DR. CAIN’S MESSAGE

It seems as though this school year just started and here I am writing my closing year letter to our community. As the school year comes to an end, it is important to recognize that this was an outstanding year with so many students achieving at high levels in academics, athletics, fine arts and a host of extracurricular activities. As I go from school to school and visit with the employees, I sense a spirit of pride and exhilaration.

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“Students enrolled in the dual credit program have the opportunity to access college facilities and resources that are not available to high school students not enrolled in dual credit,” said Cynthia Galindo, Klein ISD instructional officer of advanced academic services.

In order to enroll in the dual credit program, students must be at least 16 years of age and earn at least a ‘C’ to stay in the program. Students who choose to take dual credit courses are taking on a serious commitment and have many options available to them. For starters, the Klein ISD dual credit program offers the opportunity to take classes that are embedded at their high school campus or they can attend classes at Lone Star College University Park campus. Students may take approved classes over the summer, at night or even online.

Some of the approved courses available to students through Klein ISD teachers, who are also adjunct collegiate faculty, are: speech, economics, government, English 3 and 4, college algebra, pre-calculus, psychology, art history and US history.

There are many benefits to taking dual credit courses. For example, these college courses are offered at a lower cost tuition rate and through the partnership between the Klein ISD and Lone Star University Park, not only is there a cost benefit, but students enrolled in dual credit are able to test the waters of university life by being on a small college campus making it easier for students to understand what it takes to be academically successful in college. Students may even be eligible for scholarship opportunities. If students plan carefully and begin their dual credit coursework as an incoming junior, they can complete 36 hours of college coursework by graduation day.

“Participation in the dual credit program helps improve a student’s time management and critical thinking skills,” said Galindo. “Dual credit students have a greater likelihood of being successful once they enroll in college full time,” she added.

For more information about the dual credit program, visit: www.kleinisd.net/dualcredit

2014 KLEIN ISD GRADUATES

28% (924) of all Klein ISD seniors will graduate with college credit hours

THE KLEIN ISD FOUNDATIONS

The Klein ISD is fortunate to have two foundations that enhance the education of students across the district. Both the Klein, TX Historical Foundation and the Klein ISD Education Foundation (KEF) assist the district by preserving history and investing in students and staff.

THE KLEIN, TX HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

“Our goal with the Foundation is to preserve what makes our community so unique and to teach our students about the district’s history,” stated Steven Baird, the Wunderlich Farm and Klein, TX Museum living history educator.

The Klein, TX Historical Foundation is a non-profit organization that was founded in 1988. Its mission is twofold: 1) to preserve buildings, photos, records and historical artifacts of the community and 2) encourage the study and research of Klein, Texas. The Klein Museum was established by the Foundation in 1994 to house the exhibits and the following year Wunderlich Farm opened for tours.

All Klein ISD fourth grade students attend a half-day hands-on tour of Wunderlich Farm during the school year. The farm is designed to reflect the way of life in the rural community of Klein from
IN THE NEWS

To stay up to date on the latest news and information from across the Klein ISD, check us out on social media and by downloading the new Klein ISD app for smartphones.

Stay in touch in the following ways:

Facebook  facebook.com/KleinISD
Twitter  twitter.com/KleinISD
YouTube  youtube.com/user/KleinISDVideos

“The News”
Check out the latest headline news and happenings from across the district.

“Publications”
Find all Klein ISD publications, including older versions, online.

Mobile App
With the mobile app, you will have quick and easy access to features like the district directory, Parent Connection, SchooL Ca$h Online and much more. Download the Klein ISD mobile app today to stay in the know, while you are on the go!

Steven Baird
Klein ISD Historical Foundation

The museum also has several new features that are designed to enhance the experience of all who attend. New this year is a display that features items from the Civil War through WWII as well as a wall of honor exhibiting pictures of the founding families who served in these conflicts. It allows students to get a hands-on lesson from the 1920s. The Kohrville School house was added to the fourth grade tours, allowing students to practice their penmanship with a dip pen and ink. During Saturday tours, parents and students will also receive job cards as they visit the facilities.

“They will travel across the entire farm and have a job such as a housekeeper, scholar, nativist, farmer or gardener,” said Baird. “We began hosting a farmers market on the last Saturday of the month and will host Heritage Day on the last Saturday in May.”

The farmers market consists of more than 15 local vendors who are farmers and small business owners throughout the area. During the day individuals may tour the farm and purchase local items while their children experience turn of the century farm tours. Heritage Day at the Farm will take place in May. The event will feature a Civil War re-enactment, candle making, spinning, quilting, hay rides, artisans, farmer’s market, basket weavers and much more.

“We are looking into making a cookbook featuring recipes from as many of our founding families as possible as a way to honor them all,” stated Baird. “This is currently in work and progress and we are looking forward to all the future possibilities provided by the Foundation.”

For more information about the Klein, TX Historical Foundation or to volunteer, contact Steven Baird at sbaird1@kleinisd.net or 832.249.5800, or visit www.kleinisd.net/wunderlichfarm

KLEIN ISD EDUCATION FOUNDATION

“Our students in the Klein ISD already receive a superb education,” expressed Cindy Doyle, Klein ISD director of community relations and the Klein ISD Education Foundation (KEF). “Our mission as a foundation is to always find ways to enhance it.”

Established in 2000, the Klein ISD Education Foundation is designed to provide direction and support for innovative academic and enrichment projects and staff development activities for the Klein ISD. The foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization governed by a volunteer board of directors who include local business, corporate and respected community leaders.

The KEF is in its 13th year of supporting the district in molding young minds. Throughout the years, the foundation has established itself as a community organization that enriches and expands programs designed to meet the district’s mission of excellence in education. Three times a year the KEF holds grant writing workshops for teachers to learn how to apply for foundation grants. All applications are reviewed by the KEF grant committee consisting of foundation directors and key district instructional leaders. Winning grants are awarded each semester through its Celebration Express event.

“As a foundation it is important that we continually give back in various ways,” stated Doyle. “Celebration Express, along with all the other opportunities throughout the year, lets us tell the KEF story. We are able to make the dreams of enhancing education a reality, especially our latest venture, the STEAM Express mobile classroom. This project is two years in the making and is quite remarkable.”

The STEAM Express is a custom built trailer complete with unique activities and experiments for all ages (K-12). The Express will visit campuses and communities year-round, with a certified teacher ready to share exciting and unique hands-on learning with students outside of the classroom. The foundation raised more than $105,000 for the mobile classroom through its Diamonds & Denim Jubilee. To learn more about the STEAM Express, visit www.kleinisd.net/kef

Other KEF annual events include the distribution of gift cards to teachers new to the Klein ISD. The foundation also hosts events such as the Fall Founders Festival which celebrates the founding families of the district, the Academic Banquet for the top ten graduates at each high school and their distinguished educators and the A.K. Buddy Brown Klein Golf Classic which is the foundation’s largest fundraiser.

Celebration Express events are not just limited to teachers. The foundation has established itself as a community organization that enriches and expands programs designed to meet the district’s mission of excellence in education. Three times a year the KEF holds grant writing workshops for teachers to learn how to apply for foundation grants. All applications are reviewed by the KEF grant committee consisting of foundation directors and key district instructional leaders. Winning grants are awarded each semester through its Celebration Express event. A.K. Buddy Brown Klein ISD Golf Classic is the foundation’s largest fundraiser.

The 2014 A.K. Buddy Brown Klein ISD Golf Classic is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 14, 2014, at Greenloch Pines Golf Club. KEF director, Buddy Brown, has chaired the event since 2001 and the tournament was renamed in his honor in 2012. Since the golf tournament’s inception, net profits total more than $1,012,000. For more information about the tournament, visit www.kleinisd.net/kefgolf.

All funds from the tournament and other events are used to award innovative and creative classroom teacher grants that benefit Klein ISD students. To date the foundation has provided more than $1.5 million to the Klein ISD in form of grants and professional development.

For more information about the KEF or to volunteer, contact Cindy Doyle at cdoyle3@kleinisd.net or 832.249.4753.

THE KLEIN ISD FOUNDATIONS AT A GLANCE

Klein ISD Education Foundation hosts:
- Celebration Express Teacher Grant Awards
- Fall Founders Festival
- The A.K. Buddy Brown Klein ISD Golf Classic
- Through Your Eyes Student Multimedia Competition
- Community Luncheon
- Academic Banquet (celebrating the top ten graduates from each high school & their honored educators)
- The STEAM Express mobile classroom.
- The STEAM Expressmobile classroom.

The Klein ISD Foundations - continued

The Houston Independent School District Foundation (HISDF) is the official foundation of the Houston ISD. Its mission is to support the educational programs and services for all students and teachers within the Houston ISD. The Foundation is governed by a Board of Directors comprised of Houston ISD Trustees, faculty, staff, business leaders, and community members.

The HISDF manages a variety of programs and initiatives, including but not limited to:

- A.K. Buddy Brown Klein ISD Golf Classic
- Through Your Eyes Student Multimedia Competition
- Community Luncheon
- Academic Banquet (celebrating the top ten graduates from each high school & their honored educators)

The HISDF relies on the support of its donors to fund these programs and initiatives. Contributions can be made through the HISDF website, or by contacting the HISDF office. To learn more about the HISDF, please visit www.houstonisd.org/educationfoundation.
GRADUATION
Saturday, June 7, 2014
at Reliant Stadium (soon to be NRG Stadium)
Klein Oak 9 a.m.
Klein Collins Noon
Klein High 3 p.m.
Klein Forest 6 p.m.

2014-15 CALENDAR
AUG 19-22 Staff Development
AUG 23 Summer Graduation 2014
AUG 25 FIRST DAY OF CLASSES
SEPT 1 Labor Day Holiday
OCT 13 Staff Development/
Student Holiday/
Elementary Parent Conference
NOV 24-25 Staff Development/
Student Holiday
NOV 26-28 Thanksgiving Holiday
DEC 22 - JAN 2 Christmas/Winter Holiday
JAN 5 CLASSES RESUME
JAN 15 End of First Semester
JAN 16 Staff Development/
Student Holiday
JAN 19 Martin Luther King Holiday
JAN 20 Second Semester Begins
MARCH 9-13 Spring Break
APRIL 2 Staff Development/
Student Holiday
APRIL 3 Easter Break
MAY 25 Memorial Day Holiday
JUNE 4 LAST DAY OF CLASSES
JUNE 5 Staff Development
JUNE 6 High School Graduation
I see how hard employees are working to ensure that our students are always reaching higher both academically and in their character development.

In the next few months, you will begin to see the results of a new component of House Bill (HB) 5 known as the Community and Student Engagement assessment. This piece of HB 5 requires districts to measure each school’s success in the following areas: 1) community and parent involvement, 2) wellness and physical education, 3) second language acquisition, 4) dropout prevention, 5) digital learning environment, 6) educational programs for gifted and talented students, 7) 21st century workforce development and 8) fine arts. The campus instructional development councils, consisting of parents, community members and staff, will use rubrics designed by our community teams to evaluate each required area. My hope is that this assessment process will provide our community and the school district with a more comprehensive look at what we are doing with the overall program. As we all know, a well-rounded student is paramount for success in school and in life.

Thanks again for supporting the Klein ISD and the 6,369 employees and 48,200 students this year as we all work together to continue our tradition of excellence.

Sincerely,
Dr. Jim Cain, Superintendent