

Northside ISD News

The end of the year for school districts is always a busy time, but with all the new requirements mandated by the State Legislature, this year is busier than ever. Some of the new requirements deal with Physical Fitness, Steroid Testing, bus safety and fingerprinting of teachers and employees. These come on top of all the tests associated with The Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills testing (TEKS).

So a lot has to be accomplished in the last two months of school, but we continue to work hard to address these issues while we provide a great education for our students. So far the results of our TEKS testing are quite improved over previous years.

Another state mandated change for this school year also impacts us now. The school start date was moved back to the last Monday in August, which means that the school year ends later. Since Northside has 9 major high schools with between 500 to 700 students each and we want to allow their families and friends to attend this milestone, we will use the Alamodome for graduations. This means that Clark will graduate on the June 11th, and other schools will not graduate until June 12th. Since the last day of school is on the 4th, we need for everyone to have patience, and we hope a better schedule can be worked out for next year.

We currently have 12 new schools in some phase of construction; 5 of them will open this fall. Brandies High School will help with overcrowding at Clark. A new Middle school on Kyle Seale will help to relieve Rawlinson, which is at the end of Vance Jackson. There are also 3 new Elementary schools, with the nearest one being Carnahan on Babcock Road. We expect an additional 3,000 students this August so we will continue to open new schools as soon as we can complete them.

There are no school board elections for Northside this year; our elections are always at the same time as the City Council Elections, in odd numbered years. The Venue or Visitors Tax Extension is of interest though because a Large Outdoor Stadium Pool would be built on our land and would be of great help for all of our students in the swim programs. This vote does not create a new or larger tax; it simply allows money to be collected on hotel bills for a longer length of time in order to fund additional projects.

If you have questions about the Stadium Pool, please call me or the school district.

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