

R.E.A.C.H. High School

News

Responsibility * Employability * Achievement * Citizenship * Harmony

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 2

NOVEMBER 21ST, 2008

R.E.A.C.H. HIGH SCHOOL
4800 BLACKSTONE
FORT WORTH, TX 76114
817-252-2090



UPCOMING EVENTS

Thanksgiving Break
November 24th-28th

English Class Field Trip
December 1st

Academic Celebration
December 5th

Credit Celebration - 11:30
Site Based Meeting - 3:00
December 12th

Saturday School
December 13th

Visit from Santa / Angels
December 19th



Wanda Mitchell
Principal

Note from the Principal's Office

Happy Thanksgiving! REACH staff and students have enjoyed two Thanksgiving lunches this week. The first luncheon was prepared by CISD Food Services and the second was prepared by REACH students under the supervision of Mrs. Underbrink.

Also, this week, students have been very busy trying to finish up classes prior to their deadlines. As you know, REACH is an accelerated school, so we encourage the students to finish up their classes in 12 weeks rather than the traditional 18 week time period. As discussed during the student led meetings, if a student needs to request an extension, the parent/guardian will be notified and will need to sign the extension form which will also have signatures from the student, teacher and myself. As long as the student is at least 3/4 finished with the class, the extension will automatically be granted as the students are still adjusting to the new system. If a student is only 1/2 to 3/4 finished, factors will be taken into account such as attendance, behavior, after-school tutorials and Saturday school. If you would like a meeting with myself or any of the teachers, please do not hesitate to schedule one.

Following the Thanksgiving break, we will be busy not only academically but in fun ways as well as we prepare for the visit from the two children that the school has adopted. They will visit REACH for "Santa" to hand out their gifts on Friday, December 12th. Talk to you soon!

Wanda Mitchell

More Attendance Cheers!!!

Thank you SOO much for taking the extra effort in getting your student to school on time. Once again, REACH has an increase in attendance. During the 2006-2007 school year the attendance rate was 83%. It jumped to 88.9% in 2007-2008. For the first six weeks of this school year, it was a staggering 92.5%. Now, for the second six weeks, the daily attendance rate rose to 93.27%. Be sure to check out the pictures on the website from our latest attendance party trip to the Japanese and Botanic Gardens. Keep up the great work!!!

The Mission of Castleberry ISD is to graduate all students as lifelong learners who will excel in our changing world and competitive workplace.

Counselor's Corner

Our children are so fortunate that Castleberry School District has had the insight to create and support REACH High School. This specialized school serves a basic need for many of our children. And they are very successful. All students that have graduated from REACH High School and applied to TCC (Tarrant County College) have been accepted. The different time schedule, more individual instruction, lower student and teacher ratio, methodology of instruction and individualized motivational support are key elements to the overwhelming success of students at REACH High School. Most students do not need the constant attention of a teacher all the time. Therefore, when a student needs a considerable amount of time to get through a confusing and stressful lesson, the teacher is free to give that needed individualized time. This allows the student to clearly understand the lesson and not miss steps which otherwise would hinder future success. When you visit the classrooms, you will see the teacher sit beside a student for an extended amount of time. When students don't miss steps in course subjects, they are able to proceed without discouraging agony of frustration and without the constant support of the teacher. Students in the traditional Castleberry High School, often ask me what it is like at REACH. The purpose of REACH High School is for students who have individual needs that are best met in a flexible, small, controlled, emotional and academic favorable environment. A student must qualify and be accepted for placement at REACH High School. All students are expected to master all subjects at the 80 percent level, and are required to pass the TAKS (Texas Academic Knowledge and Skills) test. Students ask me if they go to REACH High School can they return to Castleberry High School. The answer is that when students receive the positive attention, individualized instruction, emotional support, and are no longer frustrated in classes, the REACH students seldom choose to return to the traditional structure of the classroom. Perhaps that is why 100% of REACH'S teachers returned this year. It is so rewarding to know you have made a drastic change in a student's future. To all of you who support REACH High School, their administration, faculty and staff, parents, and most of all, students, thank you!

Dr. Homer Cole

District News

Skyward Family Access

Castleberry ISD parents can now check their student's grades, attendance, discipline, and health records from home with Skyward Family Access. To sign up to receive your user name and password for Family Access, please call 817-252-2023.

For more information about Castleberry ISD

- Explore our Webpage: www.castleberryisd.net
- Watch **Charter Cable Channel 30** in the River Oaks and Sansom Park Areas.
- Call **817-252-2000** and choose **Option 8** for weekly events.

Schedule of Events

- Your school's calendar, as well as a district-wide calendar, are available on our website.
- From our home page, choose "schools," then your school, then "School Calendar."

Family Access

- CISD parents can now go online and view their student's grades, health records, attendance, and much more.
- Sign up for Skyward Parent Access today by calling 817-252-2023.

Volunteers

- From our home page, choose "Volunteer Program."
- You can print out a volunteer application and turn it in to your school secretary.

School Board Meetings

- A summary of each Board meeting is available on our website.
- From the home page, choose "Board of Trustees."