

June 30, 2009

QISD Education Foundation News

***Foundation gives \$5,000 to The Edge-Breaking Limitations after-school program
Wal-Mart Supercenter gives \$5,000 to the QISD Education Foundation***

One of the dreams of several Education Foundation board members since its inception was to help create an after-school program in QISD. This next school year, that is happening. Quinlan ISD Superintendent Micheal French named JMECC Principal Chris Taylor as the new Director of the program. District funds were budgeted to establish and maintain an after-school program for as many students in the district as possible. Taylor selected 4th grade teacher Lisa Underwood as Elementary Site Coordinator and TMS Asst. Principal Juan Solis as Secondary Site Coordinator. According to Taylor, "We are deep-rooted in this school district and we each have an energetic passion for wanting to see every child succeed."

Initially, the program will service a maximum of 250 students in K-10th grade on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons until 5:50 pm and bus transportation will be provided. Students initially have to be invited to be a part of the program. The neediest students who will benefit from this program will be targeted and there will be a waiting list. Teachers and volunteers from throughout the District are offering their energy and talents to bring unique and fun course offerings from Karate to guitar lessons, cooking classes, mosaic art, gardening, dance, cheer, basketball, flag football, game station days and so much more. Students at the junior and senior level will be utilized as volunteers to help facilitate and mentor younger students. "This is a community-wide and district-wide initiative that will make a difference in kid's lives. We want them to love coming to school and we want them to build relationships and essentially create a safe environment in which they will grow and learn," said Taylor.

Taylor has made a community presentation to the Lake Tawakoni Regional Chamber of Commerce with peers Underwood and Solis. Volunteers, community guest speakers, and supplies from intact game boards at home, art and craft supplies, shelving, containers with lids, kitchen supplies, utensils and more are being sought for donation from the community. "Many of these things may be lying around your house or business and aren't being used. Please consider donating these kinds of things to our program," pleaded Taylor.

This past Monday night, Taylor made a plea to the QISD Education Foundation to help with seed money for much needed supplies. Taylor presented a power point and detailed Foundation application that addressed the extreme need, every goal, objective, measure, evaluation component, timeline, and budget request. The request was for \$5,000 and included items from acoustic guitar sets to flag football sets, software programs, and more. Taylor further noted, "These are items that are not one-time items; the items in our budget request will be taken care of and used year after year. I would like to plea to the Foundation to consider a one-time grant initiative of \$5,000. With this seed money, you will be helping the district as a whole with a district-wide initiative that will positively impact student lives."

In a unanimous vote by the Foundation board, the Foundation approved the one-time initiative grant of \$5,000 to The Edge-Breaking Limitations. According to Dr. Claxton, "This is a one-time event that the board approved mainly because it is a district-wide endeavor. Mr. Taylor was very organized, he has every detail outlined. It will service each campus equally. In the future, should the program request more funds, they will have to write a proposal in the normal cycle, the first Monday of February each year as outlined by the Foundation. We are honored and excited to support this program and watch it become a successful, integral component of our communities."

Further, "In the Fall of 2009, the Foundation will have given a total of \$70,000 to QISD since the Foundation started in 2005. The monies raised by the Foundation have made it back to the classrooms to benefit students each year."

In other Foundation news, Wal-Mart Supercenter in Quinlan awarded the QISD Education Foundation with a \$5,000 check on Monday, June 29, 2009. Claxton said, "Wal-Mart Supercenter has been the largest contributor to the QISD Education Foundation and the entire Foundation board

and Foundation supporters thank you for giving back to many fine groups in the community. As far as our Foundation, your donations make a huge difference in what we provide to Quinlan schools in supplemental resources not allowed in the budget."

Respectfully submitted,

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