

SAISD and Henry Ford Learning Institute partner to bring greater arts education to local students

Board President James Howard, Superintendent Robert J. Durón and several SAISD Trustees were on hand at a recent news conference announcing a partnership with Henry Ford Learning Institute (HFLI) that will provide District high schools with a higher-level visual arts career path and bring more art educational opportunities to San Antonio. Trustees approved the joint venture that calls for the District to provide HFLI use of the currently-closed Bowie ES for a new charter high school, Henry Ford Academy: Alameda School for Art + Design. In exchange for use of the facility, HFLI will provide SAISD with a multi-part curriculum that combines academics and real-world experiences in art and design, along with technical assistance for implementation and teacher professional development.

The curriculum and programs being provided to the District were developed at a total cost of \$4.1 million by Ford Motor Company Fund, HFLI, Education

Development Center Inc., and experienced arts high school administrators. HFLI will support the adaptation, implementation and teacher preparation for the shared curriculum and programs.

SAISD will pilot the arts curriculum through the Jefferson HS Fine Arts Magnet program beginning in the fall of 2010, providing students with a career-focused program that includes specialized design training, internships and project work, and hands-on learning opportunities with the city's premier arts professionals and venues. Select modules of the program will also be implemented at all other SAISD high schools. The District also plans to utilize the curriculum for a new middle school art magnet program, targeted to begin in the 2010-11 school year.

Other notable dignitaries in attendance at the announcement were Bexar County's Honorable Judge Nelson Wolff, and Henry Muñoz III, board member of the Museo



Dr. Robert J. Durón (left) and Board President James Howard (right) are pictured with Bexar County Judge Nelson Wolff (center), who was a guest speaker at the news conference

Alameda, HFLI and the new Henry Ford Academy.

The partnership enables SAISD to utilize its Bowie ES for educational purposes. The facility, located at 439 Arbor Place, was closed last year.

Class of 2012 keeps summer learning cool through GEAR UP aquatic science program



GEAR UP students collect and catalogue insects at Aquarena Springs

Like the rest of San Antonio, water conservation is fresh on the minds of students in SAISD's GEAR UP- Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs. The future scientists participated in a project called Water Planet as part of

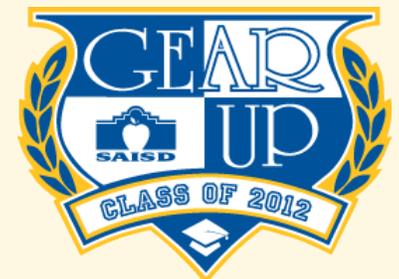
their summer enrichment.

Ninth-graders had the opportunity to explore the wonderful worlds of fresh and oceanic water through the study of aquatic science. The project gave the students a first-hand look at the scientific study of Earth's water environment and systems - an essential lesson in this day and age with water conservation high on the list of our nation's environmental priorities. Students, from both Lanier and Highlands high schools, went on a series of field trips that began on June 15 and ended June 23, each trip taking them through a full day in the life of an environmental scientist.

The Water Planet project was planned and coordinated by Rita Landez, GEAR UP facilitator, and Rick Carruba, science teacher, and GEAR UP coordinator. Series

sites included educational tours and activities at Aquarina Springs, San Antonio Water System Dos Rios water treatment plant, Corpus Christi's Texas State Aquarium, Woodlawn Lake, Pecan Valley Pond, Mitchell Lake Wetlands and the San Antonio River Authority's new river extension.

The camp is part of GEAR UP's mission designed to help the class of 2012 be prepared for success in college and beyond.



For your Benefit

Stay fit and win big this summer with SAISD's 'Step Challenge'



Pictured here Roy Najera, Instructional Assistant holds his brand new Wii Game System and Wii Fit. He was one of SAISD's first winners in the Summer Wellness

Program Step Challenge. There are still plenty of ways to win and get healthy this summer. Here's what you can do:

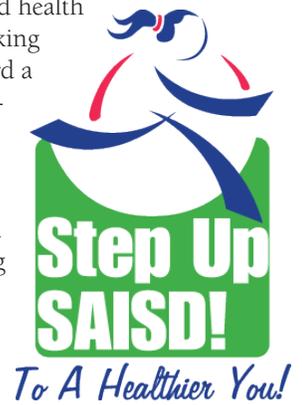
Step 1: Take an online or telephone health assessment through Humana on May 26 – August 31

Step 2: Register for Virgin HealthMiles at www.virginhealthmiles.com

Step 3: Get Walking with the Steps Challenge Virgin HealthMiles walking program and win Health Cash and prizes

Twelve prizes will be awarded throughout the summer such as Wii System Gaming Console and Wii Fit, iPod Nanos and iPod

Shuffles, and Polar FA20 Heart Monitor Activity Computer Watches. By participating in this wellness and health initiative you're taking the first step toward a healthier lifestyle – and you're doing your part to help SAISD offer good health benefits at a fair price for a long time to come.



Awards and Honors



Congratulating Edison's Brendila Leslie-Sanders for her selection as the Magic 105.3 "Teacher of the Year" is the Spurs Coyote. In addition to the honor, Leslie-Sanders received \$1,000.



Japhet ES 1st-grade teacher Cindy Torres (left) won the KONO literacy award and received a \$101 check from San Antonio Credit Union marketing director Karla Sarran, and KONO's David Rios. Beside the on-air personality is proud principal Beatrice Aleman.



Also earning a KONO literacy award was Fenwick Elementary's Cynthia Barnes (right), who teaches 1st grade. The prize money funds library books, including one of the recipient's choice.



Fenwick's 5th graders "Explore all the possibilities in the Universe" at NASA during their end-of-year field trip. Accompanying the students were Dessynie Edwards, Principal, Julie Beasley and Roxanne Medellin, 5th-grade teachers and several parent volunteers. Special recognition goes to Ms. Beasley's science class for achieving 100 percent passing rate on the 5th grade science TAKS –Texas Assessment Knowledge and Skills – test.



As part of an end-of-year celebration that honored Mission Academy's first year in operation, students were treated to a visit from one of the San Antonio Police Department's choppers. Students got an up close and personal look at the helicopter, with an inside tour provided by San Antonio's finest. The landing was arranged at SAISD's newest school by an officer whose child attends Mission Academy.



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