

KleinConnects

A monthly newsletter to keep you informed.

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90 SECONDS WITH BRET

Each week Superintendent Bret Champion updates us on the latest news happening across the district. These videos are available every Tuesday afternoon. Check out the highlights below:



Feb. 7, 2017

[Click here](#) to see all of the 90 Seconds with Bret episodes.



FEBRUARY: A LOVE STORY

Youngest Couple Working in Klein ISD Brings Years of Experience



At only 27 and 26 years of age, John and Chelsea Ceballos are some of the newest Klein ISD employees. In a district that has a long retention rate, it is quite unique to find a couple who both began working for the district only one year ago.

Both were born and raised in the Houston area and graduated from Cy-Falls High School. They started out as friends when Chelsea had a crush on another guy, who happened to be John's best friend. Through that connection, the two became close friends and although Chelsea continued to deny to John that they would ever be more, they began dating a year later. Fast-forward to present day, the two have been together for 10 years, married for four years, and have a one-year old son, Maddox.

"He (John) will never let me live that down," Chelsea said.

After high school the pair set off to follow dreams of living in a big city and attend top-rated, Pace University. Chelsea discovered graphic design, journalism, and photography in high school after asthma forced her to quit drill team.

"My journalism teacher Lisa Van Etta saw something in me and pushed me to develop the skill set I have today," said Chelsea.

John was able to work the first year for the University's Education Media Department which helped propel his career in IT where he later became a supervisor. Chelsea worked as a resident advisor for two years and also worked as an intern for the Communications Department at Dyson College where she was later hired full-time as the marketing and communications specialist.

After living in New York City for more than four years, the pair knew what was next. While it meant leaving the city of their dreams, it also meant being at home with family, settling in and starting a life and family of their own.

"It was Fourth of July weekend, 2013, we packed our cats and NYC life into an Enterprise van and made the cross country move back home to Houston," Chelsea said.

John had taken a job with Apple in the Houston area and Chelsea was able to continue working for Pace University remotely, but they wanted something more.

"I missed education," said Chelsea. "Through my education in New York City, I grew so much and I wanted to help others the way I was helped even if it was indirectly," she said.

"It wasn't until after having our son that I realized the importance of having a healthy work/life balance," said John. "Having a passion in education, and the experience to help, I knew a school district would be fulfilling."

In November 2015 Chelsea came to Klein ISD to work in the communications and planning department as a multimedia communications specialist where she leads the graphic design for the district.

"Working in Klein ISD is like working with your second family," said Chelsea. "I love that I am able to be creative and showcase all of the awesome things happening in the district."

John began working in Klein ISD in March 2016 as an IT manager for the nutrition and food services department where he works closely with food service employees at campuses providing support and training for hardware and software.

"My favorite part of my job is the impact it has on students," said John. "While it isn't directly correlated to one student, the food services department is providing meals to our students to provide them the energy and focus they need each day."

The couple currently resides in the Cypress area with their son, Maddox who keeps them busy.

WHAT'S NEW

Alumni Network

Calling all Klein ISD Alumni! We know that many Klein ISD graduates now work in the district. Please join the Klein ISD Alumni Network today to stay up to date with alumni news and information. Signing up is easy and FREE.

1. Text KISDALUMNI to 51555, or
2. Visit <http://kisd.us/kisdalumni> to sign up.

Feel free to pass this on to other alumni in your network of friends.



DID YOU KNOW

Kleinwell - AHA Month and My Life Check

The employees of Klein ISD always put their hearts into everything they do. Throughout American Heart Health month, Kleinwell and the American Heart Association are teaming up to help make sure those same hearts stay healthy and strong. Employees have the opportunity to focus on themselves and learn more about their own heart health.

On February 10, in honor of those that were born with Congenital Heart Defects (CHD), employees are encouraged to wear purple. A CHD means a child is born with an abnormally structured heart and/or large vessels. Such hearts may have incomplete or missing parts, may be put together the wrong way, may have holes between chamber partitions, or may have narrow or leaky valves or narrow vessels. Wear purple to support these heart champions!



Starting February 6 and running through May 26, staff can participate in the [Check. Change. Control. Blood Pressure campaign](#). During the campaign, take your blood pressure once a week and record your results online. Blood pressure is not something most people think about every day, yet it can be an indicator of a more serious issue. You will be able to see how everyday stress effects your heart and shed light on when there is a problem.

Employees also have the opportunity to learn their personalized "heart score" by participating in the AHA "My Life Check!" [survey](#). The simple 4-minute survey focuses on the individual's lifestyle, such as diet and activity level, and overall health to give the employee a score for their current heart health. Participants will have access to tools, tips, and information to help increase their heart health. The program allows the individual to continually update their information as their lifestyle changes to get a new score.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Honoring our school counselors and recognizing our FFA programs



Lindsay Harrison

Counselor - Roth Elementary

She always knew she wanted to work in education. Following that dream led her down several paths.

Harrison became a classroom teacher in 2006 after graduating from Texas State University.

"Growing up I always knew I wanted to work in education," she said. "I have always wanted to help students grow and learn in a positive environment."

She has been in education for 11 years, eight of those in Klein ISD serving at Roth Elementary. She began as a fourth-grade teacher and is enjoying her second year as the school counselor.

"My goal is to always positively influence students and help them get the most benefit from their social and educational experiences," she said.

Each day she not only works with students, but also collaborates with school staff and parents through finding resources, character lessons, as well as guiding them to be the



Damon Lawrence

FFA Advisor - Klein Forest High School

Following his passion for animals led him to teaching, but his job doesn't end there.

Lawrence is new to Klein ISD and is in his first year as the FFA advisor at Klein Forest High School.

"I feel blessed to be at Klein Forest," he said. "I try to show my students that you are always learning new things no matter how old you are or how many times you have done something."

He begins his day around 5 a.m. during the week to help students as they work with their animals, or practice to get ready for an upcoming show. His day ends when the work is done he says.

"I enjoy seeing students accomplish a goal that a year ago they didn't know was an option."

Lawrence admits there is a lot of work in FFA going on behind the scenes that most people don't see or think about. But being

best they can be.

"This can be a big job, but I stay motivated by the numerous smiles, waves, hellos, and hugs I receive each day," she said. "Roth is a great place and each day brings something new which makes it enjoyable."

When not working, Harrison enjoys spending time with her family. She and her husband, a Klein ISD graduate, are celebrating five years of marriage and love the fast pace life their two young children bring.

around animals has always been a passion of his.

"Being an ag teacher is very rewarding in the sense that you get to introduce new worlds to students that they didn't know about."

In his spare time Lawrence enjoys working on his family farm and fishing. Prior to teaching he spent eight years as a horse breeding specialist. He and his wife currently live in Pinehurst.



MISCELLANEOUS

Paint the Community with Peace

The Unite for Understanding Council is again proud to sponsor Paint the Community with Peace Week. Schools, businesses and community organizations are encouraged to participate and show unity in our diverse community.

New this year, a special community poster quilt will be assembled at Klein Memorial Stadium on Thursday, Feb. 16, 2017, beginning at 3 p.m. Schools across the district, business partners, and community organizations are invited to create a poster to display on the football field. Everyone is welcome!



This year's Paint the Community with Peace Week will again feature themed days and the Ambassador program. For more information, click [here](#).

To kick off Paint the Community with Peace Week, check out this video of students showcasing their peaceful place.



{ CALENDAR } OF EVENTS



February 2016

- 8-11: FFA Livestock & Project Show
- 11: FFA Auction
- 13-17: Paint the Community with Peace
- 13: Board of Trustees Meeting
- 16: Mahaffey Dedication
- 20: President's Day - student holiday
- 24: Germanfest - KOHS
- 25: Wunderlich Farm Farmers Market

March 2016

- 4: Wunderlich Farm Spring Festival
- 6-9: Exit Level TAKS
- 6: Board of Trustees Meeting
- 13-17: Spring Break

Klein ISD Police Street Smarts

Would you like to know more about situational awareness, know how to defend yourself if attacked, and learn tips and tricks to make your home and car more secure? Check out the Street Smarts class. [Click here](#) for more information.

The Cape Apartments:

Employees receive a 10% discount. Click [here](#) for more information.

Law Office of Joseph Gibson:

Check out the options available to employees and their spouses by clicking [here](#).

Karen Wylie Insurance Agency:

Farmers insurance offers discounts for both home and auto insurance to educators. Contact [Karen Wylie](#) for more information.

Spring Smiles:

Employees receive \$200 off CEREC Crown. For more information, click [here](#).

[Click here](#) for a full listing of employee discounts.

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