



GISD WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

GLADEWATER PRIMARY HOSTS WATCH DOGS DINNER

On Tuesday, September 12, Gladewater Primary held its annual Watch DOGS kickoff. The organization has been in operation at Gladewater Primary for several years.

Watch DOGS is a national program sponsored by the National Center for Fathering. The acronym DOGS stands for Dads of Great Students. There are two primary goals of the program: 1) to provide positive male role models for the students, demonstrating by their presence that education is important and 2) To provide extra sets of eyes and ears to enhance school security and reduce bullying.

According to the program's website, "Watch DOGS are fathers, grandfathers, uncles, and other father-figures who volunteer for at least one day each year at an official WATCH DOGS school. During the day, Watch DOGS may read and work on flash cards with students, play at recess, eat lunch with students, watch the school entrances and hallways, assist with traffic flow and any other assigned activities where they actively engage with not only their own students, but other students as well."

At the September 12 event, Mrs. Langford, Gladewater Primary Principal, and members of the school's faculty/staff treated those in attendance pizza dinner before providing information about the program. The dads and male volunteers signed up for the background check that will clear them to become Watch DOGS.

Mrs. Langford says "Watch DOGS is a volunteering and mentoring program designed specifically for fathers and father figures to have a way to participate in schools. Male role models are a critical factor in the success of our kids and this program allows our kids to have that on a weekly basis. GPS has about 40 Watch DOGS dads signed up. This includes some community volunteers who don't have a GPS student; they just want to help a child that needs a role model."

NEW FACES IN DISTRICT LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

The summer of 2017 brought three new faces and a new organizational scheme to the GISD central office. The following educators now fill these roles:

Sedric Clark, **Superintendent**

Bachelors: Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA
Masters: Northwestern State University, Natchitoches, LA
Doctoral Candidate: Louisiana Tech University, Ruston, LA
Certifications: Teacher, Principal, Superintendent
Supervision: All Things GISD. "I am proud to be Gladewater's Superintendent! We've assembled a great team! Student success and supporting our employees are our focus. Go Bears!"

Jimmy "Cliff" Lightfoot, Ed. D., **Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning and Student Services**

Bachelors: Texas A&M University, Texarkana
Masters: Texas A&M University, College Station
Doctorate: Texas A&M University, Commerce
Certifications: Teacher, Principal, Superintendent
Supervision: All Things Academic & Student Oriented. "I'm very thankful for the opportunity to join the Gladewater ISD family. I've already met so many outstanding people who take care of each other and who do their very best for our students every day. I consider it an honor to serve the students and staff of GISD!"

Glenda Hickey, **Chief Financial Officer**

Bachelors: Stephen F. Austin State University
Masters: University of Texas at Tyler
Certifications: Teacher, TASBO (in progress)
Supervision: All Things Financial and Technological. "I'm excited to be part of such a strong leadership team. Our new leaders have brought to GISD a great amount of experience, enthusiasm and support. It's a great time to be a Gladewater Bear!"

Kim Chatman, **Chief Operations Officer**

Bachelors – LeTurneau University
Masters – University of Texas at Tyler
Certifications: Teacher, Principal, Superintendent
Responsibilities: Human Resources & All Things Operational
"The future of GISD is beyond bright, as our bear assets continue to work together and strive for excellence in all that they do. We're definitely on the brink of greatness!"

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
18 GISD Board Meeting, 6pm	19	20 Progress Reports Sent Home	21	22
25	26	27	28 District Leadership Team Meeting, 9am	29 All School Pep Rally, 9am Homecoming vs. Lindale, 7:30pm

GISD – Achieving Excellence Together!

Announcements from GISD Departments September 18, 2017

Superintendent's Office

Board of Trustees Meeting: Monday, September 18, 6:00pm, Board Room

District Leadership Team Meeting: Thursday, September 28, 9:00am – 11:00am,
Board Room

Student Learning & Student Services

None

Finance & Technology

None

Operations