

Bear Facts

ISSUE 4
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GLADEWATER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT - "THE RACE FOR EXCELLENCE HAS NO FINISH LINE."

2010 GLADEWATER HIGH SCHOOL TOP GRADUATES



Valedictorian

Jackson Greenwood has been named the Valedictorian of the class of 2010. He is the son of Charles and Rhonda Greenwood. Jackson is a member of the National Honor Society, a four year letterman on the Varsity Golf Team, a member of the Student Council for two years and serves as the student representative of the Career and Technology Advisory Board. He is a Texas Scholar with Distinction and is graduating on the Distinguished Graduation Plan.

In addition, Jackson was named Lions' Club Student of the Month, Elks' Lodge Student of the Month and Rotary Club Student of the Month. He was NHS Homecoming Beau and a Student of the Year nominee his sophomore and junior years. He has participated in several UIL competitions including Number Sense, Mathematics, Accounting and Science.

Outside the school day, Jackson works as an office cashier at Brookshires. He has volunteered his time and services to the Rotary Club Golf Tournament, Gladewater Round-Up Rodeo and the Gladewater Country Club. After high school graduation, Jackson plans on going to LSU where he has been accepted to the LSU Honors College. He plans to major in Accounting and Business Management.

Valedictorian Jackson Greenwood

Salutarian

Aimeé Hill, daughter of Ron Hill and Tammie Brantley, is the Class of 2010's Salutarian. Aimeé is graduating on the Distinguished Plan, is a Texas Scholar with Distinction and a member of the National Honor Society.

Some of the many honors Aimeé has received are Freshman, Sophomore and Junior Outstanding Student, Lion's Club Student of the Month and Elks' Lodge Student of the Month. Aimeé earned the All City Choir Award and was an All-Region Leadership Recipient. She has been active in the FFA program and has been an officer for two years. She has won numerous FFA/Rodeo awards including state in horse judging, was Rodeo Queen and a Four State High School Rodeo Finalist for 3 years. Organizational memberships include World Barrel Racing Productions, Twin States Barrel Racing Association and Tri-County Barrel Racing Association.

In her spare time, Aimeé likes to ride and train horses, sing and attend activities with her church. She has volunteered her time with 4-H trash pick-ups, FCA Trunk-or-Treat and at the FFA booth at the Gladewater Round-Up Rodeo. Aimeé will be attending Northeast Texas Community College in the fall where she will major in Agribusiness and compete in intercollegiate rodeos.



Salutarian Aimeé Hill

GHS STUDENTS STRIVE FOR SUCCESS

A new grant given to Gladewater ISD has given new opportunities for the math teachers of GHS and GMS. The Mathematics Instructional Coach's or MIC grant provided a math coach, Holly Dunklin, to assist teachers with their content knowledge in their subject area. The MIC grant also provided professional development for the teachers through on-line and face-to-face sessions. One component of the grant provided teachers with TAKS analysis assistance. The pictures are those of high school students that participated in this analysis along with their teachers. The Texas A&M professor that GHS teachers and students worked with over this three-day period is Jenn Whitfield. Mrs. Whitfield is a Senior Lecturer for the mathematics department at Texas A&M. The math coach arranged this three-day TAKS Blitz to target those students that were struggling in mathematics. "There is nothing that we wouldn't do for our students. They are the future of the community of Gladewater and they are worth it," stated Mrs. Dunklin.



HANDS-ON SCIENCE AT WELDON

Fifth grade science students at Weldon Intermediate School have been getting their hands on everything from batteries to butterflies this year in an effort to improve scores on the Science TAKS Test. Research shows that engaging students in hands-on activities versus using only textbooks in science can improve test scores. The fifth grade science teachers at Weldon have put this theory into practice.

Hands-on activities have included using flashlights and mirrors, measuring soil samples, making a water cycle in a bag, and observing and documenting butterfly metamorphosis, which culminated in releasing the mature butterflies outside. One of the highlights of the year was the day trip in March to Camp Tyler where students were able to observe nature first hand.

Students got the opportunity to demonstrate how hands-on activities have enhanced their learning on the Fifth Grade Science TAKS Test on April 29, 2010. The science teachers at Weldon are hopeful that their efforts and, more importantly, those of the students, have proven that “doing” science means learning science.



LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!

The Broadway campus debuted its first daily morning show as a taped video broadcast on Friday, April 23. The show includes the pledges of allegiance, a moment of silence, patriotic songs, character education lessons, daily announcements, birthdays, classes of the week, and other special features.

While attending a workshop called Jazz 123-Video Conferencing, 3rd grade teacher, Mrs. Vicky Bright and technology integration specialist, Mrs. Glenda Hickey discussed the idea of a morning news show through video. Mrs. Bright then went to TCEA (a technology conference) and attended many workshops on how-to do a broadcast. Her classroom has been studying the many elements of putting on a video broadcast, and they are in charge of Broadway’s project.

Their first plan of action was to practice in front of a camera using the webcam. Then they learned how to use a Flip video and digital camera. While videoing, the classes learned how to use a lapel microphone to enhance the Flip videos sound. By using GarageBand (a digital recording computer program), the classes were able to record their voices to do voiceovers for the video. Their class has used iTunes to listen for different sounds to enhance “The Morning Show”. iPhoto and iMovie were used to produce their video.

They are trying to include as many Broadway students and staff by having them be a part of a “Shout Out” at the beginning and end of the show. You should see our new stars in the cafeteria and custodial staff. They are also including special features. Their first feature was TAKS cheers by Mrs. Townsend, Mrs. Richardson, Mrs. Davis and Mrs. Manning’s classes. Future features will include field trips from the 2nd grade, and various other things. Future episodes of the Broadway Morning Show will be presented as a podcast to be viewed on the web so that parents can enjoy it.

The Broadway Morning Show Staff would like to thank the technology staff for all their help on making this project a success. So you better watch out - Broadway’s Candid Camera may be near you in the very near future!!! Lights, Camera, Action!





GAY AVENUE PRIMARY LOVES SPRING TIME!

Boys and girls at GAP had the wonderful experience of witnessing the hatching of baby chicks. Out of 20 eggs donated by the Gregg County Extension Office, sixteen baby chicks arrived after twenty-one days of incubation. How exciting it was to hear tiny chirps inside the eggs as the chicks began to break open their shells. Students, with parent approval, adopted the baby chicks and took them home when they were ready to leave “the nest.” Next on the agenda for hatching are butterflies! It should be any day now!

GLADEWATER ISD CELEBRATES NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

National Volunteer Week, April 18-24, is about inspiring, recognizing and encouraging people to seek out imaginative ways to engage in their communities. GISD is fortunate to have many parents and community members willing to share their time and expertise. Gay Avenue Primary, Broadway Elementary, and Weldon Intermediate all participated in a variety of activities to show appreciation to this year’s parent volunteers. At Gay Avenue Primary, volunteers were greeted by a large yellow banner that read We Love our Volunteers. Lois Reed reports, “Each volunteer received a gift basket that included potting soil, seeds, gardening tools, and of course, chocolate kisses because our volunteers are so sweet.” Broadway’s Student Council hosted a reception for their volunteers on April 20. Cookies and punch were served as the volunteers visited with Student Council members. Weldon honored their school volunteers with a special lunch on April 21.

Sixteen volunteers were recognized for their exceptional service to the district. They are Marian Hansard, Dasha Caldwell, Melissa Deishler, Denise McAvoy, Charlee Garbs, Rodger Garbs, Steven C. Newman, Cisco Frierson, Karen Phillips, Karla Byrd, Susan Hunt, Tina Loveless, Jane Gregston, Mary Pickett, Debra Waters, and Becky Bishop

This year, more than 750 hours have been logged by school volunteers. If you would like to learn more about being a school volunteer, please contact Connie Player at 903.845.6991 or by email at playerc@gladewaterisd.com.



CONGRATULATIONS TO CARA ROGERS AND CACI SMITH

Two outstanding Gladewater Middle School Art students have won the ETCADA tobacco free bumper sticker contest. The two students were chosen from entries throughout Smith and Gregg Counties - their designs will be displayed on digital billboards in Smith and Gregg counties beginning Monday, March 15.

The art contest was entered by students in Mrs. Dot Gay’s art class. The middle school had eight students chosen for the second phase and were honored that both winners were from Gladewater Middle School. Schools from all over Smith and Gregg counties competed. Pine Tree was the only other school that also had a winner, the art teacher at Pine Tree is Jessica Riggs, a former student of Mrs. Gay. Side note: On March 24, the art class, in conjunction with 6th and 7th grade science classes, conducted a scavenger hunt for tobacco free week. The hunts heighten students’ awareness of the harmful chemicals in tobacco. Great job Cara and Caci!



BROADWAY 3rd GRADERS BECOME AUTHORS

The 3rd graders at Broadway Elementary recently got the chance to become published authors. Through the Classroom Publishers Program at Studenttreasures.com, each class got to write and illustrate a book as a collaborative project within the classroom setting. Each teacher received a free student publishing kit containing everything needed for their students to collaborate to create one book for the class. In addition, a free lesson plan providing step by step instructions and a free sample book was included. After each class completed its project, it was sent in to the publishing company for professional processing. What we got back was eight spectacular books with every 3rd graders work highlighted. The students were able to purchase a copy of their book, and the teacher received a copy. Copies of each book were purchased for the school library. Special thanks goes to Mrs. Lisa Richardson for presenting this wonderful opportunity to the 3rd grade teachers and their students.

Preliminary TAKS Scores

District	2009	2010	Increase
Reading/ELA	95	96	+1
Math	87	92	+5
Social Studies	99	97	-2
Science	81	91	+10
Writing	96	96	same

	Broadway	Weldon	GMS	GHS	District
Reading/ELA	96%	95%	97%	96%	96%
Math	98%	92%	89%	94%	92%
Social Studies	Not tested	Not tested	100%	96%	97%
Science	Not tested	89%	95%	91%	91%
Writing	Not tested	100%	91%	Not tested	96%

Gladewater ISD received preliminary TAKS results on Friday, May 21. Impressive strides were made across the district particularly in Math and Science. While scores in Reading, Writing and Social Studies have always been high at GISD, math and science continue to be a focus of intensive instruction and intervention for struggling students. The intense efforts have certainly paid off with a 5 point increase in district math scores and a 10 point increase in district science scores.

"I am happy with these preliminary results," reports Dr. J. P. Richardson. "Teachers and students have worked hard this year. Our accountability rating will not be known to us until August 1 but right now we are very pleased with each of our students' performance."

Broadway Elementary students take the TAKS reading and math tests. Principal Darren Richardson reports increases in almost every student group when compared to last year with an outstanding 5% increase over last year's performance in math. 135 students were tested at Broadway.

Weldon Intermediate students take the TAKS reading, writing, math, and science tests. Dr. Woods, principal, is thrilled with his students and their

performance. Like Broadway, Weldon preliminarily reports increases across the board. Performance increased by 5% in reading, 5% in math, and 1% in science and 1% in writing. 271 students were tested at Weldon.

Gladewater Middle School students take the TAKS in reading, math, writing, social studies and science with 355 students participating in testing. Principal James Griffin reports increases in almost every tested group. The math and science performance has Mr. Griffin especially pleased. Like the district, GMS science increase was 10% over last year's passing rate. Preliminary results also indicate that sixth grade math students increased 10% when compared to last year's performance. Way to go!

Gladewater High School students take the TAKS Reading/ELA, math, social studies and science. 350 students participated in TAKS testing. Principal Suzie Lambert is very excited about the preliminary results she has received. Double digit increases when compared to last year were seen in math and science performance. In the 10 reported student groups in math and science, increases were seen in every area with a 10% increase in math scores and a 5% overall increase in science scores.

SUMMER CAMP FUN

This summer GISD students will have an opportunity to take classes during the day. The dates for the camps are July 19th through July 22nd and July 26th through July 29th. The sessions are from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. during both weeks. Eighteen sessions will be offered at a fee of \$35 per session. The areas include softball, basketball, soccer, line dancing, football, cooking, and volleyball. This is a great opportunity for our students. Visit www.gladewaterisd.com for more details. The registration deadline is July 1st.

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