary.**

Fifteen RISD schools were recently presented the *Award of Excellence in Food Safety* by the City of Richardson Health Department. Recipients of this award must demonstrate a sustained level of commitment to food safety and sanitation as well as to employee training and management. Represented by their cafeteria managers, the award winners include: **Janice Stevens, Apollo Jr. High; Kieu-Lien Le, Prairie Creek Elementary; Lori Kidd, MST Magnet; Janet Beal, Richardson North Jr. High; Jeanine Brown, Jess Harben Elementary; Jan Van Wyk, Richardson West Jr. High; Dee Willoughby, Northrich Elementary; Idali Soltero, Mark Twain Elementary; Pamela Boyd, Springridge Elementary; Debra Chambers, Richardson Heights Elementary; Lisa Boehmke, Yale Elementary; Laura Horning, Richardson High School; Kathie Etchieson, Dartmouth Elementary; Patrice Jackson, Mohawk Elementary; and Pamela Smith, Christa McAuliffe.**

## **Students**

**Berkner High School Senior Jennifer Tran** recently won the national "Being an American" Essay Contest sponsored by the non-profit Bill of Rights Institute in Arlington, Virginia. Ms. Tran is one of three national winners, and was selected from more than 13,000 essays for her exceptional writing.

**Berkner High School Teacher Joni Walther** was also recognized for sponsoring Ms. Tran and submitting her essay. Each were awarded \$5,000 and were honored at the awards ceremony in Washington DC.

**Lake Highlands High School Gymnastics Team** was awarded first place at Regionals and placed eighth out of thirty-one teams in the State competition. They are coached by *2007 Regional Coach of the Year Addi Ledford*.

The team members include: **Sarie Morrison, Hannah Van Meter, and Jessica Girards.**

Members of the **Pearce High School Gymnastics Team** recently advanced to the State Competition. Coached by **Velmor Estillore**.

The team members include: **Marcella Fallon, Ashley Allen, Taylor Ayers, Emily Barbeau, Ali Campos, Shiela Duh, Stephanie Fleming, Megan Frazier, Breanna Ross, Katie Rumsey, Bree Sparkman, Rikki Turnage, Emily Thoes, Donovan Murphy and Kevin Strong.**

The *2008 North Dallas Regional Science Fair Winners* are: **Olivia Westbrook and Lily Winkelmann, Arapaho Classical Elementary; Sam Kiely and Grant Mootz, Big Springs Elementary; Max Pfeiffer-Frederick, Canyon Creek Elementary; Mackenzie Leija, Hamilton Park Elementary; Sidney Lobel, Brentfield Elementary; Lily Parker, Jess Harben Elementary, Sidhardh Goteti, Richardson Terrace Elementary; Diana Lazrov-Odess, Dover Elementary; Jordan Schrader; Lauren Urban and Rachel Willard, White Rock Elementary; Michelle Grace, Mohawk Elementary; Nolen Smith, MST Magnet; Shelby Perritt, Spring Creek Elementary; Grant Owens, Bowie Elementary; Scott Lin and Duy Tran, Brentfield Elementary; Kelly Baxter, Dartmouth Elementary; Ashley Seaman, Greenwood Hills Elementary; Savannah Huffman and Erin Terry, MST Magnet; Hailey Hallum and Caitlin Arnett, Prestonwood Elementary; and Vavilala Viswanath, RISD Academy.**