

# EISD Update

## Accountability Ratings



September 2017

### News Briefs

- Sept 4—*Labor Day Holiday*
- September 8—*2nd Grade Grandparents Day*
- Sept 11—15—*Primary Book Fair*
- Sept 15—*Celebrate Freedom Parade—8:30*
- Sept 18—*School Board Meeting—7:00 PM—HS Library*
- Sept 22—*End of 1st 6 Weeks*
- September 28—*Report Cards*
- October 9—*School Holiday*

TEA recently announced that each campus in EISD, and the district as a whole, met all of the standards defined by the state accountability system for 2017. Districts and campuses are rated on four indices: Student Achievement, Student Progress, Closing Performance Gaps, and Postsecondary Readiness. Each index receives a separate score and that score is then compared to the standard established by the state to determine if the district or campus met that particular standard.

According to the Texas Education Agency, Student Achievement is defined as “a snap shot of performance across all subjects, on both general and alternative assessments.” Student Progress allows “opportunity for diverse campuses to show improvements made independent of overall achievement levels. Growth is evaluated by subject and student group.” Closing Performance Gaps emphasizes “improving academic achievement of the economically disadvantaged student group and the lowest performing race/ethnicity student group at each campus or district.” Finally, TEA defines Postsecondary Readiness as “measures of high school completion, and State of Texas Academic Readiness (STAAR) performance at the

postsecondary readiness standard.”

Districts and campuses are rated “Met Standard” or “Did Not Meet Standard.” There are no longer categories of exemplary, recognized, acceptable, and unacceptable.

District—Met Standard—Scored 37 out of 42 on the System Safeguards for 88%.

High School—Met Standard—Distinctions in Academic Achievement in Science and Top 25% Closing Performance Gaps—Scored 25 out of 26 (96%) on System Safeguards

Middle School—Met Standard—Distinctions in Academic Achievement in ELA/Reading and Top 25% Student Progress—Scored 25 out of 29 (86%) on System Safeguards

Intermediate School—Met Standards—Distinctions in Academic Achievement in ELA/Reading, Top 25% Closing Performance Gaps, and Postsecondary Readiness—Scored 24 out of 27 (89%) on System Safeguards. For the accountability purposes, the Primary School is paired with the Intermediate School.

Since I have a little bit of extra space to fill up, I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for the great start that we have had to the 2017-2018

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## Title I

Title I, Part A (Title I) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended (ESEA) provides financial assistance to local educational agencies (LEAs) and schools with high numbers or high percentages of children from low-income families to help ensure that all children meet challenging state academic standards.

Eustace ISD has greater than 40 percent of its enrollment from low-income families. This enables the district to use Title I funds, along with other Federal, State, and local funds, to operate a "school-wide program" to upgrade the instructional program for the whole school. Funds support extra instruction in reading and mathematics, as well as special preschool, after-school, and summer

programs to extend and reinforce the regular school curriculum.

The Ten Components of Title I School Wide Programs include: Comprehensive needs assessment, school side reform strategies, instruction by highly qualified teachers, high quality and ongoing professional development, strategies to attract highly qualified teachers, strategies to increase parental involvement, preschool transition activities, teacher participation in assessment decisions, timely and additional assistance strategies to students having difficulty mastering the standards, and coordination and integration of federal, state, and local programs and resources.

A major component listed above of the

*(Continued on page 6)*

### Inside this issue:

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# Primary News

New theme

We are busting at the seams with excitement here at the Primary School! Our theme this year is “Adventure Awaits”. We were thrilled to see all of our new campers arrive and can’t wait to see where this year takes us!

Kindergarten news

Meet the Teacher night was a great success in kindergarten with over 80 percent of our children eager to meet their teachers. A big thank you to our parents who brought their children in to meet their teacher.

We have been in school for seven fun filled days now and are looking forward to a terrific year together. Our campers are ready for a little hard work and a whole lot of fun!

First Grade news

We had a great turn out for Meet the Teacher night in first grade. A big shout out to all the parents who took time out of your busy schedule to bring your child up to meet us.

Since school has started we have been busy learning rules and procedures, reviewing things, and getting our brains ready to learn. We are looking forward to an awesome time of learning and fun in our first grade world. Thanks in advance to all of our parents for your support and hard work as we help your child succeed.

Our numbers are up to 128 students now in first grade and we are happy to announce we have added a new first grade teacher! Our very own Eustace graduate, Miss Shelby Stegent. We appreciate your understanding as we go through this very important transition that will benefit all students with smaller class size.

Second Grade news

The first week started with a lot of excitement in second grade. Each second grade classroom was issued a cart with 23 Chrome books. Students are now able to have their own laptop to take AR tests, complete RM City math objectives, and create projects.

Book Fair

Book Fair is quickly approaching and has it’s grand opening on Grandparents Day for second graders, on Friday, September 8<sup>th</sup>. If grandparents of second graders would like to shop at the Book Fair, they can take their grandkids down before or after lunch that day. Regular schedule for the Book Fair will be Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup> through Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup>. Your child will be bringing Book Fair information home soon! We look forward to seeing you there!

Important Dates

Parent camp is coming up on Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>. This will be a fact filled and informative session about school procedures and rules. If you have questions about how anything works at Eustace Primary, you will find the answers here! It will be from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM in the cafeteria. Our Celebrate Freedom parade will begin at 8:30 AM on Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at the Intermediate School bus loop. Come help us show some good old fashioned patriotism to our students. We are proud to be in the land of the free and the home of the brave!

Technology In Second Grade

By Veronica Gunderson

The first week started with a lot of excitement in second grade. Each second grade classroom was issued a cart with 23 Chrome books. Students are now able to have their own laptop to take AR test, complete RM City math objectives, and create projects.



## Enrollment 8-30-2017

Primary School  
 PK - 81  
 K - 104  
 1st - 128  
 2nd - 106

Intermediate  
 3rd - 105  
 4th - 122  
 5th - 105

Middle School  
 6th - 118  
 7th - 118  
 8th - 101  
 Total - 337

High School  
 9th - 141  
 10th - 126  
 11th - 103  
 12th - 103  
 Total - 473

Total - 419

Total - 338

Total Enrollment for District - 1,567  
 Total Enrollment Year Ago - 1,550

## Middle School News

### Free Breakfast and Lunch

Eustace Primary, Intermediate, and Middle School are continuing the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) under the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs for 2017-2018. Schools that participate in CEP provide healthy breakfasts and lunches each day at no charge for ALL students.

### Art

EMS art is already off to a great start. Art students are learning to use the grid method of drawing on their weekly Drawing Practice assignments. They attain accuracy with a view finder, learn to slow down and really look at each line. This is helping them with focus, eye and hand coordination, and is growing neurons between the left and right hemisphere in their brains! Who knew art could do all of this? This method is used by artists to duplicate or enlarge art, and is how an ordinary person can learn to draw extremely accurate drawings.

Artsonia has some updates this year. They are requiring parental registration in order to access your student's personal online portfolio. I will be sending codes home in the near future, the code will enable you to access your student's work. If you do not receive a code, you can always email and request the code. My email is [espivey@eustaceisd.net](mailto:espivey@eustaceisd.net). You can visit Artsonia and view all of the wonderful art stored there by Eustace Art Students simply by clicking on the link found on the EMS web-site. You only need the code to access individual portfolios and to make your students work visible to the public.

Most students have turned in their art supplies. Visit the EMS website to find the art supply list. You will find them listed on the Art Placemats. We will be making artist's portfolio to store each student's graded work with the poster board students are required to bring to art. The students will be graded on their creative, personalized drawings on the portfolio this 6 weeks.

### Heritage Program

The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students have the opportunity to participate in the Health and Human Services Commission/ Heritage Keepers program. The program teaches medically accurate information about puberty, life-skills, and healthy decision making. Abstinence is taught as the only certain way to prevent teenage pregnancy and is the expected standard for school-aged children. The program will last two weeks during science class (September 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>) and history (September 11<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>). All students were sent home with a letter for their parents explaining the program. If you **do not** want your child to participate please sign and return the letter.

### New Faces

We have several newcomers to the EMS staff this year, they are listed below along with their positions:

Reba Bailey: ISS

Caitlin Bright: Special Ed Aide/ Coach

Angel Marroquin: 7<sup>th</sup> grade Science/ 7<sup>th</sup> grade History/ Coach

Cassie Munden: 7<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts

Lauren Odom: 7<sup>th</sup> grade History/ Coach

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## Intermediate News

Our 2017-2018 school year began with energetic teachers and excited students. Meet the Teacher on Monday, August 14<sup>th</sup> was a time of greeting students and staff. We had wonderful visits with students and parents!

Students are adjusting to their new schedules as we team our teachers again with 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and 4<sup>th</sup> grade students having 2 teachers and 5<sup>th</sup> graders having 3 teachers. Our teachers are looking forward to new beginnings with their students.

Mr. Reeve introduced our first Fun Friday of the year...what FUN it was! 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders were so excited as our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders were in awe!

Next Mr. Reeve hosted his annual "Dress Code Style Show" on Thursday, August 24<sup>th</sup>. Students dressed up in outfits that were inappropriate as we reviewed our EISD dress code. The students in the Style Show had fun modeling, and the other students enjoyed seeing what they "designed" for their outfit. The Style Show did a great job helping students to understand the policy.

Mr. Reeve uses our morning time in the gym for rules and procedures, character and safety education, guidance lessons, virtual field trips, and other life skill lessons for all students. One of our first lessons comes from Ron Clark's Essential 55 with our 1<sup>st</sup> Right Choice: *When responding to any adult, you must answer by saying "Yes, sir/ma'am" or "No, ma'am/sir."* Then, our 1<sup>st</sup> Etiquette rule for the cafeteria is: *Do not play with your food.* Next week we will be reviewing our safety drills in order to practice the procedures.

A few upcoming events:

Sept. 11 - 15	Celebrate Freedom Week
Sept. 11	Patriot Day
Sept. 15	Primary Freedom Parade - Please wear Red, White, and Blue!
Sept. 27	American Indian Heritage Day
Sept. 28	Perfect Attendance Drinks / Report Cards
Sept. 29	Right Choice Snow Cones



Intermediate School Fashion Show



# High School News

## Announcing the newly formed Principal's Council!

Congratulations to the following students that will serve on the Principal's Council for the 2017-2018 school year:

Girl Athlete: Jessica Plunk

Boy Athlete: Michael Schultz

Band: Dawson McGee

Theater: Jorgann Holgerson

FFA: Jodi Costlow

NHS: Olivia Grose:

Student Council: Bucky Womble

These students represent the best of Eustace High School and the organizations in which they are a part. They will be a part of the decision-making process at Eustace High School and will have weekly meetings with campus leadership.

On the first day of school, Mrs. Haynes, Assistant Superintendent, came over and read one of her favorite books, *Too Many Frogs*, with Mrs. Williamson's class at the High School. Thank you, Mrs. Haynes, for sharing your story and snacks!



**Yearbooks:** Big changes are happening for the Bulldog Yearbook. This year we will have a spring delivery book which means students will receive their book before the end of school. We have a staff of 14 dedicated students who spent time this summer taking photos, attending meetings and attending yearbook camp so they can produce the best possible book.

\*Class portraits are Wednesday, September 6 for 9th - 11th graders and Wednesday, September 13 for seniors.

\*Senior ads will go on sale at the end of September.

**Book Club:** Book Club begins the 2017-2018 year with the YA dystopian novel *Unwind* by Neal Shusterman. The meeting is September 28th in the library during flex lunch. Students will be engaging in higher order thinking skills while discussing various aspects of the novel. All bibliophiles are welcomed

**UIL:** UIL academics is underway at EHS! We are all excited for this upcoming year and hope to have great success. The UIL team consists of 25 different events and 14 coaches! Wish the UIL team good luck as they work towards state this year!

**Cheer:** The cheerleaders are gearing up for a great season. They have been prepping for Bulldog Bash, the first pep rally, and football games. The cheerleaders have been working on signs to support the teams as well as community outreach clin-

ics to get the younger kids more involved. The cheer uniform pillows have been a great success and the teams are looking forward to a great year!

**Football-** The football team is off to a great start so far. The Bulldogs scrimmaged 4A Div. 1 Quinlan Ford last week and had a very good showing with both teams. The Bulldogs open up the varsity season on September 1st, in the Boneyard, versus the Scurry-Rosser Wildcats.

**Ag:** This past summer was eventful for the FFA organization. The newly elected officer team, along with Lone Star recipients and our public speaking contestant, traveled to Corpus Christi for the State FFA Convention in July. Olivia Daily placed tenth in the state public speaking event. This is her third appearance at the State Leadership Competition. Jodi Costlow and Makenzie Skiles were recognized and given their Lone Star Degrees. Only 2,000 students from across the state were recognized with this distinction out of approximately 60,000 members. The new officer team is made up of Jodi Costlow, Bucky Womble, Olivia Herring, Jaci Gray, Olivia Dailey, Sadie Cates, Cooper Cates and Makenzie Skiles. The show team competed throughout the summer with Kelly Ashton making several shows with his market pigs. Makenzie Skiles and Mattie Goodson have shown their prospect steers as well. Gracie Pitchford, Emily Finley, Cooper Cates, Sadie Cates, and Abbie Cates all competed at the National Santa Gertrudis Show in Louisiana, with Gracie winning Grand Champion honors. The FFA Show Team has 29 students signed up to compete at the State Fair of Texas in October.

**Theater:** Eustace High School's turn out for the UIL Academics sign up on Wednesday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> was a huge success for many academic areas. The theater department actually has several areas of UIL academic contests that students may choose to become involved in along with the One Act Play. Interest meetings will be held after signups for each of the following categories: UIL Film, Theatrical Design, Poetry, and One Act Play. Theatrical design allows students that are interested in publicity, costuming, makeup, or set design the opportunity to design and compete against other schools across the state. Students begin designing in early October and their final work is submitted to UIL in February. Filming for the UIL Young Film Makers Contest can begin as early as the summer before school begins and has four category choices; two animation categories, narrative or documentary. Students are encouraged to attend an interest meeting on Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup> during B lunch to find out more about the contests.

The calendar for theater this year is full of wonderful opportunities for students to showcase their talents. Weekly meetings and coaching are available to those selected for each team. Meetings will be as follows: Monday – Drama Club, Tuesday-UIL Film, Wednesday- UIL Poetry, Thursday – UIL Theatrical Design. Students that normally have B lunch may eat A lunch those days in order to attend their meetings or bring their lunch with them.

Eustace Middle School will hold auditions for their One Act Play, "Sunday Costs Five Pesos" by Josephine Niggli on Monday, August 28, 2017 during 6<sup>th</sup> period. Students have been working on character and learning the plot and theme of the play in preparation for their auditions. Cast and Crew announcements will be made on Tuesday. Good luck to those students that are auditioning!

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(High School continued from page 4)

Students wishing to become involved in EHS Drama Club may begin signing up to work the varsity football Spirit Paint Booths or the Friday Night Live camera starting on Monday August 28, 2017. The signup sheets will be posted on the information board in Mrs. Harvey's room. All Theater Arts Production students and Technical Theater students are required to work at least one home game for both fundraisers. New club members are welcome to sign up as well and begin earning their points. See Mrs. Harvey for additional information during the flex lunch meetings weekly.

**Volleyball:** The Eustace Lady Dogs volleyball team is off to a great start. After opening the season with 2 wins at home against Athens and Mildred, the Lady Dogs went 3-3 in the Van tournament, followed by a hard-fought 2nd place finish in the Eustace Lady Dog Invitational Tournament. Last weekend, the Lady Dogs won consolation in the always-tough Tyler Invitational. The Lady Dogs are currently 13-8 on the year, with matches against Athens, Malakoff, and Mabank remaining before opening district play at Mineola on September 8th.

**Band:** The Eustace HS Band is off to a great start this year. They will be performing the marching show "Boundaries" by Curtis Melton. The subtitles of the pieces in the show are: "Obstacles," "the Other Side," and "Breaking Barriers." The band has nearly half the show ready for performance already and the first game should be a well-received performance. Students have been coming since July 31<sup>st</sup> to rehearse and get everything ready. In addition to Friday night half-time performances, the band will be performing at Mesquite in the Mesquite Marching Festival on Saturday Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>, Cedar Creek Marching Festival on Oct 14<sup>th</sup>, and the UIL Marching contest in Mesquite on Oct 18<sup>th</sup>. They hope to qualify for Area contest on Oct 28<sup>th</sup> and the State contest on Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>. Students are also making progress toward All Region auditions in December. Come out and hear some fun music and support "the Rhythm Machine on 316!"

## Bulldog Proud!

### Did You Know...?

All students in grades Pre-K—8th grade eat breakfast and lunch at no cost. EISD participates in the Community Eligibility Provision that allows these students to eat at no cost.

Our High School cafeteria has one of the most varied and unique menus of any school cafeteria in our area.

EISD purchased an additional 880 Chromebooks this summer and an additional 41 computer carts. These purchases have allowed us to provide almost a cart per classroom throughout the district. Many thanks to our School Board for providing the funds to make this happen!!

All the great Eustace Bulldogs flags you see around town come from our Booster Club! If you would like one, please contact Leann Carlson at leanncarlson@embarqmail.com.

(Accountability from page 1)

school year. Our enrollment is up slightly from this time last year. Right now, our largest class is our 9th grade with 141 students. Our smallest class, excluding pre-k, is our 8th grade with 101 students. In fact, other than pre-k, all of the other grades have more than 100 students. It has been several years since we have had 100 students in each grade K-12.

I encourage anyone who has a question about any part of our district to please let me know. You can reach me at my email address, [cholcombe@eustaceisd.net](mailto:cholcombe@eustaceisd.net), at any time. You can also follow events in the district through our Twitter account: @EustaceISD. We try to provide updates about all aspects of the district through our Twitter account.

You can also check out the district's blog page at <http://press.eustaceisd.net/>. Here, you can view blog posts from people all over the district. Topics range from how the district budget is put together, to technology tips from our technology experts! Check back to the blog page often as updates are posted throughout the week.

Finally, I encourage everyone to check out the district's webpage at [www.eustaceisd.net](http://www.eustaceisd.net). At our website, you can find information about all aspects of the district and from each campus. Links are available at the top of our homepage that will let you easily navigate to the campuses, departments, and organizations. If there is something that you would like for us to add to our webpages, please let us know.

## Labor Day Holiday

### Monday, September 4



### High School Picture Day Wednesday, September 6

Order online at  
[mylifetouch.com](http://mylifetouch.com)



### Primary Book Fair September 11—15 Primary Library

(Middle School continued from page 3)

**Book Fair**

Eustace Middle School will hold our annual fall Book Fair October 9<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>. Parents feel free to come by and look at our Book Fair with your students, just be sure to check in with the front office. You will also have the opportunity to purchase books from the online portion of our fair. Links to the online Book Fair will be sent out closer to the actual date. Check our social media accounts for more information.

**Student Council**

Applications to join Student Council for the 2017-2018 school year are available in the front office. Only a few students will be selected to join from each grade level. All applications need to be turned in to Ms. Williams in the library no later than **September 8<sup>th</sup>**!

**Stay Informed**

Aside from our monthly updates there are a variety of ways you can keep up with EMS!

Like us @ [facebook.com/EustaceMiddleSchool](https://www.facebook.com/EustaceMiddleSchool)

Follow us @ [twitter.com/EustaceMS](https://twitter.com/EustaceMS)

And Read the Bulldog Buzz written by our students: [Bulldog Buzz](#)

**Football**

7<sup>th</sup> grade games will begin at 5:00 (unless otherwise noted), 8<sup>th</sup> grade games will immediately follow

- September 14<sup>th</sup>: (4:30) v. Palmer
- September 21<sup>st</sup>: v. Dallas Life Oak Cliff
- September 28<sup>th</sup>: v. Scurry Rosser
- October 5<sup>th</sup>: @ Malakoff
- October 12<sup>th</sup>: v. Westwood
- October 19<sup>th</sup>: @ Elkhart
- October 26<sup>th</sup>: v. Malakoff
- November 2<sup>nd</sup>: @ Westwood
- November 9<sup>th</sup>: v. Elkhart

**Volleyball**

Games will begin at 5:00

- September 11<sup>th</sup>: @ Scurry Rosser
- September 18<sup>th</sup>: @ Kemp
- September 25<sup>th</sup>: v. Edgewood
- October 2<sup>nd</sup>: v. Scurry Rosser
- October 9<sup>th</sup>: v. Kemp
- October 16<sup>th</sup>: @ Edgewood
- October 21<sup>st</sup>: District Tournament @ Eustace, Time TBA

**Important Dates**

- September 2<sup>nd</sup>: Cross Country @ Kaufman
- September 8<sup>th</sup>: Student Council applications due
- September 14<sup>th</sup>: MS Pep Rally @ 2:15 (Visitors please arrive early and check in @ the front office)
- September 16<sup>th</sup>: Cross Country @ Canton
- September 28<sup>th</sup>: Report Cards
- September 30<sup>th</sup>: Cross Country @ Van

(Title I from page 1)

Title I program is parent and family engagement. Eustace ISD encourages parents and families to be active participants in their children’s education. This can be accomplished through the district’s volunteer programs, by serving on campus and district committees, attendance at annual Title 1 planning and evaluation meetings, and attendance at school events. The Eustace ISD Parent and Family Engagement Policy is contained in the student handbook and is also located on the district’s website at [www.eustaceisd.net](http://www.eustaceisd.net). Please contact the campus or district office for a volunteer application to become one of our valuable volunteers.

You are cordially invited to attend our annual Title 1 meeting that will be held in conjunction with the Primary Parent Camp on Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM at the Eustace Primary School.



More 2nd Graders with their Chromebooks.

**SUBSTITUTE TEACHING**

If you enjoy working with children of all ages, consider becoming a substitute teacher. The role of the substitute teacher is a challenging one, which brings with it many rewards and the opportunity to assist in the development of Eustace’s greatest asset – its students.

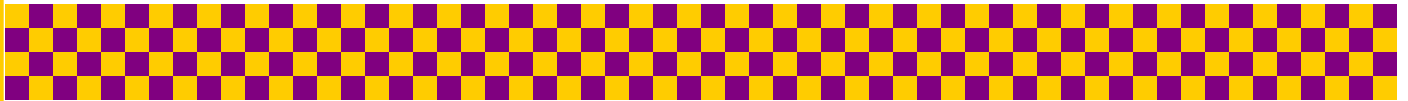
Applications for substitute teaching must be completed and returned by each individual applicant to the superintendent’s office. All applicants for substitute teaching are required, as a minimum, to be a high school graduate or hold a GED and be at least 21 years of age. Once approved, applicants are required by state law to submit to fingerprinting. The district will provide the required paperwork for you to complete this process, which cost approximately \$54.

All substitute applicants must be approved by the superintendent and Board of Trustees, which meets on the third Monday of each month. Prior to placement on the approved substitute teacher list, you must also attend a substitute teacher orientation. For additional information, please listen to the ‘sub teaching’ podcast located under ‘job listings’ on the district’s home page at [www.eustaceisd.net](http://www.eustaceisd.net).





**2017 Mighty Bulldog Marching Band**



**Primary School Staff Members**

Announcing the E. L. Kirk  
Memorial Scholarship Fund & the Jack Wallace  
Memorial Scholarship Fund.

If you would like to donate, please  
contact the administration office at  
(903) 425 - 5128.

If you have any questions, please contact  
Coy Holcombe at  
[cholcombe@eustaceisd.net](mailto:cholcombe@eustaceisd.net) or by calling  
(903) 425 - 5299.

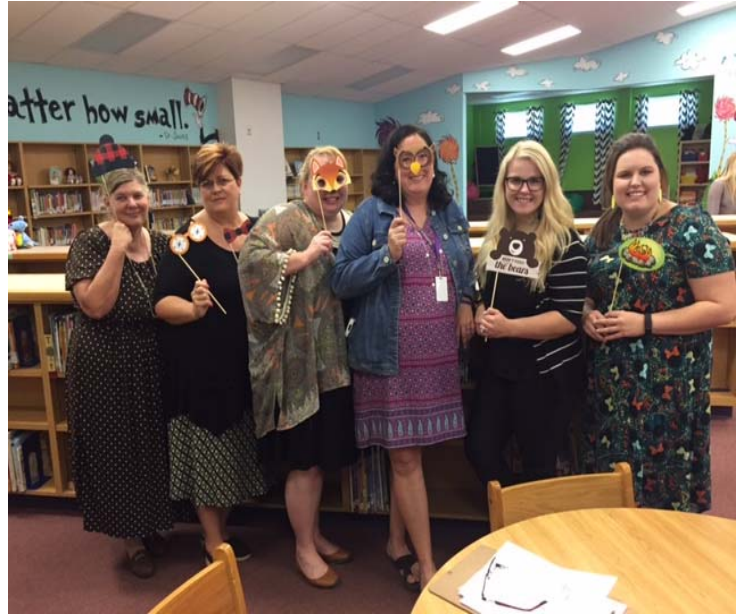


Intermediate Fashion Show





Primary School—Lunchtime Selfies with the Principal with kindergartener Leighton Grisham



2nd Grade Teachers



Intermediate School—Fun Friday!



Intermediate School—Fun in the Sun Day