



December 2006

# Connections

The Newsletter of Midlothian Independent School District

100 Walter Stephenson Rd. • Midlothian, TX 76065 • 972.775.8296

## Core Principles:

- ▶ Students are the priority in all decisions.
- ▶ Good communication and collaboration builds trust.
- ▶ Ethics play a part in every decision.
- ▶ Everyone is a learner and can learn.
- ▶ A safe caring environment is critical to success.
- ▶ Students deserve a highly qualified and well-trained staff.
- ▶ Engaging lessons focused on the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills are essential for student success.
- ▶ High expectations for everyone create a quality school district.

## MISD strives to be the best at:

- ▶ Making a positive impact in the lives of students.
- ▶ Helping students realize their potential as productive successful citizens.
- ▶ Providing engaging, meaningful learning experiences.



## Making Good Choices

The families of approximately 400 new students chose Midlothian so far this school year, causing district enrollment to top 6,555. Like the students pictured above, these families are making good choices for their children's education. Read more about MISD's projected growth inside this edition.

Meanwhile...our students keep setting new standards of success in academics and extracurricular activities. Take a look inside the pages of this edition of *Connections* for more good news about our great students.

**Be in the know... visit**  
[www.midlothian-isd.net](http://www.midlothian-isd.net)

## Dear MISD Patrons:

In this newsletter, you will find information regarding recent accomplishments and facts relating to the school district. In addition to this newsletter, citizens can access the district website for current information. New features include Frequently Asked Questions, a Finance button for information regarding finance and budget reports, and a Curriculum button to see what is taught for different grade levels and subject areas. The Construction Zone button has the status of all bond projects and general information. We have also added a *Panther Pride* button that gives access to all of the high school newspaper editions for this school year. The website offers a wealth of information to keep citizens abreast of what is happening in Midlothian School District.

There is an old saying "You should never judge a book by its cover." The same can be said about the district ratings given to school districts throughout the Texas State Accountability System. It has developed into a simplistic and often misleading means of measuring the performance of school districts in the state of Texas. Over the past four years, the system has increased the rigor of the tests and the percentage of passing required to receive the higher ratings.

School districts in the state of Texas that earned "Exemplary" status are generally small school districts or school districts with homogeneous demographics. In 2006, there were only 19 (less than 2%) out of a possible 1,136 school districts/charter schools that earned an "Exemplary" accountability rating. Highland Park was the only school district of any significant size to earn the "Exemplary" rating. In school districts having a low number of students in subgroups, such as African-American, American Indian, economically disadvantaged, Hispanic, and White, the subgroups are not counted in the accountability rating.

The best way to truly evaluate TAKS performance of a school system is to go beyond the rating given by the state accountability system. What is the overall percent passing rate in different subject areas? What is the level of



T.E. Baxter Elementary students were delighted to have Dr. Kennedy read to them.

*There is an old saying: "You should never judge a book by its cover."*

commended performance and Gold Performance Awards?

How have the different campuses improved academically compared to schools of similar demographics? The answer to this question can be found by looking at the Quartile rating. If a campus has a Q1 level of performance, they have improved more than 75% of the campuses most similar to them in demographics. This information can be accessed on district AEIS reports on the Texas Education Agency website at [www.tea.state.tx.us/perfreport/aeis](http://www.tea.state.tx.us/perfreport/aeis). The MISD AEIS report is on the district website.

It is my belief that school districts should also be judged on more than student performance on the TAKS test. Are the students getting what they need to be successful in life? School districts should be evaluated on the percentage of students who take the ACT or SAT tests and how the students performed on these tests. School districts should be evaluated on how many students are selected by the Duke Talent Search team, or how many National Merit Scholars and National Merit Commended students there are in relation to the size of the school district. Schools should be rated on the quality of extracurricular programs. Most importantly, school districts should be rated on how graduates evaluate their preparation for what they do in life after they are in the real world.

We often spend too much energy comparing ourselves to neighboring school districts when we should

be devoting our energies to comparing ourselves to other nations. We can make the excuses that other countries do not test all of their students as we do in these comparison studies. Regardless, the reality is the United States has a low number of college students majoring in engineering and math as compared to other countries. Nine of the top-paying jobs in the nation are in the field of engineering or science. Yet, the U.S. has less than 2% of our high school students going on to college to major in engineering. To be competitive in this global economy, our country must generate more college graduates with degrees in engineering, math and science.

The state of Texas is answering this challenge by changing the recommended diploma to require four years of math and four years of science at the high school level. In my opinion, this is long overdue.

At the local level, we are adding engineering courses to our high school course offerings. The district plans to implement the "Infinity Project" through the SMU School of Engineering. Participation in this project provides teachers with training to effectively teach engineering courses.

The MISD staff is committed to providing the best learning environment possible for children, and the entire staff is committed to creating the most engaging lessons possible for students.

Sincerely,  
J.D. Kennedy  
Superintendent of Schools

## Point of **PRIDE**

The **Panther Pride**, Midlothian High School's award-winning newspaper, is now available online at [www.midlothian-isd.net](http://www.midlothian-isd.net).

Read the  
**Panther  
Pride**



Midlothian ISD received three **Gold Star Awards** for its district website, a teacher recruitment video, and an Education

Foundation publication — which also won Best of Category. Each year, the Texas School Public Relations Association (TSPRA) recognizes school districts for outstanding work in both print and electronic media. Over 1000 entries are entered each year.



Since April 2004 inception, the **MISD Education Foundation** has awarded over \$72,000 for innovative teaching grants and honored 68 students and teachers at the annual Showcase of Stars recognition banquets. Learn more at [www.midlothian-isd.net/mef](http://www.midlothian-isd.net/mef).



### **Mt. Peak Elementary Teachers Win MEF Grants**

On November 16th, teachers Windy Reese and Anita Day were awarded \$3,162.92 for their "Get a Hankerin' for Writin'" grant, and Amy Penny-Lowe was awarded \$899.16 for the "Midlothian's Living History" grant. More information at [www.midlothian-isd.net/mef](http://www.midlothian-isd.net/mef).



## Measures of **EXCELLENCE**

### National Merit Scholars

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation announced the names of approximately 16,000 Semifinalists from a field of 1.4 million candidates in the 52nd annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Midlothian ISD is proud to recognize two students from Midlothian High School who have been named National Merit Semifinalists. **Thomas Kuhn** and **Michael Gummelt** are recipients of this prestigious achievement for the 2006-2007 school year.

**Chelsea Lawson** and **Camille Hurst** were recently awarded Letters of Commendation that signifies their designation as Commended Students in the National Merit Scholarship Program. Chelsea and Camille are part of a group of 34,000 students nationwide who have shown exceptional academic performance.

Note: These students have applied to universities such as Baylor, Harvard, MIT, Princeton, Rice, SMU, Stanford, Texas A&M, AND UT.



(L to R: Thomas Kuhn, Michael Gummelt, Camille Hurst, and Chelsea Lawson)

## Point of **PRIDE**



### 16 Students Named AP Scholars!!!

A total of sixteen MHS students or graduates recently earned AP Scholar accolades from The College Board in recognition of their exceptional achievement on the 2006 college level Advanced Placement (AP) Exams. This result increased by 100% percent over last year, when 8 students or graduates earned AP recognition.

The College Board's Advanced Placement program offers students the opportunity to take college-level courses while still in high school, and receive college credit for successful performance on the AP Exams. The College Board recognizes several levels of achievement based on a student's performance on AP exams. According to the College Board, about 18 percent of the more than one million high school students who took AP exams earned recognition as AP Scholars.

To achieve an AP Scholar Award, students must receive scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams. Students honored for AP Scholar are **Thomas Kuhn**, **Chelsea Lawson**, **Brian Lillie**, **Jennifer Mumfrey**, **Stephen Nabinger**, **Meghan Ridge**, **Emily Robinson**, **Matthew Sheridan**, **Amy Shuffield**, and **Brittany York**. AP Scholars with Honor are **Andrew Benson**, **Katelyn Johnson**, and **Kris Young** who received an average grade of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams. AP Scholars with Distinction are **Amara Berthelsen**, **Michael Gummelt**, and **Chelsea Hackney** who received an average grade of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and grades 3 or higher on five or more of these exams.



### Cross Country Qualify for State Meet

Congratulations to the Varsity Boys Cross Country team named district champs and placed 9th in the state of Texas, division 4A. More Cross Country teams named district champs information is available at [www.midlothian-isd.net/crosscountry](http://www.midlothian-isd.net/crosscountry), and more athletic news and accomplishments at [www.midlothian-isd.net/athletics](http://www.midlothian-isd.net/athletics).

### FFA Named State Champions Two Consecutive Years

The Midlothian Future Farmers of America (FFA) recently participated in the 2006 Texas State Leadership Development in Huntsville, Texas held on the campus of Sam Houston State University. There were 14 students from the Midlothian FFA that participated in this year's state Leadership Event. The first place state champs for the Senior FFA Skills division are **Jake Cannon**, **Lydia Morris**, **Alycia Pruitt**, and **Xia Walker**.

There are 966 schools across the State of Texas each fall trying to earn a berth at the State contest. Just to be at the State Event is an honor, but to earn a spot in the finals and to win takes outstanding dedication on the part of each student that competed. The teams are coached by Greg Pruitt, Paul Booth and Eric Janszen.





# Strategies for Academic *SUCCESS* and College *READINESS*

Midlothian ISD's goal is to develop the student as a whole and as an individual. Emphasis is placed on providing the child with basic academic skills and opportunities to apply these skills to a higher-level thinking. It is the aim of the district to provide the best possible preparation for its students' college readiness or future employment.



## Now Available Online!

With a click of a button, teachers, parents and students can easily access the district-wide curriculum anytime and anywhere. This initiative is part of the district's focus to provide excellent resources for those interested to review the established curricular areas demonstrated.

The College Readiness Initiative is to ensure that all students are academically prepared and provided the opportunity to attend college. Examples of programs designed to prepare students for college readiness:

- ▶ **Dual Credit Courses:** Students receive district and college level credit in selected courses.
- ▶ **Encouraging Students to Achieve!** All juniors recently took the PSAT test funded by MISD.
- ▶ **Career Pathways Exploration** for all 8th graders.
- ▶ **Pathways:** MHS has over 17 career pathways, which are a system of coordinated programs and experiences designed to synchronize educational goals with employment needs of the future. It prepares ALL students for the future by merging rigorous academics with real-work applications and experiences.
- ▶ **The PLAN test** is a test given to sophomores to predict what they would make on the ACT test. It also includes an interest inventory that suggests careers based on the students' choices and high school courses that would be beneficial.
- ▶ **Benchmark testing** at all grade levels.
- ▶ **Destination Imagination** is a community-based, school-friendly after school program that builds participants' creativity, problem solving, and teamwork in enjoyable and meaningful ways.
- ▶ **Math Pentathlon** provides a highly motivational format for developing and practicing important mathematics concepts and skills while strengthening strategic thinking/problem-solving abilities.
- ▶ **Duke University Talent Identification Program (TIP)** – The Duke Talent Search assists in the early identification of talented students with excellent mathematical and verbal aptitude by providing them with information about their abilities and then introducing them to a network of services and programs available. The 4th/5th grade talent search can help academically talented young people get inspired to learn through exciting educational opportunities. The 7th grade talent search identifies academically talented 7th graders based on standardized test scores achieved while attending elementary or middle school. Learn more at [www.tip.duke.edu](http://www.tip.duke.edu).
- ▶ **Smart Start** is a program that addresses the instructional and test preparation needs of middle school students. Students who participate are provided with an accelerated review of the major skills to be successful on the SAT test.
- ▶ **The Princeton Review** helps high school students prepare for the SAT college entrance exam. Learn more at [www.princetonreview.com](http://www.princetonreview.com).

## ACHIEVING Success

# 2006 Gold Performance Acknowledgements

**The Gold Performance Acknowledgments** reflect areas of academic performance and growth that go beyond state accountability ratings.

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) awarded all eight Midlothian ISD campuses and the District with Gold Performance Acknowledgements (GPA). The GPA system acknowledges districts and campuses for high performance on indicators other than those used to determine accountability ratings.

Commended Performance refers to the percent of examinees scoring at or above the TAKS commended performance standard (scale score 2400). A campus/district may be awarded Gold Performance Acknowledgment(s) by each subject tested if 20% or more of its students receive commended performance.

- ▶ **Midlothian ISD** –Commended Performance in Reading, Social Studies, and Writing. Recommended High School Plan, and TSI Math. District Accountability rating is Academically Acceptable.
- ▶ **T.E. Baxter Elementary** –Commended Performance in Math, Reading, Science, and Writing. Accountability rating is Recognized.
- ▶ **J.R. Irvin Elementary** –Commended Performance in Math, Reading and Science. Accountability rating is Recognized.
- ▶ **Longbranch Elementary** –Commended Performance in Math, Reading, Science, and Writing. Accountability rating is Exemplary.
- ▶ **Mt. Peak Elementary** - Commended Performance in Math, Reading, Writing, Science. Comparable Improvement in Reading. Accountability rating is Recognized.
- ▶ **J.A. Vitovsky** –Commended Performance in Science; Comparable Improvement in Math. Accountability Rating is Recognized.
- ▶ **Frank Seale Middle School** - Commended Performance in Math, Reading, Social Studies, and Writing. Comparable Improvement in Math. Accountability rating is Recognized.
- ▶ **Walnut Grove Middle School** - Commended Performance in Reading, Social Studies, and Writing. Accountability rating is Recognized.
- ▶ **Midlothian High School** - Comparable Improvement in Math and Reading; TSI in Math. Recommended High School Plan. Accountability rating is Academically Acceptable.

View detailed District and Campus Accountability information on the MISD website.

## Point of *PRIDE*

# 99.2%

of Midlothian ISD's regular education teachers meet the definition of "highly qualified" as mandated by the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

### MISD Staff

Total Staff .....	833
Teachers .....	437
Professional Support .....	76
Campus Administration .....	23
Central Administration .....	12
Educational Aides .....	137
Auxiliary Staff .....	148

**Average Years Experience  
of Teachers .....** 10



## MISD and All Eight Campuses Met Federal Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)

Under the annual accountability provisions in the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act, all public school campuses and school districts are required to meet AYP criteria on 35 indicators that measure reading/language arts, mathematics, and either graduation rate (for high schools and districts) or attendance rate (for elementary and middle/junior high schools). MISD and all 8 campuses met all 35 indicators. Additional information about AYP rules, standards and measures for each campus may be found on the Texas Education Agency Web Site [www.tea.state.tx.us/ayp/2006/campus.srch.html](http://www.tea.state.tx.us/ayp/2006/campus.srch.html).



## Chamber of Commerce Holiday Parade Float Winners

The J.A. Vitovsky Elementary art club "The Art Society" won 1st place in the Most Creative Float category. Mt. Peak Elementary "Peak Performers" won 1st place in the Best Theme Float category.



# STUDENT SAFETY is Our Priority

## School Emergency Plan

Student safety on campus and at school-related events is a high priority of the District. MISD's Crisis Response Plan is aligned with the Ellis County Emergency Management under the structure of the Incident Command System (ICS). This plan identifies responsibilities in response to a crisis that threatens the health and safety of students, staff and parents in the school system. Campuses regularly practice safety plans in place.

## Tracking Campus Visitors:

The Raptor V-Soft visitor management system keeps campuses safer by producing uniform badges for all visitors. Each visitor must present a valid photo I.D. card. The system has the ability to provide alerts on people who may jeopardize the safety of the campus as it checks records in 48 states.

## Other proactive security and safety measures:

- ▶ Random drug testing, including periodic steroid screening, is for all students in grades 9-12 involved in extra-curricular activities.
- ▶ Criminal history checks are required for all new employees. This school year, the district has budgeted money to run a background check on current employees.
- ▶ Security front entrance controls.
- ▶ Security cameras will soon be located at all campuses.
- ▶ K-9 Sweeps: Specially trained canines are regularly utilized to assist in keeping MISD secondary school campuses safe and drug-free. Sweeps are conducted without prior notification or warning, and may include lockers, parking lots, and personal property brought on campus. This effort is part of the drug-free program.

## Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT)

The SAT college entrance exam measures critical thinking skills needed for academic success in college.

	# Students Tested	Mean Writing Score	Mean Math Score	Critical Reading Score
MHS	147 (42%)	499	515	504
State	129,784	487	506	491
National	1,465,744	497	518	503

## American College Test (ACT)

The ACT assesses high school students' general educational development and their ability to complete college-level work.

	# Tested	English	Math	Reading Reasoning	Science	Composite
MHS	184 (52.5%)	21.2	21.7	22.0	22.0	21.9
State	75,524	19.4	20.6	20.5	20.3	20.3
National	1,206,455	20.6	20.8	21.4	20.9	21.1

Finance

## Financial PROGRESS

- ▶ Balanced Budget
- ▶ \$10,839,743 fund balance as of June 30, 2006. A fund balance is like a savings account used for general operating expenses until state and local revenue for new fiscal year. This is an increase over prior years.
- ▶ MISD undergoes careful financial scrutiny from an independent auditing firm. The annual audit performed by Pingleton, Howard & Co. delivered "an unqualified opinion" thus meaning the financial statements and accompanying notes are presented fairly and conform to generally accepted accounting principles.
- ▶ MISD has earned, for five consecutive years, the highest rating of "Superior Achievement" in the state's Schools FIRST (Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas) program.

## 2006-07 Financial Facts

**Operating budget:** \$50,781,219

**Debt Service:** \$9,044,357

**Tax Rate:** \$1.6975 per \$100 property valuation

**The MISD Adopted 2006-07 tax rate is .09 cents lower than the 2005-06 tax rate.**

## MISD puts 69.6% of education dollars into the Classrooms!

Texas Gov. Rick Perry issued an executive order, which directs 65 percent of school spending to go to the classroom.

## What takes a bite out of the apple?



## Point of PRIDE

### Frank Seale Middle School Solo/Ensemble Choir

received a ONE-rating at a recent solo/ensemble contest. Also, twenty-five band students made the 2006-07 Region 10 All Region Band.

The band will be showcased January 13, 2007 in Duncanville ISD.



### Nichole Terry, P.E. teacher

at T.E. Baxter, ran in the Nike Women's Marathon in San Francisco, CA on Oct. 22, 2006. The marathon benefited the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Nichole ran for her mom, Judy Yelton. She trained for six months in preparation for the marathon with "Team in Training". She finished the 26.2 mile marathon in 5 hrs. 15 min. 25 seconds, earning a finisher's necklace made by Tiffany's.



### Walnut Grove Middle School

had 33 students make the All Region Band. Last spring all WGMS bands were awarded 1st division and were selected as the Most Outstanding Groups at Sandy Lake Contest, first time awarded in the Sandy Lake Contest's 30-year history.



### Longbranch Elementary student members of the Longbranch Century Book Club

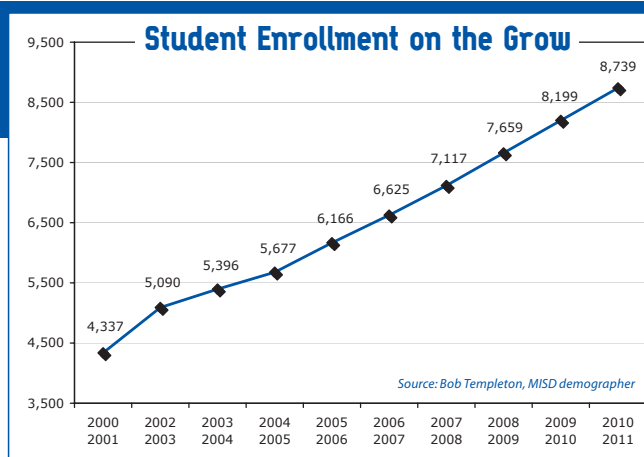
In celebration of Midlothian ISD's 100th anniversary, students were challenged to read 100 books. Upon reading 100 books, students became members of the Century Book Club and their names were inscribed on a plaque to be displayed in the library.

# Managing Enrollment **GROWTH**

As a fast-growth district, the student enrollment is increasing by approximately 450 students annually. With this growth rate, the district is challenged with accommodating students as campuses reach near capacity. In 2000, the district had 4,337 students. The district anticipates about 7,117 students for the 2007-2008 school year. During the next four years, the district anticipates to grow to almost 8,739 students.

## Campus Enrollment (Current and Projected)

	Baxter Elem.	Irvin Elem.	Longbranch Elem.	Mt. Peak Elem.	Vitovsky Elem.	FSMS	WGMS	MHS
Current Enrollment Dec. 2006	564	410	741	707	558	701	840	2,034
Projected Enrollment 2010-2011	690	632	893	947	928	947	1,087	2,620
<b>Building Capacity</b>	<b>588</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>798</b>	<b>818</b>	<b>818</b>	<b>1,012</b>	<b>1,200</b>	<b>2,500</b>



## Meeting the facility needs of students:

### Elementary Schools (Grades Pre K-5)

- ▶ Elementary School #6 is projected to open Fall 2008 and will help alleviate overcrowding at the elementary campuses. (Funded by May 2006 bond)
- ▶ T.E. Baxter Elementary is under construction for an additional wing to accommodate immediate needed classroom space. (Funded by May 2006 bond)
- ▶ Future Elementary School #7 needed by 2009-2010 school year. (Included in future bond referendum)

### Middle Schools (Grades 6-8)

- ▶ Frank Seale is currently under construction for major capital improvement needs. (Funded by May 2006 bond)
- ▶ Middle Schools are projected to exceed capacity in 2012.

### High School (Grades 9-12)

- ▶ Current High School campus projected to exceed capacity in 2010.
- ▶ High School #2 is needed by 2010-2011 school year to accommodate growth. On average it takes 1 year to design and 2 years to build a high school. Probable that the campus will open as a 9/10 grade campus and phase in grades 11/12. A site has been approved on the corner of FM1382 and Walnut Grove Rd. (High School #2 included in future bond referendum.)

# Bond Dollars: Building a **SUCCESSFUL FUTURE**

## Progress of 2004 and 2006 Bond Projects

**February 2004 Bond Project Status** (refer to Construction Zone website for detailed information)



Promised	Nature of Work	Status
▶ Capital Improvements	Improvements to campuses	Some projects completed. Others to begin summer 2007.
▶ Land Purchases	Land purchased for High School #2 site at FM1387/Walnut Grove	
▶ Midlothian High School	Additions/Renovations	98% Completed
▶ Multipurpose Stadium	Construct new facility	Completed
▶ New Technology	Tech upgrades	Completed
▶ School Buses	Purchased 10 Buses	Completed
▶ Walnut Grove Middle School	Construct new facility	Completed

**May 2006 Bond Project Status** (refer to Construction Zone website for detailed information)

Promised	Nature of Work	Status
▶ Capital Improvements	J.R. Irvin, Longbranch, Mt. Peak MHS; Security for elementary schools	Planning has begun on these projects.
▶ Elementary School #6	New facility construction	Preliminary architectural design is developed. Projected completion Fall 2008. Located on Sudith Lane.
▶ Frank Seale Middle School	Renovations	Projected completion summer 2008
▶ Instructional Technology		80% Complete
▶ T.E. Baxter Elementary	Additional classrooms and various renovations	Projected completion summer 2007
▶ School Buses	Purchased 4 Buses	Completed

# Point of **PRIDE**

## State Recognition in 2006 Duke Talent Identification Program (TIP)

Duke's talent search program identifies academically talented seventh graders based on students' past standardized test scores. Identified students are eligible to complete either the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) or the American College Test (ACT).

This past spring, thirty MISD 7th grade students participated in the Duke Talent Search by taking either the SAT or the ACT test. Of those thirty students, 8 received state recognition.

The following students are:

**Collin Roland** (verbal and math) SAT; **Blaine Blackburn** (science) ACT; **Austin Hill** (verbal and math) SAT; **Travis King** (verbal and math) SAT; **Mindy McClean** (English, reading, and science) ACT; **Kaitlyn Moehlman** (English and math) ACT; **Andrew Peterson** (verbal and math) SAT; **Evan Wilson** (English and reading) ACT. These students attended the May 17th state ceremony at Texas A&M University.

The purpose of Duke TIP is to provide participants with comparative information concerning their academic abilities and resources for unique educational opportunities. Resources include a biannual newsletter, current editions of the *Educational Opportunity Guide* and *College Guide* and Duke TIP summer programs for grand and state qualifiers.



## J.R. Irvin Students Send Their Support to U.S. Soldiers

Mrs. Hoover's 4th graders were excited when one of the soldiers in Iraq responded to their letters via email. Students asked curious questions about the soldiers daily lives. They drew pictures and wrote how they were proud of their service.



(Pictured are Marine Lance Corporal Kate Bernazzani and Air Force 1st Lt. Joel Bernazzani, an Air Force fighter pilot stationed in Georgia.)



## Use **WEBSITE** as a Communication Tool [www.midlothian-isd.net](http://www.midlothian-isd.net)

- ▶ Check your child's homework online
- ▶ Utilize PowerSchool for realtime access to student grades
- ▶ Email teachers

Midlothian ISD welcomes and encourages all parents to become an integral part of their child's educational career while he/she is at MISD. As your child's first teacher, it is important to be involved in their everyday life as they attend school.

**Be in the know... visit**  
[www.midlothian-isd.net](http://www.midlothian-isd.net)



## Educational Showcase Hollywood Style: Celebrating Students' Work

Mark your calendar for May 7, 2007 for the third annual Big Picture Educational Showcase that provides an opportunity for parents and community members to see meaningful lessons students are engaged in throughout the year.



## inside Connections

- ▶ Measures of **EXCELLENCE**
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- ▶ A.H. MEADOWS Library News
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## Quick **FACTS**

**M**idlothian ISD celebrates 100 years of excellence in education. Reaching higher, gaining momentum, and moving aggressively describe what is presently happening in the district. This progress is the establishment of academic standards, improving student achievement, and continually finding new ways to ensure that every child succeeds in learning.

- ▶ 111 square miles (MISD boundaries are larger than Arlington ISD and Mansfield ISD)
- ▶ 1 high school, 2 middle schools, 5 elementary schools
- ▶ 6,555 students (as of December 2006)

### Average Class Size

Pre-K .....	15 students
Elementary Grade K .....	18 students
Elementary Grades 1-5 .....	19.8 students
Middle School Grades 6-8 .....	22 students
High School Grades 9-12 .....	27 students

### Ethnicity

African American .....	4.0%
Caucasian .....	79.9%
Hispanic .....	14.5%
Other .....	1.6%

## A.H. Meadows Library News

Meadows Library offers a free library card to any resident of Texas. There are over 22,000 circulating items, free Internet access, and will offer a variety of free community classes in our new computer lab. Visit <http://library.midlothian-isd.net> and click on the Meadows link for information about our TexShare card and database program — offering borrowing and research privileges to over 500 libraries and thousands of electronic resources. For more information call 972-775-3417 or email [susie\\_yarbro@midlothian-isd.net](mailto:susie_yarbro@midlothian-isd.net).

### Hours

Monday - Wednesday ..... 8am – 6pm  
Tuesday-Thursday ..... 8am – 8pm

Friday ..... 8am – 4pm  
Saturday ..... 10am – 4pm



### Library Highlights

- ▶ Every Friday @ 11:00 am Story Time with music, crafts, and treats
- ▶ Café Corner – public meeting room available for reservation and refreshments
- ▶ Meadows Monthly Book club
- ▶ Meadows Writing Group 3rd Tuesday @ 7:00 pm
- ▶ Sign Language evening classes
- ▶ Volunteer and Community Service Opportunities Available

## Become a **MEF Partner!**

**T**he Midlothian ISD Education Foundation (MEF) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, which exists to enhance the education of MISD's 6,500 students by awarding classroom grants for worthy projects not able to be funded by the district. These grants contribute to innovation and creative teaching in the schools, thereby ensuring the fulfillment of the Foundation's mission — the promotion of educational excellence for all students through community advocacy and financial support. MEF also funds an annual Showcase of Stars Recognition Banquet honoring top seniors and selected teachers.

MEF accepts personal donations, gifts from estates and trusts, in-kind contributions. Send contributions to MEF, P.O. Box 1906, Midlothian, TX. For more information visit [www.midlothian-isd.net/mef](http://www.midlothian-isd.net/mef).



*MHS Community Based Instruction class was recently awarded a \$2,443.37 for the School House Candle Shop grant.*

**Midlothian ISD**  
**100 Walter Stephenson Rd.**  
**Midlothian, TX 76065**  
**972.775.8296**

**Sign-up for MISD eNews at**  
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