

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

**Date:** May 8, 2007

**Department:** Communications

**Submitted by:** Celina Cárdenas

**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**

Students **Laura Owen** and **Kelsey Lemon**, 6<sup>th</sup> graders from **Forestridge Elementary**.

**Community**

The Board recognizes the outstanding efforts of community partner, the **Lake Highlands Exchange Club**, represented by **John P. Dean**, **Bill Sims** and **Bob Johnston**. The Board also recognizes **Nortel**, for its support of RISD, represented by **Beth Kolman**.

The Board also recognizes a community member **Mrs. Seana Vissotzky**, for her outstanding volunteer service to **Richardson HS School**.

**Staff**

RISD's 2007 STARS teachers of the year are: **Sean Dowlatshahi**, Pearce HS; **George Hademenos**, Richardson HS; **Kristin Hames**, Richardson North JH; **Carlla Holt**, Wallace Elementary; **Bryant Lewis**, Stults Road Elementary; **Alicia Mills**, Forestridge Elementary; **Keldrick Robinson**, Lake Highlands JH; **Judy Rowland**, Aikin Elementary; **Doug Valentine**, Skyview Elementary; and **Kellee Wilkinson**, Richardson West JH.

RISD Director of Health Services **Gloria Canham** was recently named to the prestigious list of the Top 100 nurses of 2007. Ms. Canham is commended for advancing and leading the profession of nursing and for demonstrating excellence in direct-care delivery.

**Richardson HS School's** swim coach **Regina Moss** was named Swim Coach of the year for 2006-2007. Coach Moss was awarded this recognition by fellow coaches from our 5A district.

**Greenwood Hills Elementary** teacher **Josh Schilling** is a finalist for the "Rising Star" HEB Excellence in Education Award. Mr. Schilling was selected out of the east Texas area for this prestigious award.

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

The graduates include: **Dwane Chappelle**, Forest Meadow JH; **Judy Cofield**, MST Magnet; **Brona Comeaux**, Dobie Primary; **Susi Del Rio-Rinck**, Lake Highlands Elementary; **Linda Edwards**, Richland Elementary; **Tonja Frazier**, Stults Road Elementary; **Carol Johnson**, Greenwood Hills Elementary; **Katie Kirkpatrick**, Lake Highlands Elementary; **Lori Lueckenotte**, Parkhill JH; **Erin Malone**, Berkner HS; **Justin Matthews**, Lake Highlands HS/Lake Highlands FC; **Kelly Moeller**, Forest Meadow JH; **Spencer Moorhead**, Berkner HS; **Jamie Romo**, Westwood JH; **John Timms**, Berkner HS; **Angela Vaughan**, MST Magnet; and **Deanna Williamson**, Lake Highlands JH.

## Students

The **Berkner HS** Academic Decathlon Team was awarded the bronze medal for placing third in for the Super Quiz team and Super Quiz relay categories at the state competition.

The team members include: **Kathleen Chase**, **Danny Rodriguez**, **Mat Debic**, **Lawrence Pham**, **Jimmy McCarthy**, **Souphia Ieng**, **Farha Habeeb**, **Albert Young**, and **Tammy Lee**.

They are coached by **Dean Webb** and **Tanya Gregson**.

The **Pearce HS** Academic Decathlon Team was awarded 3<sup>rd</sup> place overall for the state competition. In addition, each team member received \$500 for their accomplishment.

The team members include: **Meredith Corley**, **James Issac**, **Lauren Morzak**, **William (Tai) Krause**, **Ian Campbell**, **Elsa Lee**, **Parker Staats**, **Ellie Janco**, and **Michael Mohkamkar**.

They are coached by **Dr. Carol Whatley** and **Carol Hewitt**.

The **Richardson HS** Robotics Team recently won the Battle Bots national championship in Miami, Florida.

The team members include: **Matt Tavares**, **Scott Mikus**, **Senai Andai**, **Jonathan Hancock**, and **Alex Kollaja**. They are coached by **Max Morales**.

**Berkner HS** art students were awarded several gold medals in the state competition.

**Jennifer Anschutz** received two gold medals for her sculpture and **Kim Phoung Ly** received a gold medal for her drawing.

In addition, **Josh McClendon** was awarded Best of Show at the Emerging Artist show that is featured at the Eisemann Center and his sculpture was selected for the Young American Talent Competition which is on exhibit at El Centro College. They are taught by **Hope Lattaudio** and **Kasey Jones**.

Several **Berkner HS** art students were selected to participate in the TVAA HS School Juried Art Show. These students were among the top two percent of entries statewide.

The students included: **Adriene Atkin**, **Daniela Cruz**, **Macy Mcarthur**, **David Ngo**, **Brittany Ruder**, **Christine Sottile**, **Phuong Dinh**, and **Josh McClendon**. They are taught by **Hope Lattaudio** and **Kasey Jones**.

**Richardson West JH** students placed first and third for the websites they created in the Texas Computer Education Association Competition involving more than 800 statewide entries in their division for 2007.

The students included: **Harper Spires, Gillian Cole, Michaela Oehlert,** and **Katie Wilson.** They are taught by **Jennifer McCauley.**

Several **RISD HS** school students placed at the state Japanese Speech contest held in Houston this spring.

The winners included: **Corey Romero, Pearce HS; Ben Kao, Berkner HS;** and **Bianca Park, Berkner HS.**

The **Pearce HS** Robotics Team won at the Lone Star Regional Competition and advanced to the Championship level.

The Team members include: **Adam Sidelsky, Alan Lu, Cameron Clark, Carlos Lopez, Douglas Williams, Dulce Rosales, Felipe Torres, Gabriel Guerrero, Karen Chen, Matthew Liston,** and **Phillip Cohen.** They are coached by **Robert Acosta** and **Ronald Gardner,** and the team mentors are **Ginger Acosta** and **Stuart Rampy.**

The following **Lake Highlands HS School** AVID students will graduate this May and begin their college careers in the fall. They represent the first group of four-year AVID students to graduate from RISD, and have all been accepted to universities and colleges around the nation: **Sarah Afewerki; Cylvalin Anyanwu; Moses Arinyakono, Megan Ayitey-Adjin, Mariana Baeza, Jarvis Cole, Ryan Commons, Pyisha Davis, Trey Elmore, Sanada Fields, Miracle Freeman, Ashley Frye, Karina Gamez, Stephanie Gaona, Dina Gomez, Brandon Gordon, Theresa Ihaza, Cameron Johnson, Ian Johnson, Jazmine Jones, Lareta Jones, Shanita Jones, Daisy Litaba, Oran Mays, Emmanuel Miller, Alejandro Mondragon, Dwayne Morton, Aqueeta Parker, Peter Patino, Chrissy Payne, Mayra Santamaria, Ashley Simpson, Kamera Taylor, Forest Turner Jr., LeDarrius Wade, Traimaine Williams,** and **Cristina Zambruno.**

**Richardson HS Communications Magnet** students created a phenomenal film called "A Physics Lesson for the Prom" which demonstrates the consequences of drunk driving.

They are taught **Brent Morton,** and the project features the teachings of the RHS STARS winner Dr. George Hademenos.

Students include: **Matt Roos, Mara Eckel,** and **Dustin Finkel.**