

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

**Date:** November 5, 2007

**Briefing Date(s):**

N/A

**Department:** Communications

**Study Session**

N/A

**Submitted by:** Celina Cárdenas, District Community Liaison

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**INFORMATION ITEM**

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

**Community**

The Board recognizes the outstanding efforts of community partner **Reliable Chevrolet**, represented by **Dave Anderson**.

**Staff**

**Finance Executive Director, Crystal Shirley** and **Accounting & Budget Director, Nikki Hamblin** were recently awarded for their excellence in financial reporting from the Government Finance Officer Association of the United States and Canada, and from the Association of School Business Officials International. This talented duo produced an outstanding comprehensive annual financial report that received double recognition from two prestigious associations.

**Buyer & Travel Specialist Jeanne Miller** has successfully completed the requirement to earn the designation of Registered Texas School Business Administrator. The Texas Association of School Business Official's certification is earned through a combination of specified coursework, school business experience, and training in the area of specialization.

**Richardson High School's** very own, **Coach Dahlia Page**, has been awarded the 2007 Texas Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance High School Physical Educator of the Year Award. Coach Page has earned this distinguished recognition for demonstrating leadership, achieving excellence, and being an outstanding representative of the teaching profession.

"TechTitans of the Future" Award winner **Barbara Flickinger** from **Pearce High School** has earned this prestigious recognition for inspiring her students to pursue a career in science. The Tech Titans/Titans Fast 50 Awards Gala is a production of the Metroplex Technology Business Council, and since its creation in 2001, has become one of the area's most prestigious awards for excellence in technology. Mrs. Flickinger was also awarded \$5,000 for her outstanding achievement.

**Dr. Ken Taylor** of **Lake Highlands High School** joined Mrs. Flickinger as one of the four finalists for the “Tech Titans of the Future – High School Level Math/Science Teacher Award.” Dr. Taylor was also awarded \$2,000 for his dedication in educating and inspiring his students.

**Lake Highlands High School’s** volleyball coach, **Mrs. Cory Williams** is the first volleyball inductee to the Baylor Hall of Fame. Coach Williams’ outstanding volleyball career as a setter at Baylor was one of six players in the university’s history to have 1,000 career kills, 1,000 career digs, and in addition produced 19 triple-doubles in her standout four-year career.

## **Students**

Seventeen seniors from RISD have been named National Merit Semifinalists for the 2007-2008 academic year, making them eligible for consideration to receive a National Merit Scholarship. More than 1.4 million juniors in nearly 21,000 high schools entered the 2008 National Merit Program by taking the 2005 PSAT which serves as the initial screen of program entrants. They represent less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors and the highest scoring entrants in each state.

The following National Merit Semifinalists are: **Samuel S. Lee, BHS; Wen-Cheng Stacy Yuan, BHS; Christine Lin, BHS; David Arnold, LHHS; Matthew Gaba, LHHS; Catherine Wilson, LHHS; Ryan L. Fusella, LHHS; Shannon L. Obrien, LHHS; Matthew D. Banks, PHS; Rachel R. Fox, PHS; Lindsey N. Larson, PHS; Joseph H. Lin, PHS; Parker A. Staats, PHS; Ian A. Campbell, PHS; Andrew D. Kooiman, PHS; Amy B. Leiser, PHS; and Harry Liu, PHS.**

The College Board's National Hispanic Recognition Program (NHRP) was initiated to identify outstanding Hispanic high school students and to share information about these academically well-prepared students with subscribing colleges and universities. In order to be eligible, students must be at least one-quarter Hispanic. Each year the NHRP identifies approximately 3,300 of the highest scoring students from a nationwide selection, including students from Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, and U.S. citizens attending international and APO schools.

The following students were named “scholars” for this recognition program: **Alyssa R. Concha, BHS; Noah T. Jaffe, BHS; Juan C. Villarreal, BHS; Alexander N. Decosta, LHHS; Luis A. Granados, LHHS; Meagan N. Valdez, LHHS; Juan Bonigno, PHS; and David L. Escamilla, PHS.**