



North East

School District

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

NORTH EAST INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF SERVING THE SAN ANTONIO COMMUNITY

1955-2005

Its history is its people



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

"Honoring the past, embracing the future"

Dear Friend,

When some San Antonians think of northeast San Antonio, they often think of new development, highways, and shopping centers. But consider that in 1900, settlers lived along the Salado Creek, creating a need for schools. Single room schoolhouses called Blanco Common School, Salado Valley Common School and Coker Common School cropped up. Other schools followed, and by 1949, there were almost 800 students. On March 4, 1955, citizens voted to form an independent school district, signaling the birth of North East, as we know it today.

I mention this to show how our history is our people. We would not be who we are today if citizens had not come together to vote for a change, and we would not have 50 strong years behind us without the help and support of people like you. Our 50th Anniversary theme is "Honoring the Past and Embracing the Future." To commemorate this golden occasion,



campuses have held activities and events throughout the year.

During the past 50 years, NEISD has grown to almost 58,000 students and 8,000 employees with almost half of them teachers. In the 2003-2004 school year alone, 87 percent of North East graduates were college bound and more than 1,000 students graduated with honors. We have a lot to be proud of this year. And we owe our success in meeting the growing challenges of education to our people: the students,

parents, volunteers, supporters, taxpayers, and employees of the past, as well as today. Our history is our people, and I want to say thank you to each of you.

I look forward to showing you my appreciation through the various upcoming celebrations. If you have questions concerning the 50th Anniversary, contact Twain Tharp, 50th Anniversary Chairman, at 804-7131.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Middleton



MESSAGE FROM THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY CHAIRMAN

We're not resting on our laurels

Friends of the School District:

It has been an exciting and fulfilling opportunity to be the chairman of the 50th Anniversary activities for the district. My 32 years as an employee of the school district has enabled me to have a historical and inside view of the many wonderful people who have made this district great. Those I did not personally get to serve with are early 'legends' in the development of our great district.

The people of this district are our history and they are our most important resource. As members of the North East Family we are proud to be part of a district that values our contribution and recognizes the importance of the staff to the success of our students. As an award-winning school district we value our parents and patrons who support and enhance our success. We are partners with the PTA and depend on the support of the various members of our community, advisory groups, and booster clubs.

As a district, our constant focus on the success of all students has seen us through our most difficult hours and our brightest days. Every generation of district employees has the



opportunity to contribute to our success in a new and different way. We are a dynamic and diverse district that values its history but has no intention of resting on its laurels. We honor and revere those who have historically contributed to our success while nurturing and encouraging those who will lead us in the future. We are a family that "Cherishes the Past and Embraces the Future".

Sincerely,

Twain O. Tharp



NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

As the coordinator of the Anniversary Newspaper and as a new employee it has been a great pleasure and learning experience for me to work with so many people who have made this project a reality.

The cover of this Newspaper states NEISD's history is its people. As I have talked and met with people to collect information, I have found this statement to be true.

This project would not have been possible if the following individuals and their staff had not put in so much hard work and dedication. A special "Thank You" goes to each of them.

-Mark Menjivar

Ed Leal
Peggy Turner
June Holder

Jerry Comalander
Diane Schumacher
Joseph Johnson
Pat Zimlich
Herb Hernandez
Joan Abbott
Mary Ellen Glaze
Shirley Kearns
Frances Evans
Hazel Richter
Dr. Brian Gottardy
Nolan Anderson
Cindy Holtz
Francene Tharp
Fran Everidge
Chrissie Kolb
Victor Garcia
Dwayne Feuerbacher
Carlos Elizondo
Theresa Miller
Dillie Harrison
Elizabeth Platt

Becky Stoughton
Dr. Alicia Thomas
Kay Stotts
Davis Hanna
Suzanne Westermann
Shirley Hastings
Barbara Hooper
Glennie Lecocke
Kathy Dorr
Meg Domas
Pat Sanford
Mary Alice Smallbone
Arline Patterson
Twain Tharp



TEXAS PUBLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

North East schools will celebrate March 7-11

This year's theme: *Every Reason to Succeed*



Plans for things to come...Stanley Clayton, far right, superintendent at North East School District in 1955, helps drive the first stake signaling the beginning of construction at a new school.

THE COMMON SCHOOLS

Common Schools came together to form North East Rural District

At the turn of the 20th century, the area that now makes up the North East Independent School District was mostly brush, rocks, rattlesnakes, and prickly pear.

A few hardy pioneers had already settled the area along Salado Creek and other areas where there was an abundance of water. Where people gathered in the region, there was a need for schools. Several single-room houses cropped up in the area. They were called the Blanco Common School, Salado Valley Common School and Coker Common School.

Others would follow in the years to come, and in 1949 seven common schools joined together with a total of 756 scholastics to become the North East Rural School District.

As the district of 135 square miles continued to grow in student population, the governing board of officials voted, on March 4, 1955, to become the North East Independent School District and to operate directly under the jurisdiction of the State Education Agency.

Salado Valley School served as NEISD's first central office

According to *The San Antonio Light* newspaper records, the Salado Valley School, located eight miles out on Bitters Road, was first constructed in 1901 on land donated by Ferdinand Krueger.

In 1938, Salado Valley would be upgraded into a modern facility for its day, with aid from WPA funds, a \$4,000 bond issue and with members of the school board assisting in the construction. Even though considered modern, the school lacked indoor plumbing and a cafeteria.

For lunch, most students provided their own or traveled back home, either by walking or riding bicycles. These rural students, rich in German and Hispanic heritage, living in the northeast county region on nearby dairy farms, would attend Salado Valley Common School for grades 1-8.

After the eighth grade, students completed their education at the nearby Alamo Heights High School or some other high school. This rural school, operated through the Rural



An early photo of the Salado Valley student body.



The original Salado Valley School was located on Bitters Road. Its children were primarily children of farmers.

High School District served students as an educational venue until the North East Independent School District was formed.

In 1955, the old schoolhouse transformed into the first central office for district administrators and continued to do so until 1958 when the building was razed for progress. In its place, a new administrative building was constructed and functioned as central office from 1959-1972.

Coker School was in operation prior to the Civil War

Early settlers and past records indicate that school was taught in the Coker Community prior to 1861.

In the early days, school was

taught in different parts of the community in order to equalize the distance children had to travel to get to school. Students used slates and bought their own books. Parents paid a two dollar tuition to cover the teacher's salary, and when a child was absent, a certain amount was deducted from his/her tuition.

Between 1861 and 1904, Mr. J. Coker donated the land to build the old



In 1924, Coker School moved to this two-room brick building



Coker student body, circa 1920.

red Coker School located on San Pedro Avenue. Between 1904 and 1905, a two-story school was built and the old red Coker School became the teacher's residence. When both buildings burned to the ground in 1924, a tent was erected so the children could finish the term.

In 1925, a two-room brick and hollow tile school was built and later expanded to include the library and indoor plumbing. Gradually, as more and more families moved into the Coker community, additions were made and expansions undertaken to accommodate the growing population.

In 1954, the New Coker School was completed at its present site, and since that time, it has undergone many important changes.

After all these years, Coker's student population continues to grow as young families take advantage of the excellent educational opportunities offered through its educational programs.

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COKER PRINCIPALS

- Ms. Gladys Sirdevan, 1950-1958
- Mr. Norman Whisenant, 1958-1962
- Mr. O.K. Harris, 1962-1973
- Mr. David Dague, 1973-1976
- Mr. Rand Dyer, 1976-1979
- Ms. Kay Johnson, 1979-1991
- Ms. Betty Moseley, 1991-1997
- Ms. Glennie Lecoocke, 1997-2005

COKER STUDENT POPULATION

1936	80	1974-1975	880
1942	140	1976-1977	1040
1961-1962	534	1977-1978	1177
1962-1963	728	1978-1979	1216
1963-1964	548	2000-2001	763
1965-1966	642	2003-2004	776



Seay Common School student body, 1935, above, 1937, below.



Former student Hazel Richter recalls the early days at Seay School

Ms. Wietzel, teacher of the Seay Common School, began her day very early. She had to drive over several roads from Sommerset to Wetmore to her little one room schoolhouse just off of Jung Road near the railroad tracks.

The year is 1934 and her 33 students in grades one through eight would be looking for her as she made her way to school. Her car had wide running boards on either side, and as she made their way to the school, students would jump on the running boards and hang on for a ride to school. There was no bus service, and the children came by bicycle, horse, and foot.

Once at the school, she would unlock the door and start filling the big iron stove with wood. The kerosene lantern may have to be lit if it were a cloudy or dark day. No electricity ran through the small community at this time, as well as, no phone service, or indoor plumbing. A school nurse came twice a year, and a book mobile served

as a library.

A bucket would be lowered into the well outside the little schoolhouse, and a tin cup would be placed beside it for sharing drinks throughout the day.

There were two swings, which hung from tall telephone poles, and two seesaws that served the children at recess. Each child had an assigned seat of a wooden desk with a folding seat. The top of the desk had a space for the ink bottle and a carved out space for their pen points on wooden handles and their pencils.

The schedule would be written on the blackboard the first day of school, and they would keep that schedule. There were usually three or four children in each grade, so their instruction time for reading, writing and arithmetic would be scheduled in 15-minute periods throughout the day.

The children were from families in the area, or migrant workers making their yearly visit to the families to help with the planting or harvesting. Most of the families were of German heritage.

Everyone knew everyone else, and the families made their own entertainment visiting with one another or meeting at the school for a game of Bunco. The children had to learn to

recite from memory, and skits were put on at various times. Parents would attend these for a small fee to raise money for the school.

Interscholastic Contests were held twice a year. Volleyball and baseball accuracy, as well as music and art memory were tested.

In 1938, the original Seay Common School was sold to a family who turned it into a home adding a garage and shed, along with a porch. The class picture shows the children with their school wall in the background. The children had no special clothes for picture day and overalls and bare feet were perfectly acceptable.

When the Seay Common School was sold, a new one was constructed off Higgins Road and Stahl. This school building of one room was later moved to MacArthur to be used as a band hall or auxiliary building on the campus, when the Common Schools became part of the North East Independent School District in 1955.

-By Susan Westerman

Serna namesake dreamed of an education for every child

Today, school stands as a symbol of Ignacio Serna's dedication to education

Mr. Ignacio Felix Serna (1840-1912) lived a very interesting life. He was born in Chihuahua, Mexico and grew up on a sheep farm.

While tending sheep, in February of 1847, he was captured by the Buffalo Hump tribe of the Southern Comanche Indians.

In the summer of 1848, he was ransomed by an Indian agent, Major R. S. Nabors. Major Nabors and his wife raised Ignacio Serna as their own son.

After serving in the Confederate Army, Ignacio Serna married Frances Virginia Hines and the couple had three sons: Robert Angelo, Leon C. and Albert Ignacius.

Since there was no public school in the area, Mr. Serna hired a lady to come to their home to educate their sons. One of the most remarkable aspects of Mr. Serna's vision was his desire for all children to be educated, especially considering he had no formal education.

On November 14, 1876, Mr. Serna gave a tract of land to Bexar County to be used for a school. The school was established in 1877 near the current Perrin-Beitel and Austin



The Ignacio F. Serna family



Seay Elementary Staff, 1962

Highway intersection. Many students attended there and have fond memories and stories to tell about the Serna School. That property now has the U-Haul store on it.

The population exploded and in 1953 a new school, Serna Elementary, was built to accommodate the growth. The growth continued until the late 1970s and early 1980s. In May 1984,

Serna Elementary closed for a period of six years. Students living in the area were transferred to Northwood Elementary.

The District tried unsuccessfully to sell the property during the time the school was closed; however, the population began to grow in the area and in 1992 Serna Elementary was re-opened and remains open to the present date.

Do You Remember?

We are looking for more information concerning all of the common schools that formed the beginning of North East Independent School District. These schools were: Seay common School Blanco Common School, Olmos Common School, Lookout Valley Common School, Serna Common School, Salado Valley Common School, and Coker Common School. If you have information on any of these schools, please call Twain Tharp in Special Programs at 804-7131.

FOOD SERVICE

Even the mayo and ketchup were made from scratch in the early days

Today's meals are designed for a more sophisticated palate



Cafeteria staffat Krueger Middle School, 1962.



Roosevelt High School cafeteria staff, in the early years.

School Food Service in NEISD has, like all things, changed as the district has changed. The early school lunch program was quite different from what it is today. While there was a designated federal pattern to follow, it was developed based on the nutrition research available at the time as well as available foods.

For example, the lunches that were available to the students required a serving of butter, only offered whole milk and students had no choice but to take all that was offered to them.

Today's typical lunch offers three different types of milk, all 1%, students are not required to take items that they do not like or do not intend to eat and menus are evaluated to not exceed 30% of the calories from fat.

If you were a food service employee in the '50s and '60s your job would be much different than today. Few convenience foods were used at that time.

Employees made everything from their own mayonnaise and catsup to hamburger and hot dog buns. Friday was dedicated to making homemade donuts. Other menu items offered consisted of Meatloaf, Salisbury steak, roast beef and fish every Friday. Student vegetable selections included the usual green beans and corn but also black eyed peas and white beans. Fruit

offerings only consisted of canned fruit, fresh was not available.

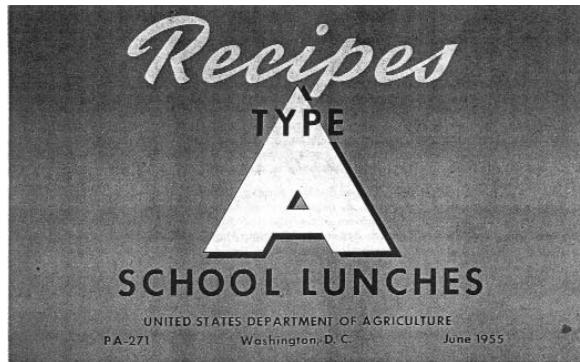
Fried Rice, Black Beans and Focaccia Bread

Today, the student menu is developed to address the student that eats out and has had more exposure to a variety of foods. It is also developed to meet nutritional requirements.

Menu items today consist of such items as Chicken Nuggets and chicken teriyaki, fried rice, black beans, focaccia bread, yogurt plates and deli sandwiches for example. High school students can choose from a variety of menu items each day. Students as young as elementary also have options on what to eat for breakfast or lunch.

Some items remain constant though. Wednesday is still designated as Mexican Food Day and Pizza is still an all-time favorite! At one time in the early '80s, Mexican food was removed from the Wednesday service day only to be met with negative comments from the community so it was quickly reinstated.

Students in the '50s got their lunch on trays and milk came in glass bottles. Today's student might have



The USDA provided recipes for school lunches in 1955

their lunch on a tray, but disposable items are widely used. Milk is in a carton now, but there are a variety of beverages available. Depending on grade level, students can have a large portion of milk, juice, fruit drinks or even coffee drinks.

Baby, how you have changed!

Employees in the '50s and '60s came to work in a school cafeteria if their neighbor or friend called asking for their help. White dresses were the attire. They collected money from students using coin boxes and meal tickets with a hole puncher.

Today, after employees have completed an application and passed a background check, they come to work. Internet and computer skills are as important today as cooking skills. Colorful aprons are worn during serving. Students have meal accounts that are accessed with a PIN number or a photo on a computer screen.

Food service work extended beyond the school day. When new teachers were hired each year during Dr. Blossom's tenure as superintendent, he would have dinner in his

home. The food was prepared in the school by the cafeteria staff and brought to his home where the teachers were served out on the patio

It's all about money!

A student in North East at one time only had to pay 25 cents for lunch and 5 cents for a carton of milk. Today lunch is \$1.75 and milk is 30 cents.



There were no shortcuts in the early days. Everything, including the bread, was made from scratch.

Wages for food service employees have changed as well. Cafeteria managers received a set pay of \$67/month, regardless of how long they worked each day.

SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE CREED
 ' Let Me Be '
 Honest with myself,
 Orderly in my work,
 Mindful of my shortcomings,
 Earnest in my faith,
 Mentally alert to new ideas,
 Active in my kitchen,
 Kind to my fellowmen,
 Eager to learn,
 Reliant to my word,
 Then I will have earned the honor
 Of being a School Food Service Employee.

The food service worker's creed.



ROTC

JROTC, like its senior counterpart, came into being with the passage of the National Defense Act of 1916

Its mission remains to motivate youth to be better citizens

Motto: You Look Good

At its inception, the JROTC course consisted of three hours of military instruction per week for a period of three years.

Any JROTC graduate who completed this course of military instruction was authorized a certificate of eligibility for a reserve commission to be honored at age 21 (although the provision was allowed to lapse after W.W. I as the need for reserve officers declined).

Over the years, JROTC evolved into a citizenship program devoted to uplifting American youth morally, physically and educationally. Although the program retained its military structure and the resultant ability to infuse in its students a sense of discipline and order, it shed most of its military content.

The study of ethics, citizenship, communications, science, technology, life skills and other subjects designed to prepare young men and women to take their place in adult society replaced instruction in military skills as the core of the program. JROTC was established in the North East Independent School District by Department of the Army General Order No. 6, effective 1 April 1968.

The general order authorized programs at Winston Churchill, Robert E. Lee, Douglas MacArthur and Theodore Roosevelt Senior High Schools. Subsequently, the program at James Madison Senior High School was authorized effective 1 April 1983 for school year 83/84.

At the end of the 1997-98 school year, JROTC celebrated its 30th Anniversary in North East Independent School District. Our program expanded further in school year 1999/2000 when Ronald Reagan opened as a National Defense Cadet Corps and subsequently received recognition as a cost-shared JROTC program effective 1 July.



Members of Lee High School's Junior ROTC program in 1971. A Department of the Army order issued in 1968 created the JROTC programs at Churchill, MacArthur and Roosevelt high schools.



Lt. Gen. Harry H. Critz poses with JROTC cadets from Lee High School, in early khaki uniforms.



Col. Pat Zimlich, with Battalion Commanders (Left to Right): Jennifer Rohn, MacArthur; Dustin Stahlnecker, Roosevelt; Matt Neel, Reagan; Michael Krusinsky, Madison; Kimberly Schultz, Lee; Steve Carlson, Churchill.

NATIONAL DRILL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

CHURCHILL

- Winston Churchill "Black Watch" Armed Drill Team is a 4 time National Champion 1996, 1998, 1999, 2000, and National Runner-Up three times in 1997, 2001, 2003 and 2004.
- Winston Churchill "Queens Guard" Unarmed Drill Team was National Runner-Up twice in 1995 and 1999.
- All Army National Runner-Up 2004.

ROOSEVELT

- Theodore Roosevelt's "Riderette" Unarmed Drill Team is a 9 time National Champion 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2001 and National Runner-Up in 2000.
- Theodore Roosevelt "San Juan Guard" Armed Drill Team is a 4 time National Champion 1993, 1994, 1995, 1997 and National Runner-Up four times 1992, 1996, 1998, 1999.

MACARTHUR

- Douglas MacArthur "Blue Angels" Unarmed Drill Team was National Runner-Up in 1997 and 2004.
- Douglas MacArthur "Blue Guard" Armed Drill Team tied for National Runner-Up in 2002.

REAGAN

- Ronald Reagan All Army National Runner-Up, 2004.

DIRECTORS

Lt. Col. (R) Joseph P. Lydon
July 1968 - June 1976

Lt. Col. (R) Glenn W. Metcalf
July 1976 - June 1982

Col. (R) William F. Coad
July 1982 - July 1994

Col. (R) Patrick D. Zimlich
August 1994 - Present

TEACHERS

Teachers: The Strength of our District and our Nation

"To be a teacher is to forever be an optimist, for every day we are in the presence of the enormous potential that each child holds."

*-Michael Forman
2001 National Teacher of the Year*

Teacher! These seven little letters represent the future for our families, our cities, our country and our world. Most teachers dedicate their lives to educating and nurturing other people's children without ever knowing what impact they have made.

There are no medals or trophies or gold watches at the end of most teachers' careers, only memories. Not everyone has what it takes to teach. But North East teachers have what it takes.

As the district celebrates its 50th anniversary, it is a celebration of the true heart of our district, our teachers. These extraordinary educators work tirelessly, inspire love of learning, believe in the bright hope of every child and help create exemplary citizens. These professionals are making a difference in the lives of our youth.

Certainly this is a fitting time to tell our dedicated, our very special educators — thank you. And who better to thank them than the students they serve.

Statements from students who were asked how they feel about their teachers:

"She makes learning fun. And always has stories to tell. She makes sure that we learn and have fun at the same time."

"Coming out of third grade, I didn't know how to multiply even simple problems such as 5x5. She spent 15 minutes after school for a week, and I had memorized all my facts."

"The one reason he is my favorite teacher is that he helps me with the one thing I am worst at, math!"

"We never feel uncomfortable or stupid

because he respects our views and doesn't look down on us."

"If my teacher were a book, she would be on the top sellers list and be given first prize in the Children's Choice Awards."

"Knowing that these teachers are going to be there every day teaching me new things puts a smile on my face."

"My teacher means a lot to me because she will help everyone. She doesn't play favorites, and she lets us share things with the class."

"When I was pregnant, my teacher helped me get back into school and since I have been back here she has made a big impact on my life. She has helped move me to succeed in life and school. She has made me want to graduate for my child."

"He has been through a lot and has never given up. I look up to him for that and that helps me to never give up. He is an inspiration to keep going and teaches us to look for the best in things."

"While it is my parents and my family who have formed the backbone of who I am today, it is my teachers who have given me tools that I need to be the person that I strive to become. I have the fondest memories of the teachers who have touched my life thus far. From the alphabet to multiplication, from the United States Senate to the scientific method and from art compositions to musical masterpieces, it has been my teachers who have inspired my thirst for knowledge and who have shared in the joy of my accomplishments."

"If we are good and polite, we get a sticker. He helps us with our spelling."



Miss Davis taught Spanish at North East High School in 1955

He helps us with our words and letters. He helps us realize and understand how communities work."

"My teacher is a very nice teacher because she gives us jelly beans when we write paragraphs. She lets us have free reading time. I like the homework she gives us. If I color her a picture, she would love it no matter what. She treats me the way I want to be treated."

"She always does fun activities with our class. She gives you fun art projects and books to make. Sometimes she drops things and says "whoops-but-terfingers." She likes to play "duck duck goose" and eat Popsicles with our class."

"I will never forget my kindergarten teacher. She was humble, creative and she always thought of fun ways to teach the little ones if they were having a hard time learning. But the thing I think is the greatest about her is that she had two sides, that when put together, create the perfect ingredients for the perfect teacher: one side soft and a mother, and one side intelligent and...an educator."

"My coach has really helped me grow as a person throughout middle school. He is a great listener and helps anyone who needs it."

"All teachers are special and all of them are greatly appreciated. They opened the doors of learning and made it more wonderful than I had thought it ever could be. Thank you!"

Students are not the only ones who recognize exceptional teachers. In the 50 year history of the North East Independent School District, teachers have been acknowledged and appreciated by their colleagues, the district, universities, Region 20 and the state of Texas.

Teaching is only part of what edu-



1961 Teacher of the Year

cators do every day. They also counsel, coach, inspire, lead and give hugs. They serve as hall monitors and parking lot attendants. They plan and modify, enrich and collaborate—all in hopes of providing that spark that challenges a student to follow his dreams and reach for the stars.

Our teachers hold the future in their hands. To touch the life of a single student is to shape the future of our world. It is in school where they learn to be good citizens. It is in school where they learn about freedom and democracy and taking care of the planet. It is in school where they learn to respect diversity of culture and thought. Teachers light the torch of hope for a brighter tomorrow.

Today as we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the North East Independent School District, and every day, we say thank you to our teachers



North East High School physical education teacher, Miss Jacobs, 1955.

for the contribution that they have made and are continuing to make to our individual lives and to our country.

In a Teacher of the Year Award Ceremony, First Lady Laura Bush, praises teachers: "All teachers deserve to be recognized for the contributions they make to our classrooms and to our country. Teaching is the absolute profession — the one that makes all the others possible."

If the teaching profession is one profession that makes all others possible, what is teaching all about? Ivan Welton Fitzwater eloquently answers the question with this inspiring quote:

"The future of the world is in my classroom today, a future with the potential for good or bad...Several future presidents are learning from me today; so are the great writers of the next decades, and so are all the so-called ordinary people who will make the decisions in a democracy. I must never forget these same young people could be the thieves and murders of the future. Only a teacher? Thank God I have a calling to the greatest profession of all! I must be vigilant every day, lest I lost one fragile opportunity to improve tomorrow."

Trinity Prize Winners

The following six teachers were the recipients of the Trinity Prize for Excellence in Teaching awarded by Trinity University:

1984-1985 Mary Jo McLaughlin English, MacArthur

1988-1989 Laura Jean Niland Mathematics, MacArthur

1997-1998 Marcia Kay Kemble Biology, Churchill

2000-2001 Thomas O. Anderson Environmental Science, Churchill

2001-2002 Lyn Belisle Art and Technology, ACE

2003-2004 Frances Fair Mathematics, ACE

ATHLETICS

NEISD athletics among best in the state

Our athletic programs continue to win state championships

North East Independent School District has one of the most storied and successful histories of any school district in the state of Texas. Beginning University Interscholastic League competition in 1955 there has been consistent success in all sports.

The athletic programs of North East have produced state champion teams and state champion individuals and continue to do so today. The individuals who have been participants in these programs have gone on to receive college scholarships and many have been very successful at the professional level.

A trademark of North East athletics has also been the support of the school communities for athletics. Stadiums have been filled for contests throughout the many years of competition. Athletic booster clubs have been important in fan support and have pro-

vided financial contributions to our school district in the hundreds of thousands of dollars.

This funding has saved the district a tremendous amount of money and has been beneficial to the development of athletes as well as the safety of the athletes. This district owes a debt of gratitude to the many parents and community members who have given freely of their time and finances to help provide quality athletic programs.

It should also be noted that the athletic programs of North East ISD have been an integral part of the educational process of our students. An opportunity to be part of an athletic program has been an incentive for students to pass their academic assignments, which is necessary for participation. Our athletic programs have been a win - win for our students and our schools

THE EARLY YEARS

Facilities may not have been as lavish then, but the bonds formed were just as strong as they are today

North East High School produced many successful teams and athletes in the early years. North East High School, which was located on the site where Douglas MacArthur High School now sits had successful teams in several sports. The early years when North East was a rural school district found the school with only one coach. His name was Harry Orem. In 1951 there were no football games played against other schools. There was a team and they scrimmaged several other schools. There was also no football stadium and for several years all games were played at the other school's stadium.

In 1953 the head coach was John Albers. His assistants were Charley Riley and John Taylor. Dorothy Landers had been the girl's coach but she left and was replaced by Miss Pittman.

Over the next few years the school experienced most of its athletic success in basketball. In 1956 the basketball team went to the regional finals. Ernie Sena was an all-state player and other notables on the team were Ronald and Donald Wright, Cecil Bragg, and Don Payne. Other students who made significant contributions to

the athletic program during these years were Jake Cherry, Tex Tomasini, Warren George, Johnny Thurmond, Charley Vela, Harlan Heitkamp, Eddie Parsley and Stanley Clayton who was the superintendent's son. Some of the early coaches were R.E. Windham, Damon Hollingsworth, Jeanette Riddle, and Dorothy Munson.

A new addition to the campus was a football stadium although many sources indicate that it really was simply a field that had been upgraded with grass and a few bleachers so that the school could play its home football games on the campus.

The Brahmas finally played football at North East High School. Individuals such as Jake Cherry and Eddie Parsley talk about the great times they had in athletics and the friendships that remain today that were formed on the fields and in the gyms.

"The biggest changes in today's athletic programs are in the training of athletes, more coaches, and improved facilities" say Eddie Parsley and Jake Cherry. However, they also emphasize that the bonds formed in the early days were just as strong as they are today and the impact of the programs is just as important.



Robert E. Lee High School's golf team won the state championship in 1966.

NEISD schools have always produced title-winning athletes

The first state title won by a North East boy's team was at Robert E. Lee High School in 1966. Tom Mosely was the coach of the golf team who captured the state title. Coach Mosely later became the principal of Roosevelt High School.

He coached with a philosophy that "the best way to teach these youngsters to handle the pressure and avoid choking in golf was to expose them to as much good competition as possible". The team competed against many college freshmen teams and traveled all over the state. Practices were also set up to create a good competitive atmosphere.

The first girl's state title was won by the MacArthur girl's swimming team in 1967. This team also repeated as state champions in 1968. The coach for that first state title team was Marla McCarty.

In 1967 the Lee High School boy's basketball team won the state title which was the first title in a sport that produced tremendous crowds to watch the games. The Volunteer's season record was 31 victories and only one loss. Steve Niles was an all-state player on that team.

North East is also the only multi school district in Texas to have three of its high schools win state football titles in the largest UIL classification.

Robert E. Lee was the first in 1971 when John Ferrara was the head coach. All state players on that team were Tommy Kramer, Richard Osborne and Steve Harmon.

The Volunteers finished the year with a record of 14-0-1. In 1976

Winston Churchill won the state title with a record of 15-0.

Jerry Comalander was the head coach and all state players were Mark Harrelson, David Darr and Robert "Buzzy" Nelson. The most recent football title was in 1995 when Theodore Roosevelt won the championship with a record of 16-0. The head coach was Brian Dausin and Dwayne Missouri was an all-state player.

Through the years there have been many state titles won at North East high schools. The Churchill boy's basketball team added a state championship in 1982 when Bobby Murphy was the head coach. Al Marks of Churchill has been the head coach of four state titles in swimming.

The boy's soccer team at

Churchill has won three state titles with three different coaches - Don Nelson, Larry Schaefer, and Steve Zimmerman. Madison girls have won two state titles under coach Audrey Ambrose. Another notable effort involves the Reagan girl's swimming which won the state title in the first year of the school in 2000 under coach Mark Jedeau.

It should also be noted that the Churchill girl's golf team set a record for consecutive state titles in any sport when they won five in a row beginning in 1996. The head coaches were Tom Lessner, Tommy Walling and Mike Martin. And finally, beginning in 1995 there was a state team title won by a North East school for nine consecutive years.



The 1967 MacArthur girls' swim team.



FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

First athletic complex named after beloved Superintendent Virgil T. Blossom

As a result of a 1960 bond a centralized athletic complex was begun with the purchase of fifty-six acres and the construction of a football stadium with a track. This complex was designed to serve the students of the future and has grown to a multi stadium facility.

The 10,000-seat football stadium opened in 1962 and the first football game was between Robert E. Lee High School and Fort Worth Paschal. The game was won with a score of 21 - 14 by Lee. In 1963 an Olympic size swimming pool opened at Blossom Athletic Center. This pool was enclosed with removable sidewalls for summer ventilation.

In 1966 an air-conditioned field house was opened that would seat 3,000 in permanent bleachers and another 1500 in pullout type seats. At the time of construction it was the second in size behind the Astrodome as the largest air-conditioned facility of its kind in south Texas. The field house was built for \$14.50 a square foot and became the headquarters for the North East athletic department. A baseball stadium was also added to the original fifty-six acre site. At a special ceremony in March of 1967 the entire athletic complex was named Blossom Athletic Center after the late superintendent, Virgil T. Blossom.

Over the next fifteen years thirteen tennis courts and two soccer fields were added to Blossom Athletic Center (BAC). The fields at BAC still remain as the only lighted fields in North East ISD. Almost all varsity competition is staged at this complex in all sports and many middle school and sub-varsity contests are played as well.

Many improvements have been made to Blossom Athletic Center over the years. However, in 1998 a bond was passed that made athletic improvements at the six high schools and to BAC. All weather tracks were built at each of the six high schools and at about the same time two softball stadiums were added at a school district owned site next to Wood Middle School.

The football stadium was renovated with the addition of a new press box and artificial turf replaced the

grass on the field. It had become obvious that it was impossible to maintain a quality football field with natural grass for six high schools. The bond also included the construction of a state of the art swimming pool next to the existing pool. This pool was designed for high level competition and includes some 1500 seats for spectators.

In 2004 the baseball stadium renovations were completed and included new turf and dugouts as well as the addition of new bleachers. Later in 2004, lights were added to the second soccer field and a new design has given North East two of the finest soccer fields in the state.

The final stage of the 1998 bond funds for athletics will be completed with the addition of a fourteenth tennis court, renovating all remaining courts, a new tennis building and renovations to the Piper-Bass Memorial Student Center. Blossom Athletic Center is now one of the finest of its type in the state of Texas.

Facility names now honor great coaches, athletes

A central athletic facility was built on fifty-six acres that included a football stadium and track. Additional stadiums were added over the years and the facility became known as Blossom Athletic Center after superintendent Virgil T. Blossom.

In 1963 an Olympic size pool was added and in 1966 a new gymnasium was constructed at a cost of \$14.50 a square foot. Today this facility, as described earlier, is the home site for varsity competition in all sports for North East schools. The North East school board has chosen to rename many of the facilities such as the pools being named for Josh Davis, an Olympic gold medal winner and graduate of Churchill High School and Bill Walker who served as the district's aquatic coordinator for many years.

The gymnasium is now Jimmy Littleton Gymnasium for the man who won a state basketball title at Lee High School in 1967 and served as the district's athletic director for fourteen years. The student activities building

Athletic programs grow as new schools, better facilities are added

By 1958 the rapid growth of the school district called for the citizens to build a second high school.

Old North East became the Douglas MacArthur Brahmas and the new school was the Robert E. Lee Volunteers. An upscale gymnasium with permanent seating on both sides was a trademark of the new athletic facilities at Robert E. Lee.

Shortly thereafter Kelly Horn was hired from Trinity University to become the new athletic director for the school district. Mr. Horn served in this capacity until 1968.

Both MacArthur and Lee had many highly ranked teams in football and basketball over the next few years. This was a time of rapid growth in the athletic program. Programs that were available for the boys outnumbered the girls but strong interest was developing in both areas.

Early girl's sports centered around volleyball, track, swimming and tennis. The boys continued to have some success in football, basketball, baseball and track.



The Roosevelt Rough Riders were the 1995 state champions.



The Robert E. Lee Volunteers won the state championship in 1971

Our hats off to all the athletes and coaches who represented our schools so well

Since the first team title in 1967 there have also been many individual titles too numerous to list. However, it is necessary to mention Josh Davis, a

swimmer from Churchill who went on to win three gold medals in the 2000 Olympics. Jerry Grote was an all-stater in baseball at MacArthur who went on to be a Major League baseball star.

Tommy Kramer and Linus Baer were both all-state in football at Lee. Kramer was an All-Pro football star and Baer is remembered for his role in the famous Lee-Brackenridge football game in 1963. Ivan Wagner was a state champion in the high jump who also won the NCAA title and Brock Stratton had the distinction of winning back-to-back state titles in wrestling with a two-year match record of 74-0.

Our hats are off to all the many individual state champions, the all-state athletes, and to those who represented our high schools in coaches association all-star games.

North East athletics is in good hands today with outstanding athletes and coaches at all high schools. This is true due to the support of the school board, the superintendent and staff, the campus administration and certainly the community of North East. In closing it must be said that there have been thousands of student athletes both male and female who have contributed significantly to the North East athletic programs. You have served as team members, student managers and student trainers and your dedicated commitment to your chosen sport has given the people of North East ISD many thrills. Thanks to all of you who have contributed as team members and coaches over the last fifty years. You have truly made this a celebration of "50 YEARS OF NORTH EAST ATH-

NORTH EAST ATHLETIC DIRECTORS

- Kelly Horn1958 - 1968
- Joe Bill Fox1968 - 1975
- Jimmy Littleton1975 - 1988
- Jerry Comalander1988 - 2005

Athletics expand with school growth

The first high school in University Interscholastic League competition was North East High School beginning in 1955. Robert E. Lee was built in 1958 and then in 1966 both Winston Churchill and Theodore Roosevelt opened. James Madison was built in 1975 and most recently we opened Ronald Reagan High School in 1999. Plans are currently under way to have the seventh high open in about 2008.

All North East high schools currently participate in class 5-A of the UIL, which is the largest enrollment classification of the league. There are currently 10 sports offered for boys and 10 sports for girls with established seasons of the year for each sport. North East high schools field teams in all UIL sports.



The pool facilities have been named after Churchill's Olympic medalist Josh Davis

FINANCE

MORE CHAMPIONS



Churchill High School State Championship team, 1966-67.



North East High School's 1955 girls basketball team

NORTH EAST STATE CHAMPION TEAMS AND COACHES

Robert E. Lee	.....Golf	.....1966	.....Tom Mosely
Robert E. Lee	.....Basketball	.....1967	.....Jimmy Littleton
Douglas MacArthur	.....Girl's Swimming	.....1967	.....Marla McCarty
Robert E. Lee	.....Football	.....1971	.....John Ferrara
Winston Churchill	.....Football	.....1976	.....Jerry Comalander
Winston Churchill	.....Volleyball	.....1978	.....Wanda Bingham
Winston Churchill	.....Boy's Basketball	.....1982	.....Bobby Murphy
Winston Churchill	.....Volleyball	.....1985	.....Wanda Bingham
Winston Churchill	.....Team Tennis	.....1985	.....John Peterson
Winston Churchill	.....Boy's Soccer	.....1989	.....Don Nelson
Winston Churchill	.....Boy's Swimming	.....1989	.....Al Marks
Winston Churchill	.....Boy's Swimming	.....1990	.....Al Marks
James Madison	.....Girl's Soccer	.....1991	.....Audrey Ambrose
James Madison	.....Girl's Soccer	.....1993	.....Audrey Ambrose
Winston Churchill	.....Girl's Golf	.....1996	.....Tom Lessner
Winston Churchill	.....Girl's Golf	.....1997	.....Tom Lessner
Winston Churchill	.....Boy's Golf	.....1997	.....Tom Lessner
Winston Churchill	.....Boy's Golf	.....1998	.....Tom Lessner
Winston Churchill	.....Girl's Golf	.....1998	.....Tom Lessner
Winston Churchill	.....Girl's Golf	.....1999	.....Tommy Walling
Winston Churchill	.....Girl's Swimming	.....1999	.....Al Marks
Winston Churchill	.....Girl's Golf	.....2000	.....Mike Martin
Winston Churchill	.....Boy's Swimming	.....2000	.....Al Marks
Ronald Reagan	.....Girl's Swimming	.....2000	.....Mark Jedeau
Ronald Reagan	.....Girl's Swimming	.....2001	.....Mark Jedeau
Winston Churchill	.....Boy's Soccer	.....2001	.....Larry Schaefer
Ronald Reagan	.....Boy's Soccer	.....2002	.....Walter Rule
Ronald Reagan	.....Girl's Swimming	.....2002	.....Mark Jedeau
Winston Churchill	.....Boy's Soccer	.....2003	.....Steve Zimmerman

Since the beginning, NEISD Finance Department has been recognized for excellence

Despite phenomenal growth, the budget has always been well managed

North East Rural High School District #9 was established in 1949 as a county school district with an enrollment of 756 students. In 1955, the Board voted to amend the name to North East Independent School District. Between the years of 1949 and 1960, North East was the fastest growing district in San Antonio, with enrollment growing to 14,316 students.

The District's enrollment increased to 56,396 students in 2004. Challenges and changes accompany growth. The Finance Department at North East has undergone numerous changes during the past 50 years.

In 1955, Rodgers, Chorpene & Jungman prepared the District's audit statements. In 1958, one of the earliest achievements for the Finance Department was to receive the CAFR (Comprehensive Annual Financial Report) Award.

George Johnson C.P.A. was the first Director of Accounting for NEISD. During his time as director, the Finance Department received the first GFOA (Government Finance Officers Association) Award in 1987. Currently, Dr. James Terry C.P.A. is the Executive Director of Finance and Accounting Services.

Tax Collection and Assessment was initially part of the accounting department. Ernie Dunnagan served as the last District tax collector. In 1993, the Bexar County Tax Assessor's office assumed tax collection for the District.

Over the years, the Finance Department has taken on many new responsibilities and has made great progress in the areas of organization and technology. During 1986, Employee Benefits relocated from Human Resources to the area now known as the Finance Division. Terry Richardson became the first Benefits Manager. The Treasury Office was formed in 1987 with James Terry C.P.A. as the first director. The District implemented Dun &



George Johnson, CPA, was the first director of accounting for NEISD.

Bradstreet to incorporate the accounting systems in 1995. The Dun & Bradstreet system eliminated the need for paper documents by providing a way to receive goods electronically online.

One of the biggest challenges facing the Finance Department has been funding. Revenue has continued to grow even though the District has received reduced financial support from the government. Between the years of 1958 and 2004, State and Federal revenue dropped from 61% to 28% of the budget.

Total revenue, on the other hand, has grown from \$2.1M in 1958 to

\$450.9M in 2004. The average growth over those years was 12%. The Office of Grant Administration was developed with Mary Alex C.P.A. as the director in 2002.

Student growth has averaged 4.5% over the past 50 years. The Finance Department has successfully managed the budget, keeping the focus on our children. Administrative expenses made up 5% of the budget in 1958, and during 2004 administrative expenses decreased to only 2.9%. Instruction related expenses made up 75% of the budget in 1958, with that amount changing slightly to 76% in 2004.


FRONTIER

DRIVE INN

Chacoal broiled Hamburgers

Enjoy

GOOD FOOD



3715 Broadway

Celebrating 50 years of health education and prevention

Sometimes school nurses provide the only healthcare many children receive

For the Last 50 Years school nurses have been the mainstay of health in the educational system. In some instances they are the only source of health care that a child receives. In others, students' lives have been saved because a nurse was on school premises. The school nurse is a vital necessity in keeping our children healthy and safe.

1950s To 1960s

- Viola Tyler, RN, MSN, was the first school nurse in the district. She was known as "Head Nurse" and cared for students in several schools. Ms. Tyler developed the prototype of the cumulative student health record that is still used today. She set the standard for excellence in school health services before state mandates existed. Her vision and high standards were the foundation for early, but progressive, student healthcare in schools. In her commitment to provide students with the most comprehensive care available, Ms. Tyler required nurses to have a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing. This standard continues to be in effect in 2005.

- Other school nurses in the formative/early years were Peggy Wright, Mildred Lusky, Mary Williams, Dottie Trenton, Dot De Coste, Pat Halett, Joan Thompson and Rosemary Goodyear.

- Duties included basic first aid and emergency care.

- There were no state mandates for student health services.

- Health Services was under the direction of the Special Education Department.

1960s To 1970s

- During the decade, nurses Helen McKay, Elva Morris, Beryl Boerner and Vincyn Dunn joined the Health Services Team.

- School nurse duties were expanded to include health education and the development of school safety programs in order to provide optimum health for school children.

- Each nurse had a minimum of three to five elementary schools. These

nurses were available to the secondary established.



In the 1950s, the head nurse cared for students at several schools.

schools on an as needed basis.

- Equipment was shared among schools.

- Hearing and vision screenings were initiated before being required by state regulations.

- Policies and procedures began to be developed to guide the delivery of health care to students.

1970s To 1980s

- After the retirement of Viola Tyler, Vincyn Dunn became "Head Nurse," which later evolved into the position of Director of Health Services.

- There were approximately twelve nurses in the district during this time.

- Congress passed the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, which mainstreamed students with severe medical conditions into regular classrooms. The school nurse role increased to provide care for these children.

- Immunizations became state mandated as a requirement for school attendance.

- Clinic Assistants were added to elementary schools in order to assist with increasing clerical and record keeping requirements.

1980s To 1990s

- With the awareness of immune system deficiencies and diseases associated with transmission of blood and body fluids, strict protocols were developed to protect students and staff. This had a major impact on the delivery of healthcare.

- AIDS education became a component of the maturation and sex education classes.

- The district adopted a growth plan during this decade to include nurses at every school.

- HEALS (Health, Education, Awareness, Learning and Services) was established with the PTA.

- Vision and Hearing Screenings were mandated as state requirements.

- Medical Advisory Committee was

HEALTH SERVICES

1990s To 2000s

- School Nurses were hired for every campus.

- Computers were added to each school clinic in order to facilitate the documentation of required student health information.

- Clinics were renovated to meet the increasing healthcare needs of students.

- Spinal screenings were mandated as a state requirement.

2000 To 2005

- Vincyn Dunn retired at the end of 2002 with more than 30 years of exceptional service in NEISD. Under Ms. Dunn's guidance and leadership, NEISD Health Services continues to be recognized throughout the state as one of the premier districts. Numerous awards and honors have been received from agencies such as the Department of State Health Services for Excellence in School Health. NEISD school nurses have been recognized locally, statewide and nationally for their outstanding contributions.

- State and federal laws continue to assure that every child has access to health services provided by a school nurse.

- The role of the state mandated School Health Advisory Council is expanded to include comprehensive school health education.

- Student visits to the school clinics have risen annually to almost 500,000 visits. Medications administered total over 250,000 annually and over 40,000 special procedures are completed annually.

- Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) are placed district-wide to make NEISD a heart-safe facility. CPR/AED Training is offered district-wide for students and employees.



Nurses have always played a vital role in helping us to keep children healthy and safe.



For many children, the eye exams were only visions tests many children received.



Children's hearing is tested with an audiometer. Hearing and vision screening was initiated at North East before being required by state regulations.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Continuing Adult Education department started with a few vocational classes

Today the program offers more than 1,000 courses to nearly 20,000 students

By Becky Stoughton
Director, Community Education

Community Education has been an integral part of the North East school district's 50 year history. In the late 1960s a few vocational classes were offered in the evenings through a program that would evolve into Community Education. By 1971 the department was known as the Continuing Adult Education Program and offered 25 classes through its first brochure. These classes were coordinated and supervised after hours in the high schools usually by vocational directors, such as Jim Oppelt.

Included in the offerings in 1971 were Office Machines, Decoupage, and Black and White Television Repair. Adult Basic Education classes were also offered with instructor Jay Mulkey. Dr. Mulkey continues to teach adult education in 2005. A staff member for the Continuing Adult Education Program included Loretta Huddleston who taught bookkeeping and more than 20 years later went on to lead the department as Director.

As the program continued to address the needs of the district and the community at large, class offerings became larger and more diverse and were truly representative of the times. Spring 1976 saw 52 classes offered including Auto Repair, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration, Bridge and Welding. The program was housed at MacArthur High School in a small office in the vocational building. The first full time Director, C.W. Snowden, was named in 1978.

In the Fall of 1980 North East received state funding to open two community schools: at Windcrest Elementary and Northwood Elementary, and the districtwide program was changed to Adult-Community Education. Arline Patterson was hired as the half time community education supervisor at Windcrest, and later Loretta

Huddleston would supervise the Northwood program. Training at Texas A & M University in community education took the program into a more comprehensive concept. Surveys of the community and additional course offerings at more schools became the norm, as well as a public relations outreach. Supervisors assisted with developing courses for children and people of all ages in their communities and supervising classes in the evenings.

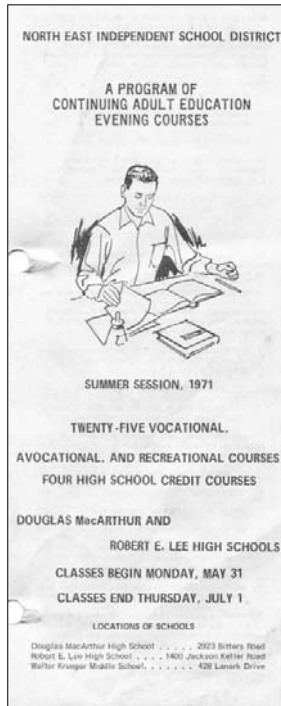
In 1985 the name was changed to Community Education and the first multi-page brochure was produced. The Fall brochure was 14 pages and 294 classes were offered including Graphic Design & Communication, Intro to Computer Use (Apple, Commodore & TRS-80), Using the Food Processor and High School Credit courses. That year also included a move for the department from MacArthur High School to 2923 Bitters, or the "little house" as staff referred to it.

Bulk mailing the brochure

Arline Patterson became Community Education Director in 1986. Up until this time, the Community Education brochure was distributed through the schools. One of the most significant changes initiated by Director Patterson was bulk mailing of the brochure to every home and many businesses in the district (more than 150,000), the first outreach of its kind by North East ISD. Patterson took steps to receive direct funding for adult basic education and established more classes and sites for Adult Literacy, Workforce Literacy, GED preparation, and English as a Second Language in addition to creating the first GED Test Site in the district.

Many district programs had their start through Community Education through grants and other initiatives. In 1987 both the Single Parent/Dropout Program, Workforce Training and the Volunteer Programs were initiated. Additionally a Community School Involvement Project was awarded to Community Education by the Texas Education Agency and Maria Ferrier coordinated the project at Nimitz Middle School. Ferrier went on to serve in the United States Department of Education under President George H. Bush and George W. Bush.

The first mentoring program was begun at Nimitz. Tutorial Centers were set up in 1988 at Coker, Larkspur, Northern Hills, West Avenue, Wilshire, and Regency Place elementary schools. Tutoring services for middle school and high school students were available at Tutorial Centers established at Lee, Madison, Roosevelt, Churchill, and MacArthur high schools. SAT Prep classes, as well as preparation classes for teachers required to take



Their first brochure in 1971 proudly boasted 25 vocation courses.

state competency exams, were popular. Kaye Fenn, current Wood Middle School Principal, joined the Community Education Staff in 1989 as the Teen Parent Coordinator. A learning center at Central Park Mall, was heralded as a first in the country. Later, the learning center at Windsor Park Mall was established and is currently offering classes.

Kids' Involvement Network

In 1990 another major first for both the department and the district occurred. The Kids' Involvement Network was developed to serve sixth graders at Ed White and Wood middle schools, becoming the first after-school program for middle school students in the state. Summer programs for children were developed with district teachers for enrichment classes and to address the needs of working parents. The fall brochure offered 544 classes including Fabric Painting, DOS Basics, Lotus 1-2-3, and Bird Taming. In 1991, an innovative grant awarded to Community Education initiated the Academy of Creative Education (ACE).

In 1992 North East Community Education was selected as a Model Community Education Program by the National Community Education

Association and the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation. The spring 1993 brochure introduced the current catalog format. The Kids' Involvement Network expanded from just middle schools to include two elementary sites. Thousand Oaks became the first tuition-based program and Walzem became part of the partnership with the City of San Antonio's Challenge After School programs. Eleven advisory councils involved many business and organization leaders and guided the programs. Community Education moved to its current location at 10333 Broadway in 1993, and at that time was serving more than 25,000 people annually.

The Fall 1995 brochure offered 627 classes including Toastmasters' SpeechCraft, Surfs Up! Learn to Surf the Internet, and Printmaking and introduced Loretta Huddleston as Community Education Director. In 1998, North East Community Education became one of the first cadre of programs nationwide to be awarded a 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant through the US Department of Education for school, community and after-school activities at Nimitz Academy.

In 2001 Becky Stoughton was named Director. The Department received a second 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant to provide activities at Colonial Hills, Ridgeview and Wilshire elementary schools. In 2003 the KIN program expanded to 42 elementary and middle school sites that currently serve more than 3000 students after school. A

NORTH EAST COMMUNITY EDUCATION DIRECTORS

C.W. Snowden
1978 - 1983

Weldon W. Whisenot
1983 - 1985

Edward L. Thomas
1985 - 1986

Arline Patterson
1986 - 1995

Loretta Huddleston
1995 - 2001

Becky Stoughton
2001 - Present

2003 Texas Education Agency After-School Initiative grant enabled the KIN program to focus on mathematics and character development in eight middle schools. During the 2003 - 2004 school year more than 1,000 Community Education classes were offered to nearly 20,000 students. North East Community Education has received state and national awards for its business

CONTINUED PAGE 19



This year's spring brochures is distributed to every NEISD home and includes more than 1,000 course offerings.

CURRICULUM

Curriculum staff has kept North East on the cutting edge of teaching

Today, curriculum is handled by two departments

Curriculum in North East, the backbone of all learning, has from the beginning been forward thinking and innovative. Many people have played key roles in keeping North East on the cutting edge of knowledge and proven teaching techniques. Although there are too many to mention by name, we thank them all for their contributions

and dedication to NEISD.

Everyone's goal has always been to make every student's learning experience one that prepares the student to meet the future, strong in knowledge and able to make wise and creative decisions. To meet students' needs today, the original curriculum departments have grown to two departments: Curriculum Compliance and School Improvement.

The '60s were a time for NEISD to create district leaders in Central Office positions to further the growth and depth of many different specialized areas of learning. Billy Reagan, Bernie Faller, Bob Wood, Mary Ellen Glaze, Don Dalton and Carol Harle have all served as Directors of Instruction.

Two supervisors, Zella Lovell and Velma Potts (followed by Jane King) began the task of overseeing elementary curriculum. Margaret Ivy became the K-12 Art Consultant. Katherine Lennard was the Music Consultant K-12. John Veltman

became the district Secondary Math Consultant and Ethel Nunn the Elementary Math Consultant. Bobbie Hunt followed Ethel as elementary math consultant until the late 80's when LuAnn Weynand became the Secondary Math Coordinator, which later turned into K-12 math.

These leaders created a math program for NEISD that truly focuses on how math is learned and provides students with strong opportunities to be successful. Durene Morgan became the English Consultant followed by Fran Everidge, Dianna Crocker, & the current Language Arts Coordinator, Jenny Guerro. These individuals created a strong English program with a writing emphasis. At the same time Al West was named Science Consultant followed by Charles McGibbon. For a time the district had science specialists without a coordinator until Patti Castellano became Science Coordinator in the early '00. These people created the state of the art science curriculum and lab facilities NEISD students enjoy today. Sandy Allen was named Elementary Social Studies Consultant and Bob Rock was named the Secondary Social Studies Consultant. They were followed by Carl Hansen for Secondary and Bobbie Hunt for Elementary.

Today Eric McGarrah is Social Studies Coordinator K-12. Kay Scruggs was in charge of Title I, which brought the district additional funds to supplement mainstream curriculum through strict federal guidelines. She was followed by Ruth Ball, Sue Moran, and Don Dalton, the current coordinator.

The Southern Association added librarians to the mix, just the beginning of the incredible library services offered to students and teachers today. '69 saw a major philosophical change when NEISD changed the grades 7-8 junior high school to a grades 6-8 middle school, a plan to better meet the physical and psychological needs of student learning.

Experimental Programs

The 1970s saw NEISD creating many new experimental programs to meet the needs of all children. Even though there was no state mandate, in '70-'71 NEISD piloted half-day Kindergarten via a special TEA grant. At the time, the district was criticized as doing something unnecessary and too costly. Now NEISD has full day Kindergarten classes as well as half day Pre-K classes.

The following Coordinators have led Kindergarten and Pre-K teachers through many curriculum changes: Barbara Wagner, Janet Bell & Bobbie Hunt. It was in '71 that 2 consultants, Mary Penn-primary and Barbara Wagner-intermediate were joined by resource teacher Mary Ellen



Bernard Faller, director of elementary education; Henry Coers, principal of Regency Place Elementary; Anthony Constanzo, assistant superintendent for administration & instruction; and Mary Jo Biediger, Region XX consultant in a classroom visit. (1970s photo)



Mary Ellen Glaze, coordinator of the district's gifted/talented program working with teachers Jan Elliot and Randa Hollon and national GT consultant Dr. Roger Taylor. Together they established a timeline for program implementation. (1980s photo)

Glaze creating the first steps for today's subject coordinators and specialists that focus on effective teacher training and cutting edge teaching techniques.

"Strings"

The beginning of a "Strings" program after school with a handful of students in '71 has led to a Strings program today of approximately 3,000 students. In the early '70s after two years of study and preparation, gifted classes K-3 were created. Each year the next grade level was added until gifted classes were available K-12 and NESAs, a gifted performing arts high school, was established in '97. Mary Ellen Glaze, considered the mother of NEISD G/T, created a foundation so intense with depth and complexity that its original concepts still prevail. G/T Coordinators to follow were Carol Mendenhall- secondary G/T English, Doris Meier-Elementary G/T and Kay Stotts, who is G/T Coordinator K-12 today.

Now more than 4,000 NEISD students participate in gifted classes and have become many of our district's

National Merit Scholars. We piloted Bilingual/ESL classes before state mandate in '75-'76. Today over 2,000 students are served in this program. The first full time Bilingual Coordinator was Irma Garza followed by Noemi Garcia, Rudy Rodriguez, Ruth Ball, Elmosa Herrera, and today, Alicia Garcia, Bilingual/ESL Coordinator. Jan Booth and Joyce Smith were the first ESL Secondary Coordinators.

The Agri-Science Magnet on the Madison campus, coordinated by John Mack, started in '76. With over 400 students today, it offers six majors through FFA.

The '80's set in place the core subject area coordinators and added the first Reading Consultant, Kay Scuggs, followed by Bobbie Hunt, Debe Palmer, & today Nancy Brischke. Doris Kays became the district Foreign Language Coordinator and still holds that job today along with being the district Curriculum Compliance Director.

The 80's also saw the creation of
CONTINUED PAGE 26



Members of the curriculum staff at a 1972 breakfast meeting. From left, Katherine Lennard, elementary music coordinator and founder of the North East Strings program; Mary Ellen Glaze, elementary consultant; Bernard Faller, director of elementary education.; Barbara Wagner-Elementary Consultant, Bob Wood-Director of Secondary Education. Standing-Millie Harvey, Curriculum Secretary.



Elementary consultants Mary Ellen Glaze and Barbara Wagner advertise for pre-registration of first-graders. (1972 photo)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

North East has always had a capable, dedicated board of trustees

Today the program offers more than 1,000 courses to nearly 20,000 students

What is the most important component of a Successful School District? The district staff, the students and parents, or the Board of Trustees? You might as well ask, "What is the Most Important Leg of a 3 Legged Stool?" One is not more important than the other....they are all important. An Exemplary and Award Winning District like North East has always had a strong staff, supportive students and parents and a capable and dedicated Board.

We owe a debt of gratitude to those who led us in the early years.

In 1949, the North East Rural High School District was born by the union of seven common school district. At that time the district had no modern school facilities and was very sparsely settled, with fewer than 600 scholastics (school children). From that time until the late 1970's the district was the fastest growing district in metropolitan San Antonio.

The Board of Trustees decided on March 4, 1955 to join the Texas Education Agency and Change the name of the district from North East Rural High School District to the North East Independent School

District. It must have taken a lot of courage to be one of the first Rural School Districts to understand the importance of official affiliation with the Texas State Education Agency.

In 1955, community leaders and staff were confronted with unprecedented growth. The major priority facing the Board of Trustees at that time was determining how we would remain a first class district in light of our growth. Because of the tireless work of members of the North East family, we have remained true to the ideals of our early leaders and visionaries and have continued to offer all students a quality education in up-to-date facilities.

In 1956 the now North East Independent School district had 5 modern school plants in operation, with 3 more under construction. Still more school plants were being planned to meet the educational needs of 6,556 scholastics now in the District as well as the predicted growth.

Progressive Thinkers

Members of the North East Board of trustees have always been progressive thinkers. They have successfully maintain a standard of excellence in the selection of a superintendent, the support of instructional programs, quality facilities, and the thoughtful consideration of the desires and concerns of the parents and patrons of the district.

Being a progress school board has not always been easy. In 1966 with the construction of the gym at Blossom Athletic Center there was criticism from citizen and media about the size and grandeur of the facility. At



North East Independent School District's current board members are, from left, President- Mrs. Sandy Hughey, Vice-President- Mrs. Beth Plummer; Secretary- Mrs. Molly Pruitt, Member- Mr. Bruce Bennett, Member- Mrs. Brigitte Perkins, Member- Mr. Gabe Quintanilla, Member- Mr. Edd White.

the time it opened it was the 2nd largest air conditioned structure of its kind in Texas, second only to the Houston AstroDome. Critics said it would never be filled to capacity. For some time it has not been large enough to support our current district events in all areas of need.

Recent members of the Board of Trustees have received similar criticism for their commitment to new district facilities. The district facilities supported and approved by the Board are expected to serve the patrons not just for the next few years but for future generations, just as founding district Board Members chose to do. Serving on the Board of Trustees is a volunteer job that requires being elected by district citizens. It can be rewarding to guide the future of a vibrant and diverse school district but the job does require sensitivity and commitment to the taxpayers of the district.

Integrity, courage, and vision

Members of the North East Board of Trustees are capable, hard-working men and women. They have consistently demonstrated integrity, courage, and vision, along with the highest type of fiscal responsibility,



The 1955 Board of Trustees included, from left, Victor O. Heck; Walter Meckel; Clarence L. Camp, president; Walter Zettner, secretary; and Leslie Steubing.

and with a fundamental interest in excellent educational advantages for all children. The type of leadership they have exhibited has resulted in an award winning and forward thinking school district.

As the policy-making body of the district, they:

1. Act only as a Board in session at regular or called meetings.
2. Determine the direction as to quality and quantity of educational opportunity available to students of the dis-

trict within the limits of leadership displayed and the financial resources available to them.

3. Make both legislative and judicial decisions.
4. Formulate plans (School Facilities, Finances, Curriculum, and Recruitment of Personnel).
5. Prepare the annual school budget and categorize expenditures.
6. Exercise the judgment and control required to provide the necessary direction of the school system.



This 1970s photo, exemplifying the cultural diversity found in NEISD schools, hung in the NEISD Board Room for many years. (Sarah Harris photo)



PTA

First district PTA Council established in 1960

Their motto: 'For the Welfare of Children and Youth'

On March 16, 1960, 63 interested community volunteers met at Castle Hills Elementary School and founded the North East Independent School District Council of the Parent-Teacher

Association.

The women wore hats and gloves and referred to themselves formally by their husbands' names. Their purpose was "to unify and strengthen the individual associations comprising this council." At that time, there were two high schools, one junior high school, and nine elementary schools; each with their own PTA.

Mrs. W. F. Thurmond was elected as the first president of North East Council. She, along with seven other elected officers, met the next month and formed the first Executive Board.

The committees formed included some of those that we are still familiar with today such as Budget and Finance, Lunch Room, Yearbook, Safety, Membership, and Legislation.

There were also some that represented the times that they lived in, such as

Civil Defense and Home and Family.

The general meetings for the Council were held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 9:30 am. A tradition that continues today. The programs presented at their meetings would be of interest to our current Council Delegates. Special Education, curriculum, health and music education were among the topics discussed.

That year they produced the first yearbook with a budget of thirty-five dollars. It included much of the same information that you can find in the current yearbook: contact information for officers and committee chairmen of the Council and for all the local units, budget and bylaws, meeting times and programs.

A contribution of \$140 was made to the Council and with that contribution the officers began the North East Council Scholarship. They were able to award two \$100 scholarships that first year, one to Susan White from Lee and a second to Linda West from MacArthur. Later, this scholarship became known as the Virgil T. Blossom Scholarship. Over the years, there have 189 recipients of this award. Today, the scholarship is worth \$2,600 over 4 years and each year is awarded to six NEISD graduates (one from each high school) who will be studying education in college.

This award is more than 10 times the first budget approved by Council whose modest expenses totaled \$227.32. There is no income section to their published budget, but there is reference to a fruit cake sale that raised \$78.25. They also collected annual dues from each local unit in the amount of 5 cents per member "not to exceed \$10.00."

Mrs. E. P. Fox volunteered to be the first Founders' Day chairman. The event was held at the Ramada Inn on February 28, 1961. Superintendent Virgil T. Blossom was honored with a National Life Membership and Mrs. Thurmond was honored with a contribution to the scholarship fund. Entertainment was provided by the MacArthur Stage Band.

The ladies that formed the North East Council that year were pioneers. They started an organization that has grown today to represent PTA's from 55 local units. They did so with the motto which remains important to parents today - "For the welfare of childhood and youth." The topics of today's modern Council meetings reflect many of the same issues that these parents confronted.

While present day Council must credit these women laying the foundation of our organization, North East Council has changed with the times. It has changed with the technology utilizing email to facilitate communication among the local units. It has adapted to two parent working families, encouraging fathers to participate and breaking down jobs so that working women can

volunteer. At times, it has had to face topics which are difficult to discuss. All of the changes have helped strengthen the partnership that exists between the North East School District and the parent volunteers.

Current Council President Joan Abbott and the Council officers and board members never wear hats and

gloves to their meetings. They would also prefer you use their own names and not their spouse's name when referring to them. However, each of these community volunteers feels a connection to those that came before them and are grateful for the tradition that they began.



Founders' Day Luncheon in 1966.



Dr. and Mrs. Virgil Blossom's Breakfast at State Convention in Fort Worth in November, 1962



North East Council Meeting-First Year Home & Family Chair-Mrs. Sam Sigoloff Associate Superintendent-Mr. Joe Wood, Dorothy Hilker, and Bill Reagan



2004-2005 NEISD PTA Executive Council pose with Twain Tharp, Executive Director of Special Programs, and Mark Menjivar, District Volunteer Coordinator, as part of the 50th Anniversary celebration.

PAST PRESIDENTS NORTH EAST COUNCIL OF PTAS

- Mrs. W. F. (Alice) Thurmond1960-61
- Mrs. Wayne (Ella) Bull*1961-63
- Mrs. Alfred R. (Jewel) Rowe, Jr.1963-64
- Mrs. Stanley (Madelaine) Metcalfe*1964-65
- Mrs. Louis F. (Cleo) Bohls*1965-67
- Mrs. William F. (Dorothy) Bryan1967-69
- Mrs. R. L. (Patricia) Patterson, Jr.*1969-71
- Mrs. John R. (Gay) Barton1971-73
- Mrs. Jack P. (Alice) Thomas1974-75
- Mrs. M. M. (Flo) Saunders1975-77
- Mrs. Stephen (Nancy) Sherman1977-79
- Mrs. Basil A. (Molly) Pruitt, Jr.1979-81
- Mrs. John F. (Delight) Wardashki1981-83
- Mrs. Roland H. (Edith) Caldwell*1983-85
- Mrs. David E. (Toni) Shacklett1985-86
- Mrs. William W. (Willa Jo) Beuhler, Jr.1986-88
- Mrs. Frank (Jan) Ramert1988-90
- Mrs. Charles E. (Ruthie) Brady, III1990-92
- Mrs. Joseph (Janice) Theis1992-94
- Mrs. Louis (Lynn) Barnett1994-96
- Mrs. Richard (Helen) Kret1996-97
- Mrs. William (Gail) Gray1997-98
- Mrs. P. K. (Diana) Roberts1998-00
- Mrs. David (Diana) Deininger2000-02
- Mrs. Ron (Susan) Achterberg2002-04
- Mrs. Ray (Joan) Abbott2004-

*deceased

TRANSPORTATION

'Blood, Sweat and Tears' have made transportation department a success

A fledgling District of four schools officially started in 1955 with a meager 22 buses, tasked to transport a portion of its initial 4,467 student enrollment within a 144 square mile border. Since its inception, our Transportation Department has evolved into one of the most integral support functions to ensure and enhance the quality of services in educating NEISD students.

Over the years, the department has grown to a level of being one of the recognized and well-managed departments in the state, having professional affiliation with the Texas Association for Pupil Transportation (TAPT). This achievement did not happen overnight, but it did occur through a lot of "blood-sweat-and-tears", dedication and leadership of many. The department currently meets thousands more challenges versus the early days. Let's see how it happened.

As the District continued growing, so did the Transportation Department under the leadership of John Redding who was selected as the Transportation Director during the year of 1967. His office was located in the old central office and the department's secretary was a Mrs. Jones.

The bus fleet was gasoline powered with manual transmissions. All buses were then parked in the area that is now the maintenance line. At that time there were no dispatchers or supervisors, just Mr. Redding and Mrs. Jones. All the drivers were either teachers or firemen or policemen with exception of one female driver, a Mrs. Zurbe. Some of the maintenance technicians drove buses in their time-off or served as a spare (substitute) driver when someone was absent. Each driver had two runs...one being for the elementary students and the other was designed to handle both middle and high school students.

Thank heavens for automatic transmissions, power steering

After several years, new buses began arriving with automatic transmissions and power steering. About the time the second central office was constructed further down Broadway, a new garage was also built and Mr. Redding moved his office into the building where the parts room is currently located.



Students prepare to board a bus in the 1960s.

At that time, Mr. Ken Roberts was added to the staff as the supervisor of bus maintenance and assistant to the director. Shortly after Roberts assumed his duties, the District started purchasing diesel buses.

In the late 70's John Wells was selected as the new director and eventually became an associate superintendent. His successors were Bill Evans, Tom Youngman (deceased) and Wesley Davis.



Chuck Pusateri has been records manager for 28 years.

With the unexpected death of Mr. Youngman (1989), Ken Roberts became the director for a short period of time before Mr. Davis assumed his duties. During the year of 1993, Don Paull became the next director and served through 1998 at which time the operation had grown to a multi-route operation of approximately 265 regular foundation routes, serving 16,865 (39%) of 43, 598 students with 300 buses. Succeeding Mr. Paull were Mike McClung (1998-1999) and Brian Gottardy (1999-2004).

The department, especially under the direction and leadership of Dr.

Gottardy, became more advanced relative to incorporation of various computerized management systems, while still contending with rapid growth. At the time Dr. Gottardy assumed his duties as the executive director, the department had evolved to the level of serving 17,247 of 49,392 students over approximately 318 routes.

Dr. Gottardy has advanced and now serves as the District's Associate Superintendent for the Auxiliary Services Division, comprised of Food Services, Facilities Maintenance and Improvements and Transportation departments. Replacing Dr. Gottardy and starting his tenure as the executive director this past October is Nolan Anderson.

When Ken Roberts assumed directorship in 1989, O.C. Haley was selected as the first bonafide assistant director. Mr. Haley joined the Transportation staff having served the District as the Drivers Education Coordinator since 1969. In 2002, Christopher O'Connor followed Haley upon his retirement where upon a later date, the position title was changed from assistant director to director.

The directors could not conduct the executive affairs of the department without the qualified and professional assistance of the secretary. Following the tenure of Mrs. Jones came services of Joan Bond, Lena Mae Vogel (1990), Billie Hoggatt (1990-1993) and currently Sharon Koehler (1993 to present).

Multi-faceted department

Today, the Transportation Department is a highly multifaceted, computerized operation that works in high gear from as early as 5:30 a.m. through 11:30 p.m. or after the last bus comes in during the week and for certain functions over the weekends, as required. The



Those who have served the department for at least 25 years include, from right, Denise Troutt, Wayne Sibley, Esther Mungia, David St. Clair and Elvira Zuniga

functionality and applications of the current pupil transportation theorems and techniques have evolved into primarily three (3) major components: Administration, Operations Management (Routing) and Fleet Maintenance. Here's what has culminated over the years, to date.

The Administration component consists of functions to manage and supervise approximately 450 individu-

agement of all operational and fleet maintenance functions in support of the District's and department's mission requirements in providing pupil transportation services.

This 50th Anniversary Celebration in the Transportation Department would not be complete unless a special recognition is extended to several employees who have rendered at least 25 years of service to the District as of May, 2004. These devoted professionals are:

Esther Munguia - Driver, 25 years
Denise Troutt - Assistant, 25 years
Chuck Pusateri - Records Manager, 28 years
Elvira Zuniga - Dispatcher, 29 years
Wayne Sibley - Technician, 30 years
David St. Clair - Driver, Retired with 35 years of service (Returned to drive 2004-05 school year)
John Pomykal - Teacher/Driver, 37 years

Operation Management is the nucleus and primary functional element of the department.

About 27 office support personnel, 287 drivers and 103 bus assistants work each regular workday and some Saturdays to ensure students are safely transported to school and to extra-curricular activities. The department has two operating locations where the buses are dispatched. One of the facilities is the Central Terminal located at Broadway and Wetmore where most of the functions and vehicles are located. The other facility primarily provides parking space for buses that is located at the Blossom Athletic Center. Presently there are 278 buses supporting regular routes while 92 service Special Needs routes handling approximately 900 students. The District

CONTINUED PAGE 26



John Pomykal has been a teacher/driver in the district for 37 years

als working at various echelons throughout the department. The executive section is composed of five (5) individuals - executive director and secretary; a director and secretary and receptionist to handle a myriad of administrative duties. Some of the duties include managing the registration documents for all district vehicles (370 buses; 269 general-purpose vehicles); budget management; consultation/resolution of bus and route issues with district/non-district constituents and entities (federal, state and local) that govern program guidelines; and provide overall supervision and man-

FINE ARTS

MUSIC

THEN
Music program started with a band and a small choir

In 1955, Mr. Melvin Camp served as band director of the North East Brahma Band. Under Mr. Camp's direction, the band performed at football games, local parades and city events in San Antonio. Roy Balter was the drum major. The Pep Squad also had a drum and bugle corps called the "Lassies".

The North East High School choir was called the "Songsters" and had approximately 30 members (mostly young ladies). By 1957, the Choir grew to 62 members and had a female quintet called the "The Co-Eds".

By 1958, the band grew to 85 members with 5 majorettes and received new uniforms.

NOW

More than 6,000 students participate in music programs

The NEISD Music Department consists of four main areas: Band 6th-12th grade: Choir 6th-12th grade: Orchestra: 5th-12th grade and Elementary Music: K-5th grade. Approximately 6,700 students are enrolled in middle school band, choir, and orchestra. These students perform 3-5 concerts per year, and participate in UIL Concert and Sight Reading competitions.

The high school marching bands perform at all football games and compete at UIL Marching Band events. In the fall of 2004, Reagan and Churchill bands were finalists in the UIL Texas State Marching Contest.



The North East Brahma Band performed at games and in parades. By 1958, it had grown to 85 members

Over 200 students are enrolled in the secondary North East choral programs. In the district's elementary schools, students have the opportunity to participate in music classes where they are introduced to reading music, listening to the music of master composers, creating personal music experiences, and evaluating musical performances.

CHEER/PEP SQUAD/DRILL

THEN
18 girls formed the Brahmadores

In 1955, Miss Jacobs was the Cheerleading and Pep Squad sponsor. The three-year-old Pep Squad consisted of fifty-two members and three flag bearers. The following year, the "Lassies" bugle core performed at local parades. The demands for half-time entertainment were growing, so Mr. Camp, the band director, selected eighteen girls to form the "Brahmadores" drill team in 1957.

The junior high school programs were very active in 1958. The junior high boasted a five member cheerlead-

ing squad, a forty-two-member pep squad and a seventy-two-member drill squad.

NOW

Cheerleading has evolved into a competitive sport

Over 1,500 students are enrolled in the NEISD Dance, Drill, Cheerleading and Pep Squad programs. Cheerleading, over the years, has evolved into a competitive sport, requiring the strength and skill of an athlete. Squads compete in divisions that range in size from 10 to 30 cheerleaders. Dance and drill teams, as well as pep squads, often numbering 100 to 150 girls, also compete in contests judged on choreography, precision and dance ability. NEISD cheerleaders and dance teams have garnered State and National titles in recent years. The programs, of course, are still a must for half time entertainment and have public performances on a regular basis. Annual events include: the North East Pep Squad Summer Camp, the district wide dance showcase, "One Singular Sensation", and campus spring shows.

JOURNALISM

THEN
Broom closets, manual typewriters made things tedious

In 1955, students were kept informed by the *Brahma Tales*, the school's newspaper. The journalism department grew in 1957 and added a photography club that consisted of thirty-six members.

In 1958 the forty-eight-member



(1958) A couple of Brahmadores help sell programs before the big game.



(1955) The North East Cheerleaders help boost school spirits throughout the year.

junior high Press Club also made contributions to the newspaper. Using manual typewriters for articles and a broom closet for a darkroom, students found creating a yearbook a tedious process.

NOW

Students use latest software, digital equipment

1,200 NEISD high school students enjoy using state-of-the-art equipment to create school newspapers and yearbooks. Students are challenged with learning the latest software products and digital equipment.

Yearbooks are produced in color and often with CD inserts. Consistent with the past, our journalism programs continue to participate in the International League Press Conference, as they have for the past

50 years.

UIL Competition

THEN
Slide Rule, Stenography, Typing among competitive events

North East High School had a very active UIL Academic team. Students participated in events that no longer exist such as: Slide Rule, Typing, Stenography and Declamation. Mrs. Lucile Todd was the speech teacher and sponsored three UIL events. In 1957, North East competed in Journalism for the first time. The Junior High started offering clubs to attract students to the different aca-

CONTINUED PAGE 18



(1955) The North East Songsters keep the school's vocal talents in perfect pitch.

demc events and prepare them for the high school competition.

NOW
Schools now produce champions in spelling, prose, poetry

Over 500 middle school students compete in various academic events throughout the year including the District tournament at the end of the year.

For the past three years NEISD middle schools have hosted three practice meets to encourage interest in academics. The high school programs also have grown in recent years. All six high schools have teams traveling to practice meets throughout the year, preparing for the UIL District, Regional and State Tournaments at the end of the year.

In recent years, NEISD has had school Regional champions and individual State champions in poetry, prose, and spelling.

DRAMA

THEN
Interest in dramatic arts grew gradually

In 1955, the North East One Act play consisted of a seven member all girl cast. The drama department entertained the school in 1957 with such plays as The Curious Savage and This Way to Heaven. Interest in the dramatic arts consistently grew each year and eventually reached the younger students. The junior high dramatic club grew to thirty-seven members by 1958.

NOW
NESA attracts artists from throughout the county

Over 2,000 middle school students and 1,500 high school students are currently enrolled in the NEISD



North East High School's UIL Spelling team takes time from learning new words to pose for a picture. (1955)




THIS WAY TO HEAVEN

CAST

Mr. Flannigan ----- ROB SMITH
 Gram Wilson ----- JEAN EISENBERG
 June Wilson ----- JOY HISSONETTE
 Charley Baker ----- RAYBURN ANDERSON

Sponsor ----- MRS. EVERITT

ONE ACT PLAY

(1958) North East thespians shine in the school's production of This Way to Heaven.



(1958) The newspaper staff works hard to make the deadline for the latest edition of the Brahma Tales.

theatre programs. The middle school programs compete in a UIL District One-Act Play contest as well as performing in campus productions.

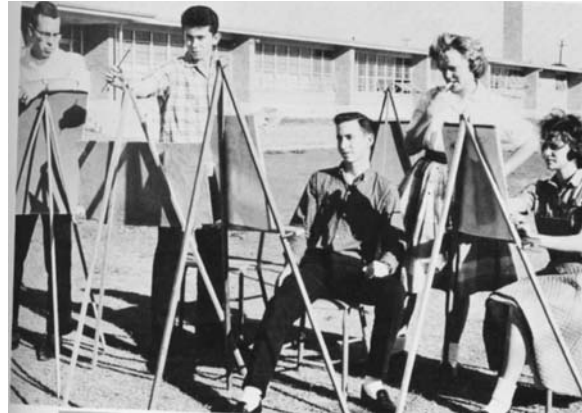
High schools present two main stage productions and a musical or children's play each year. In addition, they compete in the UIL One-Act play contest in District 26AAAAA, with the possibility of advancing to the Area, Region and State contest. At least one NEISD high school has advanced to the State One-Act play competition in ten of the past eleven years.

In 1996, NEISD opened the North East School of the Arts (NESA), a magnet program dedicated to the advancement of student learning in visual and performing arts. Students from the greater Bexar County area may audition for acceptance into one or

more of seven majors: Cinema, Creative Writing, Dance, Instrumental Music, Musical Theatre, Technical Theatre and Visual Arts.

Art
THEN
Art programs had modest beginnings

NEISD art programs had a modest beginning in the 1950s. By the 1960s, art programs began blossoming throughout the district with the help of Mrs. Margaret Ivy, the district's Art



Lee High School artists working on their masterpieces, circa 1962.

Coordinator. Talented art students started gaining public attention with the projects they entered in local and state competitions as well as annual exhibitions.

NOW
Schools still produce champions

More than 2,000 students are enrolled in middle school art classes, over 3,000 in high school art classes, and 90 in the North East School of the Arts. The programs participate in several events and organizations such as: Reflections, Night Gallery Art Exhibit, SHARE (Students Help Art Reach Everyone) and VASE (Visual Art Scholastic Event).

Every year 2,500 NEISD elementary students participate in the Young Masters exhibit where they show the budding talents of new artists.

Caption: (1962) Lee artists work on their latest masterpieces.

Speech & Debate

THEN
Program started with two debate teams

In 1955, Mr. Alfred Buxton sponsored the National Forensic Society, an organization that focused on public speaking and debate. The organization started with only four students, which made two debate teams that competed in the UIL District Meet. The organization quickly grew and by 1957 the North East Speech Club had thirty members.

NOW
Every high school, middle school offers speech program

There are currently 400 middle school students and 300 high school students enrolled in NEISD speech programs. Seven middle schools offer a debate course and all eleven middle schools offer speech programs. Each high school program competes in Texas Forensic Association (TFA), National Forensic League (NFL), University of Kentucky's Tournament of Champions (TOC) and University Interscholastic League meets.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Developing pioneering Special Education programs required a leap of faith

Today, programs serve as statewide models

North East Special Education employees were early pioneers in the education of children with disabilities. They maintained a belief that all children, regardless of disability, should have access to the public schools. They believed that as a society we would be richer and more humanitarian if district students were educated in and around children with handicaps.

In the late '60s and early '70s this required a giant leap of faith for both educators and parents. Fear and a lack of understanding have always been barriers to progress. State institutions were filled with children who were age appropriate to participate in school but who had no opportunity to attend our public schools. North East, like most other school districts, had no financial resources to provide for these children and no staff to work with them.

In 1975, Congress passed Public



Special education staff includes, from left, Marcia Narveson, Lynn Matherne, Karen Cantrell, Dr. Murray Worsham, and Chris Condren.



North East School District's Special Education support staff gathers together at a recent fete.

Law 94-142 (Education of All Handicapped Children Act), now codified as IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act). In order to receive federal funds, states must develop and implement policies that assure a free appropriate public education to all children with disabilities. State plans have to be consistent with the federal statute.

The pioneers

With the promise of federal money, North East became a pioneer in special education. From the very

beginning the district became a model for all programs in Texas. Some of the many individuals who led this pioneering spirit where Preston Stephens, Bob Tipton, LaVern Jopling, Ed Miles, Patti Beard, Madeline Magers, Twain Tharp, Sarah Villarreal, Rosa Lee Clary, and Linda Jennings. The appraisal staff was led by Dr. Elizabeth Lende along with state legends like Lewis Scott, James Bode, Karen Cantrell, Jerome Ciarrocchi, Peggy Faglie, Mary Fordyce, Dorothy Hollimon, Maxine Sabol, Margaret Stowe, and Margie Wetzel.

The next generation

As these pioneers retired they made way for many district special education teachers and others to take their place. The next generation of special education experts included Margie Ball, Lindy Burgess, Chris Condren, Betty Foster, Elise Frizzell, Cindy Hogue, Janet James, Yvonne Johnson, Carol McClendon, Johnnie Median, Marcia Narveson, Phyllis Jones, Gela Rabon, Otilia Vidaurri, Dr. Murray Worsham, and Laura Yzaguirre.

Special Education Directors

Lelia Treptow	1961-1963
Claude Cheek	1963-1965
Preston Stephens	1965-1981
Bob Tipton	1981-1983
Twain Tharp	1983-1990
Karen Cantrell	1990-2002
Judith Higgins	2002-present

COMMUNITY ED., FROM PAGE 12

ness partnerships, mentoring, after-school programs and class offerings. The Kids' Involvement Network has been recognized by the National Community Education Association and USA Today as an Outstanding After School Program. Adult Education classes (English as a Second Language, Pre GED and GED Preparation) are offered at nine locations and the department looks forward to a new partnership with the City of San Antonio in the Ferrari Learning Center, currently under construction by the city at the North East Alternative Center located on Rampart. The Adult Education program, through its advisory council and community partners awarded \$5000 in scholarships to 10 students at the 2004 GED Graduation ceremony. The most recent Community Education brochure offers 634 classes at 20 district and 29 community locations with an additional 345 classes available on-line. It is mailed to 160,000 homes. Another 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant has been awarded to extend

activities at Colonial Hills, Ridgeview and Wilshire and additionally to provide after school and summer activities at Dellview and Walzem elementary schools. KIN registration is available on-line and the department looks forward to offering class registration on-line in the near future.

The program that began with three employees has grown to include 23 employees in the Broadway office with another 240 employees at the 42 KIN sites, 19 adult education teachers and more than 200 instructors for Community Education classes. Community involvement remains an important factor in the community education process at North East and the department receives input from 4 Advisory Councils - the Adult Education Advisory Council, the Kids' Involvement Network Advisory Council, the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Advisory Council and a District-wide Advisory Council. The Department continues to meet its mission of addressing the needs of the District and the North East community through a diverse variety of programs while remaining self-sufficient in funding. North East Community Education - The Possibilities are Endless!

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Prescriptions - Toiletries - Fountain
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SECSS

**Student,
Employee and
Community
Support Services**

*Creating and
Maintaining Safe,
Drug-Free School
Environments Where
All Students Can
Learn and Be
Successful*

Educating all of our students is what North East ISD is all about. Creating and maintaining a safe, disciplined, drug-free environment where students can learn and be successful is what Student, Employee and Community Support Services is all about. It is no accident that these purposes are closely aligned. In fact, since 1986, the federal government has been taking action to ensure that all students will be educated in learning environments that are safe, drug-free and, conducive to learning.

In 1986 the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act (DFSCA) was signed into law. In effect, every superintendent in the country signed a letter from the United States Department of Education stating that their district would implement a drug prevention program. Funds were made available to governors of each state and to state education agencies.

Locally, North East Superintendent Dr. Arnold Oates signed the letter of commitment and Katrina Turek (now Dr. Katrina Jacobson) was named Coordinator of Drug-Free Schools. She created a comprehensive program containing curriculum, Peer Assistance and Leadership (PAL) and Student Teacher Assistance Network (STAN).

PAL was founded in Texas by Dr. Grant Thomas in 1986 on the philosophy that "Students are a resource and the contributions they make are valuable." Jacque Christal, Lee; Sharon Andrews, Madison; and Laureen Rushing, Mac Arthur, helped develop the program. PAL is an integral part of prevention at each high school and middle school. There are more than 500 PALs, 300 plus at high school and 200 plus at middle school. PALS tutor, mentor, mediate, are role models, and provide school and community service. PAL students contributed more than 27,000 hours of service in 2003-2004.

STAN

STAN was another cutting edge component of the original Drug-Free Schools program. Dr. Jacobson said, "STAN grew out of the obvious need (the PAL kids really helped me see it) for additional specialized adults in each high school who were trained in drug intervention and prevention, and were available for that sole purpose."

Bobbie Turnbo was the first STAN Specialist at Churchill. She implemented the complete Core Team process including administrators, and teachers who met weekly for a staffing addressing student needs. Ms. Turnbo said, "It did not take me long to realize that I had no idea of the magnitude of problems facing our students. It is alarming what these children must cope with while trying to get an education."

In 1992, the North East STAN program received national recognition as an Outstanding Student Assistance Program. Representing North East were Katrina Turek (Jacobson), STAN Specialists Bobbie Turnbo, Churchill; Linda Eichman, Roosevelt; Beth Ann Kelm, Mac Arthur; and Claudia Robichaux, Madison.

Today's STAN Counselors are Master's level professionals with a degree in school counseling and additional training in substance abuse prevention, violence prevention and wellness and prevention.

STAN Counselors for 2004-2005 are: Churchill, Beth Fox; Lee, Karla Bolton; MacArthur, Rolla Bradley; Madison, Cindy Suarez; Reagan, Jim Gabbard; and Roosevelt, Mary Duran.

STAN Counselors continue to provide responsive counseling and support to students individually and in group settings. They are members of the school Leadership Team, provide classroom lessons, coordinate mediation programs, conduct student and faculty training, and sponsor student activities such as the Unity Club, Winners Circle, SADD, and school-wide projects such as Shattered

Dreams.

Ms. Dolly Adams became the Drug-Free Schools Coordinator in January 1997. She had been with Education Service Center, Region 20 (ESC-20) for five years and brought a strong background in special education, professional development, and direct classroom instruction to meet the challenges of providing prevention to students in North East.

In 1998, the Principles of Effectiveness were published requiring schools to conduct needs assessment of drug and violence problems, establish measurable goals, implement research-based or promising approaches and programs and assess progress toward meeting goals in order to address the issue of increasing accountability and decreasing funding.

SAFE AND DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS

Locally, In September 1999, Ms. Pat Sanford joined the district as Coordinator of Safe and Drug-Free Schools. Ms. Sanford had worked with both previous coordinators in her role as Educational Specialist at ESC-20. Ms. Sanford's background includes education and public health. She brought a systematic approach to prevention efforts in North East by creating Standards and Benchmarks for elementary, middle and high school that provided the program with strength and stability.

PAL middle school program grows

In the past five years, the middle school PAL program has grown from five to all eleven schools. The high school PAL program now has two classes at each traditional high school with one class each at ISA and Center School. The North East PAL program is considered to be the leading PAL program in the state of Texas, perhaps in the nation, according to the state peer assistance organization, Youth-Launch in Austin.

**Middle School PAL
Teachers for 2004-2005**

- BradleyLisa Fromelt
- BushDonna Hengst
- DriscollCindy Horgan
- EisenhowerCarrie Fraser
- GarnerLaura McDermitt
- JacksonSusanna Timm
- KruegerBecky Cardenas
- NimitzDr. Jo Ann Ponce
- TejadaJana Baxter
- WhiteSally Germanaro
- WoodCarole Stonaker

**High School PAL
Teachers for 2004-2005**

- Center SchoolCarol Wood
- ChurchillDawn Wales
- Chris Pelletier
- ISALydia Valdes
- LeeJennifer Schaefer
- Doug Dexter
- Mac ArthurLaureen Rushing
- MadisonSharon Andrews
- Donna Tripp
- ReaganSusan Stanford
- Suellen Foxhall
- RooseveltLauren Anderson



MacArthur PAL with his buddies at Oak Grove Elementary School, in 1991.



Roosevelt PALS conduct team-building activities at the annual high school PALS retreat at Moe Ranch.

SDFSCA

In 2002, SDFSCA was reauthorized as Title IV, Part A of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001: 21st Century Schools - Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities. The Act increases accountability and flexibility for states to transfer funds among a specified list of programs incorporated in the Act.

Locally and nationally, accountability with NCLB rose at the same time resources all over the country were declining. Using resources to get the greatest outcome has become more important than ever before.

In the spring of 2003, the SDFS program became Student, Employee and Community Support Services (SECSS). As Director of SECSS, Ms. Sanford said that "because of changing times and society, program change was needed. We chose to look at district needs and make creative use of

resources. We added a district Mediation Coordinator and two Experiential Learning Facilitators to our team, going from SDFS to SECSS. SECSS includes Safe and Drug-Free Schools, PAL, STAN, Leadership Development, Mediation, Experiential Learning and Character Education."

Mary Alice Smallbone, a former school administrator and SDFS specialist at TEA, is the district Mediation Coordinator. In the year and one half that Ms. Smallbone has been with the district she has trained students and faculty on 30 NEISD campuses. She says of the program, "The position of district Mediation Coordinator is unprecedented in Texas and speaks to the insight that NEISD has in being proactive." Mr. Pete O'Connor and Ms. Barbara Hooper are the two Experiential Learning Facilitators.

CONTINUED PAGE 26

GUIDANCE & COUNSELING

Birth of NASA created a need for guidance counselors in schools

◆

Today, counselors' roles have evolved and form an integral part of education

In the 1950's, something spectacular happened that changed the world and the school counseling profession forever. When Russia launched SPUTNIK, the first artificial satellite, it marked the start of the space age and the United States and Soviet space race. As a result, NASA was created but the United States soon learned there was a shortage of scientists and mathematicians.

A major piece of legislation, The National Defense Educational Act, was passed in 1958 and substantially made an impact on the purpose of counselors in the schools. Until the NDEA, guidance and counseling was largely provided by "teacher counselors" with little, if any, education in counseling and guidance. Through the

NDEA, funding was provided to train counselors and soon the "teacher counselors" were replaced by trained counselors with the purpose of identifying and guiding "scientifically talented" students and to make the college bound student a priority.

As a result of the NDEA, the counseling role transformed from one of solely "vocational" guidance to that of "educational" guidance. The school counselor took advantage of the many new aptitude and achievement assessments to find those students whose strengths were in the math and sciences and encouraged them to pursue higher education rather than move directly from school to work as with the remaining students in the school.

From the 1960's to the 1990's, school counseling continued to evolve based on the needs of the nation, both from an economics and social standpoint. Economically, the needs of the labor force were quickly changing as globalization of industry got underway. Students began to exhibit behaviors in school that mirrored their rapidly changing and sometimes confusing world. Social problems, such as substance abuse, violence in schools, mental health issues, and changes in the family structure, all contributed to re-defining the role of the counselor, and the scope of the guidance program, from one solely focused on vocational and educational issues to one that also included helping students with personal and social difficulties.

Up until the 1990's, guidance

programs remained largely undefined, and counselors generally served two student populations, those who excelled and those whose behavior was problematic. Not all students received guidance services and many of us, who attended school during this time, cannot remember who, or even, if there was a guidance counselor in the school; and, if we were aware of a counselor, it was seldom that we had any contact.

'90s brought major changes

The 1990s brought major changes to the scope of guidance programs across the country as accountability became the buzzword in the education field. Guidance programs began to transition from services provided to some students to the realization that all students were in need of counseling and guidance support. Where the guidance program was once an "ancillary" support service, it has transformed into a comprehensive program that is an integral part of the educational system. Every counselor from the early beginnings, in the 1920's, has contributed to the evolution of the comprehensive developmental guidance programs of today.

In North East, guidance and counseling evolved in much the same way as all other school districts. As the needs of the nation surfaced during different historical times, NEISD counselors met the challenges and provided the finest counseling and guidance services known at the time. In 1953, before North East actually became an independent school district, North East High School employed school counselors.

In the early years, the secondary schools usually had one or two counselors. The elementary schools were served by "guidance consultants" from central office that regularly visited the elementary campuses, and were on call when the principal or teacher might need additional resources. Some of the early counselors were Bob Brauchle and Frederick Lane Finch.

Until the late 1960's, secondary school counselors were under the direction of the school principal. Usually at the high school, two counselors looked after the students, while at the middle schools, one counselor was assigned. From 1965 until 1967, Virgil Wadsack supervised the guidance services department of the school district. In the 1967-1968 school year, Roy Balter (North East High School, Class of 1956) became the first Central Office Guidance Coordinator, with two years of counseling experience from Churchill High School. Preston Stephens, Director of Special Services, supervised Roy and assigned a variety of jobs other than guiding the district's counselors. He was also in charge of the pupil appraisal center, health serv-



Between them they represent decades of service to North East School District's Guidance and Counseling Department. Top Row, from left: Bill Fish, Lynn Camp, Cynthia Monaco, Maqrtha Salmon. Seated, from left, Shirley Kearns, John Kleiman, Jeannie McDaniel, Carol Churchill. (1980s photo)



Now and then: Theresa Miller, current director of Guidance, with the district's first guidance coordinator, Roy Balter. (2005 photo)

ices, homebound program, and coordinated the new teacher reception and testing. To hear him tell the story, he even stepped in as "head nurse" until a replacement was found for the retired "head nurse."

During the early years of Roy's tenure as Guidance Coordinator, North East employed four elementary guidance consultants for 20 schools. Mona Frost, Grace Green, Mary Jo Willings, and Jerome Ciarocchi were each assigned five schools, and visits to the campuses were arranged by the day of the week. Each day meant a call on a different campus. At the secondary level, each middle school had two counselors and each high school had three counselors and a "vocational" counselor to serve those students going directly from graduating high school into the work force.

During Roy Balter's thirteen

years as guidance coordinator (1968-1982), he saw many changes take place in the world of counseling. As North East school district grew, and the world changed, so did the needs of the students and the role of the counselor. The elementary guidance consultants were replaced by elementary counselors at each school. When asked what he thought the biggest challenge was during his tenure, he cited that there was not a clear definition of the counselor's role and, as a result, many counselors found themselves in quasi-administrative roles, limiting the amount of student-counselor contact time.

Following Roy Balter as guidance coordinator was Carol Churchill, who came to Central Office having been a counselor at Garner Middle

CONTINUED PAGE 26



*Margaret Matthews, retired Counselor, Castle Hills Elem.
Amy Ferrell, Counselor, Oak Meadow Elementary/Serna Elem.*

SCHOOL COUNSELORS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

"Growing up in NEISD schools provided me the opportunity to observe many positive role models. As an eight year old, I remember one compassionate lady who left a life-long impression on me. She was patient and gentle, understanding and kind.

Mrs. Margaret Matthews was my elementary school counselor and I always looked forward to her

visits (she had a great dolphin puppet named Doso). She was there for me during my early years and I felt so special when I was selected to take her pet hamster home for the weekend! More importantly, she listened without passing judgment and was always looking out for my best interests.

Not only was Mrs. Matthews my favorite grownup throughout elementary school, but she also inspired me to become a counselor. I currently work in NEISD as an elementary counselor and have had the extraordinary opportunity to give back to the district that gave me so much. I am now in the position to touch the lives of youngsters in the same way in which Mrs. Matthews influenced mine. She truly proved that listening is often the best thing you can do for a person."

*- Amy Ferrell, Counselor
Oak Meadow Elementary
Serna Elementary School*

MAINTENANCE

Maintenance still dedicated to its role as stewards of NEISD facilities

It is hard to imagine that San Antonio has grown from a sleepy little city of 400,000 in 1950 to the sprawling metropolis of 1.2 million people by 2000.

As every NEISD employee knows, the growth within the district has been equally phenomenal. While the number of schools and students has dramatically increased over the last 50

years, the Maintenance Department has also experienced a tremendous growth in order to continue providing our level of service.

The Maintenance Department has grown from 7 technicians in 1955 to 110 in 2005. Our truck fleet has increased from 9 trucks in 1956 to 127 in 2005. The management tasks that were handled by 1 man in 1955 now need 9 administrators to oversee. The 12 district buildings that needed to be maintained in 1955 have now grown to over 60.

What used to be dirt roads and pastureland in the district has been replaced with urbanized infrastructure. What was Austin Highway became Interstate 35. North W.W. White became Loop 13 and then Loop 410. Farm to Market Road 1604 stopped at



North East's maintenance fleet looking shiny and new in the late 1950s.

Highway 281. North West Military Drive was known as the Harry Wurzbach Highway.

Since 1960, the Maintenance Department has had four Directors/Executive Directors overseeing the Department. From 1960 to 1969 Levi R. Fenner was the Director. Wayman Marshall came to the Maintenance Department as Executive Director in 1969 where he remained until his retirement in 1993. In 1993 Walter Scott became the Executive Director until 2000 and is now the District Architect in the Construction Management Department. Amador Garza became the Executive Director of Maintenance in 2000 and still remains in that position to this day.

It has always been rewarding for people to reflect on the past to gain perspective on their achievements. It is equally incumbent on people to recognize the Present in order to properly plan for a successful future. Since everyone within the North East Independent School District is continually focusing on the future, the current level of growth bears review.

While employees are intimately familiar with their campus buildings and surrounding area, it is easy to overlook the infrastructure of the entire district. District wide there are over 35,000 light fixtures, over 7,000 toilets, over 11,000 doors, over 17,000 windows and over 8,000 air conditioning units, all within our 120 square mile boundary. Our infrastructure exceeds that of many small towns in Texas.

In 2005, the physical area of all the buildings owned by NEISD will exceed 7.7 million square feet and will sit on over 1600 acres. With the value of the property owned by North East School District in excess of one billion dollars, proper maintenance to maximize the lifespan of our facilities is paramount.

The daunting task to maintain and upgrade these assets falls on the shoulders of the 110 superb craftsmen of the Maintenance Department. Combined, these technicians possess over 2800

years of technical expertise that is utilized daily in their role as stewards of our facilities.

These craftsmen have a "can do" attitude and they do. Whenever they are called upon, whether it be a fix-it item, add, install or renovate, these teams of individuals always come through. They pride themselves as doing a better job than any contractor can and they always do. When any emergency arises everyone in the district knows they can call the Maintenance Department and be assured that a knowledgeable person will respond.

Currently the Maintenance Department receives nearly 30,000 computerized work orders a year from the campuses. In addition to that number are the 11,000 preventative maintenance tasks that are required by equipment manufacturers. These figures add up to a very large workload being balanced by our maintenance staff.

Another branch of the Maintenance family that is often overlooked is the custodial staff. These vital personnel help tremendously with the orderly running of each campus. Their duties run the gamut from the sanitary upkeep of the building to rearranging individual classrooms. Each campus has a willing Custodial staff readily available to assist in providing the students with a proper learning environment. In 1955 there were only 22 custodians in this district. Today we are fortunate enough to have over 400 of these fine individuals. Without their diligence and hard work, the appeal of the NEISD campuses would be greatly diminished.

The technical and custodial aspect of the Maintenance Department would not be as effective as it is without the oversight and management of our administrative staff. In order to maintain the steady workflow and documentation needed throughout this department, a superb cadre of controllers, schedulers and clerical staff is utilized.

While the administrative staff

provides the oversight and the technical staff provides the labor, our Controllers provide the backbone of this organization. They are the first line response to any query from the schools. In addition to maintaining the departmental workflow, these outstanding individuals process purchase orders, redirect needed manpower, interact with the public and provide a myriad of essential services to the district.

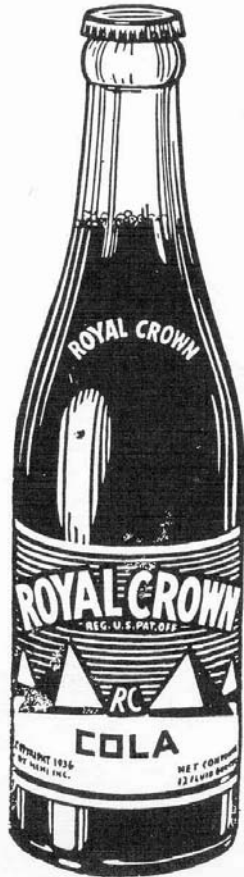
Many of the tasks the Maintenance Department performs are an expected part of life. When a person enters a room and flips the switch, the light is expected to come on. When a person enters a building, it is expected to be a comfortable temperature. When a person pulls the handle, the toilet is expected to flush. When a person turns the knob, the door is expected to open. In an educational environment, these expectations are of extreme importance.

The greatest asset of the North East School District is our student population. The dedicated employees of this district are our second greatest asset. The third, and most easily overlooked, asset in this district is the facilities and grounds. While the success of the students can be directly attributed to the teaching staff, some of the credit must be given to the staff that maintains and upgrades our facilities.

Any bit of knowledge instilled in a student by one of our teachers can instantly be negated if the surrounding environment is not conducive to learning. As the staff members charged with maintaining the learning environment of our students, we are extremely proud when a school receives state and national recognition or one of our students gain merit notoriety.

We know that without our diligence and dedication to our work, the teaching staff would not be as successful, nor would the district be as recognized, in the quality education we provide.

COMPLIMENTS OF



Support staff bands together to promote professionalism

Personal growth, fellowship remain NEESPA hallmarks

A group of secretaries began meeting on a monthly basis under the direction of Dr. Virgil T. Blossom during the 1950s. With several members of the group joining the Texas Educational Secretaries Association, they expanded and organized themselves into the North East Educational Secretaries Association (NEESA) and elected their very first president in February, 1960.

The bylaws of the association were later amended in 1990 to include all categories of support staff personnel, changing the name of the organization to North East Educational Support Personnel Association (NEESPA).

NEESPA's primary goal is to promote professionalism and personal growth by encouraging participation and attendance in Staff Training for Effective Management (STEM) courses provided by the Texas Support Staff Association (TESA).

Affiliations

First organized with 68 charter members in 1951, TESA remains the only professional association for educational support staff personnel in the state of Texas. Membership was at a record-high of 150 members when NEESPA affiliated with the organization in 1978. What began as a one-week work conference for educational secretaries fifty years ago, has now evolved into an association with over 2700 members, providing quality, professional development programs such as STEM and the Certified Educational Office Professional (CEOP), area workshops, field service, and state work conferences. Members currently receive legislative representation, four issues of their official publication, the TESA Connection, a MasterCard program, and can apply for academic scholarships. TESA is also affiliated with the only organization in the United States to service the specialized needs of educational support personnel, the National Association of Educational Office Professionals (NAEOP).

Affiliation with NAEOP provides NEESPA members the opportunity to participate in nationally recognized programs and promotes professionalism at a nation-wide level. Founded

in 1934 and organized by 96 school secretaries throughout the United States, NAEOP has also become a venue to recognize achievements, a network for sharing information and ideas, and a family of fellowship. Their mission is to provide professional growth opportunities, leadership, quality training, and service for employees in education through specifically-designed certification programs such as the Certified Educational Office Employee (CEOE) and the Professional Standards Program (PSP). Completing the PSP Program earns the CEOE certification. Currently, North East Independent School District (NEISD) pays up to a \$300 annual stipend to any support staff employee who holds their PSP certificate.

Highlights

Bosses Night was held prior to 1990 at the BAC Student Center, but outgrew it and continued to be held at various hotels and other locations such as the Ft. Sam Houston NCO Club and Pedrotti's Four Winds Ranch until 1997. They honored administrators who supported the organization and recognized fellow NEESPA members with service awards. A new slate of officers was installed and the very first Golden Apple Award was given to Dr. Richard A. Middleton, Superintendent, in 1990 for his contributions to the group. During the summer of that year, Dr. Middleton also received the TESA Administrator of the Year award.

NEESPA sponsored a TESA Area Workshop in 1991, 1997, and more recently in 2004. Many participants in the region were invited to attend the one-day workshop as an opportunity to earn points for their CEOE certification. 1999 marked the 50th anniversary of the TESA Fall Work Conference and NEESPA proudly hosted this event. More than 400 participants from across the state of Texas attended the three-day-work conference. Several students from the North East School of the Arts (NESA) showcased their talents by performing for the members and made the 50th anniversary a very special celebration. Both the area workshops and work conference offered excellent educational opportunities, but were not possible without the dedication and support of NEESPA members and the cooperation of the administration.

The association allocates funds to help with registration and attendance fees for qualifying active members who chose to attend TESA conferences and NAEOP conventions.

The Community

In 1993, NEESPA began to focus its attention on giving back to the students of NEISD. From cookbooks, to prize drawings, to yard sales, NEESPA raised money to award their first student scholarship, which is still given

NEESPA



Diana Bennett presents NEESPA first-ever Golden Apple Award to Dr. Richard A. Middleton



North East School district paraprofessionals gather at a local function.

today. Taking their funds a few steps further, the association decided to create the "Adopt-A-Family" program in 1997. By providing Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners to different needy families in the district, NEESPA members realized that they should begin collecting presents for the children. With gift donations from several schools and departments, they began a North East holiday tradition, The "Angel Tree" project. The association has also sponsored the local Battered Women's Shelter by collecting items and making financial contributions to their operating fund.

In addition to serving the community, NEESPA has made numerous donations to the TESA Lorene Roby Rogers Scholarship fund. Many support staff members across the state of Texas have competed for this scholarship and several NEESPA members have been its recipient.

The Present

The association conducts six general business meetings a year while hosting programs that are educational, informative, fun, and innovative. Our members enjoy publications such as NEESPA News, which is published quarterly, and a yearbook that is distributed annually. Qualifying members who are pursuing a certification or an educational degree can also apply for an academic scholarship. Membership is open to all active NEISD educational support personnel, including honorary and retirees with \$10 annual dues.

Change and the Future

Membership has fluctuated over the past 45 years from a record high of 150 members to 45 active members. Along with 37 past presidents, they too had a strong belief in the purpose of our organization and a desire to promote it. We continually strive to improve our association by recogniz-

ing that it takes team work, talent, and time to make this organization a success.

Reaching current and potential members is vital to our organization. A recent restriction to school mail has limited our ability to communicate with support staff personnel. The restriction has made it difficult to distribute information, but not impossible. The willingness to adapt to change has challenged us to rely on the internet and electronic mail system as

a means of communication.

NEESPA is an excellent organization for promoting professionalism, personal growth, and fellowship among support staff personnel and remains an important part of the North East family of exceptional tradition. With the continued support of administration, we look forward to another productive year and welcome the task of meeting the needs of our members.

2005 PARAPROFESSIONAL DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

Glenda Bass	Geneva O'Neal Neely
Carol Bedford	Dolores Neumann
Anne Beere	Maria Olivera
Diana Bennett	Helen Olson
Lorraine Carlson	Roberta Petree
Billie Clark	Mary Elizabeth Platt
Nell Crain	Margie Qualls
Mae Cruz	Pat Reid
JoAnn Evans	Ann Rollwitz
Linda Fogg	Dana Roper
Betty Galloway	Sylvia Whitaker Rouse
Gloria Garcia	Nawasa Sallee
Barbara George	Carolyn Sample
Ann Wharton Hailey	Yvonne Schwartz
Cloma Harvey	Nancy Sellers
Millie Harvey	Sallie Spalding
Kathee Hixon	Shirley Stone
Martha Hluchanek	Jeanette Turner
Cindy Holtz	Nelda Van Dyke
Dorothy Jacobson	Fran Verbal
Ruby Jurecki	Ann Vickery
Dorothy Katzer	Emily Villarreal
Dean Keener	Lean Mae Vogel
Sally Kujat	Mary Wallis
Nancy Kusenberger	Carmella Williams
Billie LeSturgeon	Gerry Willis
Melba McCullough	Nora Ybarbo
Virgella Miller	Beverly Young

CAREER & TECHNOLOGY

Originally called occupational education, career and technology education has evolved in dramatic ways over the last 50 years

From a small beginning with few programs, teachers and students in the 1950s, the Career and Technology Education Department in North East Independent School District has grown to serve 13,032 students (22.3% of the total district population) in 2004.

District wide, 186 certified teachers, provide exploration and instruction in careers of the new century. The next fifty years Career and Technology Education will undoubtedly bring an equal or greater number of changes as technology continues to influence the workforce and education for that workforce.

- 1951 Vocational Homemaking, now Family and Consumer Sciences, at North East High School, now MacArthur High School, opened with a total enrollment of 151 students.
- 1956 - Industrial Arts programs opened at North East High School. 'Shop' classes included woodworking, drafting, and some metal working. The name changed to Technology Education and most of the 'shops' became computer based laboratories.
- 1960 - Distributive Education, now

Marketing, began at Lee and MacArthur High Schools. It was called Cooperative Education based on the partnership between the schools and businesses.

- 1961 Homemaking was introduced in the new Nimitz and Krueger Junior High Schools at the ninth grade level.
- 1965 An Area Vocational Facility for Trade and Industrial programs opened at MacArthur High School. Instruction was offered in welding, electrical trades, electronics, and air-conditioning and refrigeration.
- 1966 Vocational Office Education was introduced at MacArthur High School. The first instructional computer in the district was at this campus. Students worked with punch cards.
- 1967 Health Occupations Cooperative Education was introduced at MacArthur High School.
- 1975 Mayor of San Antonio, Lila Cockrell, in one of her first official acts, cut the ribbon to open the first



The Agriscience Magnet Program at Madison High School was the first magnet program offered in career and technology education.



Auto mechanics was just one of the many vocational programs offered by North East high schools.

LEADING THE CHARGE

Directors

- 1964-1981 James Anthony Oppelt
- 1981-1993 Steve L. Foster
- 1993-1999 Welta Burris
- 1999-Present Elizabeth Platt

Other Program Leaders

- Becky Walker
- Barbara Wofford
- Jeff Miller

- 'SKILLSFEST' at Blossom Gym. The event showcased the work of students enrolled in Industrial Arts and Trade and Industrial programs.
- 1975 Churchill High School became the first comprehensive high school in Texas to offer five units of Marketing and Distributive Education.
- 1976 The first agricultural program offered in the district was at Madison High School.
- 1977 Personal computers were introduced. As computers became the 'norm' for instruction in office based courses, typewriters became obsolete.
- 1986 The North East Vocational Education Advisory Council was recognized as exemplary by Texas Governor Bill Clements and President Ronald Reagan.
- 1990 Health Occupations Clinical Rotation, now Health Science Technology, was started at Lee and MacArthur in partnership with

Methodist Hospital.

- 1993 Vocational Education became Career and Technology Education. At Lee High School, the Technology Systems modular lab was introduced.
- 1997 Automotive Technology program at Roosevelt High School receives NATEF certification.
- 1997 Agriscience Magnet Program at Madison High School is the first Magnet Program in Career and Technology Education. Director, John Mack, provides the leadership, and is backed by strong community support.
- 2001 Electrical Systems Technology

at MacArthur High School and Plumbing/HVAC at Lee High School become the first Apprenticeship programs developed in cooperation with the Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training/U. S. Department of Labor. This was due to the dedication and hard work of Perry Calloway.

- 2004 - The first Engineering and Technologies Magnet program was implemented at Roosevelt High School under the leadership of Bill Sturgis, Director.

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50TH ANNIVERSARY

Let Them Eat Cake. . . .To celebrate the 50th Anniversary, Madison High School Career & Technology students constructed this float atop a golf cart. It made an appearance at each district football game played at Jerry Comalander Stadium this fall. This picture shows Joan Abbott and Susan Achterburg of the NEISD PTA Council enjoying a ride.



The Leader of the Band. . .North East School District's first director of fine arts, Al Sturchio, performs the National Anthem at the opening of the Fall Marching Festival in October, 2004. Former band directors were recognized during the event.

50th Anniversary Events 2004-2005

July 26-28, 2004: Administrative Staff Development
Former Administrator and Superintendent VIP Reception

October 4, 2004: Fall Marching Festival
Alumni Band, Former Band Directors Recognition

January 29-30, 2005: One Singular Sensation
Alumni Recognition

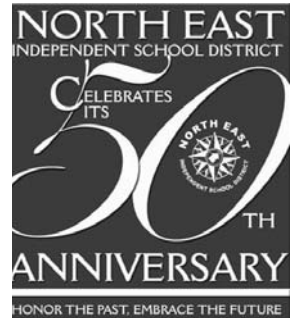
February 16, 2005: Former and Current Paraprofessional Recognition and Reception

February 26, 2005: North East Foundation Gala and Anniversary Program

March 4, 2005: Annual PTA Founders Day, and 50th Anniversary Celebration-LaVillita

March 7-11, 2005: Texas Public Schools Week
50th Anniversary Campus Recognition of Former Administrators, Teachers and Staff.

April 16, 2005: Birthday Dance/Sock Hop MacArthur High School



The Virgil T. Blossom Scholarship

Each year the North East Council of PTAs gives scholarships to recipients from each of the six high schools in our district. The Virgil T. Blossom Scholarship is intended for graduating seniors that plan to study teaching as a profession. The purpose of the scholarship is to encourage motivated and qualified student to enter the field of education as a career. We have honored many fine young people over the years and several of them have returned to become teachers and administrators in our district.

North East Council would like to encourage the NEISD community to participate in our efforts by:

- Contributing to this fund. Your donations can used to honor or remember someone who values education and supports the North East School District. I can think of no better way to honor a current teacher than saying, "I value what you do so much, that I want to encourage others to follow in your footsteps." Donation forms can be found on every North East campus, in most school newsletters, and online at the MacArthur P.T.S.A. website (http://www.neisd.net/mac/ptsa/blossom_scholarships.pdf).
- Encourage a student that you feel will make a great teacher to apply for the scholarship. Applications are available from NEISD high school counselors. Deadlines vary depending on which campus the student attends.

If you have any questions about the fund, please contact NEISD PTA at 804-7164.

TRANSPORTATION, FROM PAGE 16

started using lift buses in the school year 1975-76. Routes are now derived using various student data and geocoding certain information using a computerized route management system....far better than the old manual methods of building routes. Integral functions of the operational element include the Operations Manager, Route Supervisor and three (3) routers; Special Needs Section consisting of a supervisor, assistant supervisor and two (2) routers; three (3) transportation supervisors and four (4) dispatchers, the Training Section which includes a supervisor, seven (7) trainers, and three (3) camera technicians and a secretary.

Our driver crews, which include drivers and bus assistants, undergo extensive training before and during early days of driving or riding a bus. Training personnel also are responsible

of ensuring that once individuals are trained, periodic performance assessments and refresher courses are conducted to update the staff for compliance of vehicle operational guidelines. Courses of instruction include: Time and Attendance Procedures; Policies and Procedures, Emergency Evacuation Techniques, Breakdown and Accident Reporting/Reactionary Training, Student Management, First Aid/CPR, Special Needs and Lift Bus Training, and CPI (Crisis, Prevention and Intervention) Training. In 1994 cameras were ordered and installed in the buses to improve surveillance of bus activities.

Buses and other District vehicles could not roll each day without a quality Fleet Maintenance program. The current inventory of 639 vehicles is maintained through the hard work of 26 individuals, consisting of a supervisor, records manager and two (2) clerks; parts manager and clerk; seven (7) shop helpers and thirteen (13) mechanics.

The Maintenance employees

meet and serve (the unsung heroes) the mission daily in two (2) shifts (5:00 AM-2:30 PM; 2:30 PM-11:30 PM during the week) and as required during the weekends. Inventory and maintenance data is maintained and used for various managerial and state reporting requirements using a computerized management information system since 2000.

In order to maintain an efficient fleet of vehicles within industry trends, the district has invested millions to sustain the fleet from year-to-year. We are proud to share that the oldest model in the bus fleet is only 15 years old and with an overall average model year of 1997. A chronology of events has enhanced the advancement and achievements of the past and current performance and productivity levels of the department:

1. 1974 added four (4) new bays to the two (2) bay shop along with new fueling island
2. 1975 started buying automatic transmission buses

3. 1975-76 school year started purchase of lift buses

4. 1979-80 school year started the buying of diesel buses

5. 1980 acquired adjacent lot across Broadway

6. 1982 incorporated the use of a night shift

7. 1994 started installing cameras in buses

8. 1995 started installing air conditioners on Special Needs buses

9. 1995 started purchasing buses with electronic control diesel engines to reduce emissions and enhance fuel economy

10. 2000 incorporated computerized software for parts inventory, scheduling services and retention/extrapolation of vehicle repair services

11. 2004 commenced use of new ultra low sulfur diesel fuel to further improve emissions

The rapid growth of the District continues to create new challenges, such as student enrollment, new schools and buildings and the renovation and expansion of old schools and

buildings. Consequently, the growth also has impacted this department, as well. And, to further maintain its efficiency, proficiency and productivity, a few initiatives are planned to enhance the department's future operation:

1. Acquire new facilities hopefully within the next few years (Bond Package - 1998)
2. Expand the use of the computerized route system to the schools and continue enhancements for better route management efficiency
3. Maintain an efficient bus/vehicle replacement/buy program
4. Enhance driver recruitment/retention within budget constraints

Personnel have come and gone; old equipment has been discarded for new and computerized items and the demographics keep changing. The Transportation Department has much to be proud of and offers to the District a "Happy 50th Birthday" and "Continued Excellence in Years to Come".

CURRICULUM, FROM PAGE 13

a Staff Development Department. Dr. Linda O'Neal was the first Coordinator followed by Carol Mendenhall. These two insightful leaders brought new thinking to Central Office Curriculum staff and teachers by focusing on brain research, innovative curriculum writing, and new and proven ways of teaching children.

The '90s saw the creation of magnet schools. ACE, Academy of Creative Education, with Mary Jo McLaughlin as principal began in '91. This non-traditional high school for recovery and credit retrieval of students at risk of dropping out of school has inspired and amazed us with its heart-warming success stories of teenagers.

In '94 ISA, the International School of the Americas, housed on the Lee Campus with Chula Boyle as principal had its start as a special high school for international studies. In

2000 Shari Albright became principal and has continued and extended this unusual curriculum focus with its unique student mix.

In '97, NESAs-North East School of the Arts, housed on the Lee HS campus had its start. It was coordinated by three different people for short periods of time, Ken Rush, David Mars, & Shari Albright. Judith York has been the coordinator of the program for the last 8 years. Two teachers, Jennifer Janak and Dena Mabry have been with NESAs since the very beginning. It has grown to include Cinema, Creative Writing, Dance, Instrumental Music, Musical & Technical Theater, and Visual Arts. This year will see 58 graduating seniors many headed for schools like Juilliard, Stanford, & NYU on scholarships.

The fall of '98 K-SAT, Krueger-School of Applied Technologies, opened its doors. Housed on the Krueger Middle School campus, it offers a unique integration of curriculum coordinated by Calvin Best. In '99 DATA, Design and Technology

Academy, housed at Roosevelt HS campus and directed by Kelly Flieger, began offering opportunities in engineering, architecture, fashion design, interior design, graphic arts, animation, 3-D modeling, publication graphics, video game design and advanced programming languages.

Through all these incredible years of growth and diversity the following Associate Superintendents for Instruction have lead the way with insight and guidance: Billy Reagan, Anthony Constanzo, George Vakey, Lawrence Lane, Virginia Collier, Frances Evans, Shirley Kearns and currently Alicia Thomas.

Due to the strength and longevity of the curriculum department's many leaders and dedicated teachers, NEISD continues to focus on the important issues in education. The curriculum department's mission is to provide the very best learning opportunities for all students and to give them skills and adventures that allow them to be contributing, talented, responsible citizens of the world.

GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING, FROM PAGE 21

School. Carol began as Guidance Coordinator, but soon was promoted to Guidance Director, and served in that capacity until retirement in 2000.

Under Carol's watchful eye, the North East guidance program continued to grow and change. Carol was not only responsible for the guidance program and school counselors, but also for the newly created, grant-funded Safe and Drug Free Schools program, and the district-wide testing program.

After almost 10 years, in 1998, after careful study and planning, Texas Education Agency published the very first framework for a comprehensive, developmental guidance program. With the support of the Texas Education Agency, the role of the

counselor was defined, along with a model program for all districts to implement.

As Guidance Director, Carol Churchill's biggest challenge would be to begin the process of education and implementation of a new method of conducting guidance across all grade levels. In 2000, when Carol Churchill retired, steps were in place toward developing a comprehensive, developmental guidance program. Jeannie McDaniel, succeeding Carol Churchill as Guidance Director, continued to pursue the challenges inherent in the implementation of a new guidance program. In 2002, Theresa Miller followed in Jeannie's footsteps continuing the process of program implementation.

Currently, there are more than 150 dedicated professional school counselors serving the needs of the students, parents, and staff in North East.

SECSS, FROM PAGE

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They provide multi-dimensional educational experiences to PAL students, students in at-risk situations, faculties, faculty teams, student groups and organizations. Mr. O'Connor and Ms. Hooper have developed a strong classroom experiential learning component that can stand alone or compliment outdoor challenge course initiatives. All the activities encourage higher abstract thinking through group reflection. Benefits of experiential learning include improved communication skills, greater group cohesion, individual development and growth, greater

group decision making and processing, and improved group cooperation.

Ms. Sanford said this in conclusion. "SECSS empowers students to leave a legacy of personal and professional achievement. Our programs help students connect to their school and community and provide them with the skills they need to live healthy, well-balanced, productive lives." This year district initiatives for strengthening a climate of kindness and caring include Red Ribbon Week, Rachel's Challenge, the Do the Write Thing Challenge, and Random Acts of Kindness Week.

When he describes SECSS, Dr. Richard Middleton, Superintendent, says, "SECSS is designed

to meet the needs of the whole child. It is an important part of North East's way of providing the 360 degree education each child needs to be fully educated and prepared for the challenges they meet in the real world."

From the beginning, North East has had quality leadership and excellent prevention programs designed to meet the needs of students in helping them grow, learn, and be successful. We are grateful to the visionary leadership that has promoted and continues to support these programs. Together, we make a positive difference in the lives of our students.



No salute to NEISD's people can be complete without a special thanks to the district's custodial staff, whose dedication to their work has been apparent throughout the years.

VISION 2020

Looking into the future and facing the challenges ahead

Vision 2020's goal is to meet challenges while improving quality of education

Vision 2020 will be a project to create a Strategic Plan, developed in partnership with district patrons, which will effectively guide the district in its growth and development into the year 2020. The project will consider six vital questions:

1. Why are we in business?

We will focus our study on customer expectations and the mission of NEISD as defined by our Board of Trustees. Vision 2020 will be designed to fulfill this mission.

2. Where is the district now?

Internally, we will gather information about our strengths and weaknesses; its current programs; students' test scores; services provided to teachers, students and parents; facilities; staffing; use of technology; and available financial resources. Externally, we will examine influences such as demographics, technology changes, public opinion, state and federal statutes, and the economy.

3. Where do we want to be?

The Vision 2020 project will depend on the creative and imaginative thinking of our own people. Ideas will be collected from a number of groups, such as campuses, teachers, students, administrators, parents, and community leaders. These groups will identify what we hope to accomplish (goals), what will be the end results (outcomes), and how it will affect our students, teachers and community (the beneficiaries of our program).

4. How do we get there?

The first step will be to form campus, department and community task forces who will study these six questions. The Vision 2020 team will then produce documents with recommendations and suggestions from these task forces. These documents will reflect



Even in the 1960s, science experiments were a hands-on affair.



Film libraries provided teachers with a wealth of visual aids for the classroom.



Before video, there were projectors and film reels.



1960s visual aids included slide shows on portable screens.

Board Priorities, campus/department priorities, and State/Federal mandates.

5. How will we know when we have arrived?

The District will monitor the established goals and outcomes to determine their effectiveness and efficiency and to recommend adjustments.

6. What resources will be required?

The Vision 2020 Team will make recommendations for items such as personnel needs, curriculum adjustments, technology advances, and facilities improvements to the Superintendent and Board of Trustees. These needs will be re-examined every five years.

One of the important facets of North East's Vision 2020 will be to look at trends in education. James Levin, University of Illinois, has written, "With electronic technologies today, change is the only constant. Following Moore's Law, microelectronics has produced doubling of performance every year and a half since the mid-1960s, leading to an order-of-magnitude improvement in performance every five years. Projecting ahead over the next twenty years, this rate of change would lead to the development of electronic technologies 10,000 times the power of today's devices.

Just to see what this looks like projecting backwards to the 1960s, everyone wearing a digital watch has the computing power on their wrist comparable to the mainframe comput-

ers of the mid 1960s; anyone with a laptop computer today has the computing power equivalent to the supercomputers of the mid 1980s."

The photographs of classrooms in North East ISD, past and present, show how much we have changed in the last two decades in terms of facilities and the use of technology. Other changes include advancement in curriculum design and staff development. Vision 2020 will look into the future of education and its challenges. Our primary goal will be to study and report on methods to meet these challenges while expanding the quality of education in North East ISD and maintaining high standards of excellence over the next 15 years.



