Connecting to WPISD

A Newsletter for Educators and Board Members

338 W. North Commerce · Wills Point, Texas · 75169 (903) 873-5100

Events September 16 - 21

September 16	Three Week Progress Reports Jr. High Volleyball @ Crandall
September 17	**Constitution Day** PTO – 6:30 Tennis @ Van HS Volleyball @ Kaufman
September 18	Blood Drive – High School
September 19	4th Grade Parent Night Tennis vs Van 9/JV Football vs Brownsboro Jr. High Football @ Brownsboro
September 20	School Pictures - Intermediate HS Volleyball vs Pittsburg Football @ Brownsboro
September 21	Cross Country @ Canton Tennis vs Spring Hill

Curriculum Development:

All **YAG**s for the district developed scope and sequence have been posted on the website. You can access the **Year At A Glance** for any grade level or subject by clicking:

http://www.wpisd.com/site_res_view_template.aspx?id=943d0b52-e241-411f-a2be-8262fdce5353&userGroupId=fdb59a26-f95c-49f8-bf95-0637958720a2&userGroupType=G

Wills Point Independent School District is a community that engages all learners in an exemplary educational program.

Whatever It Takes!

We believe all kids can learn, and we will do whatever it takes to ensure they achieve agreed upon standards.

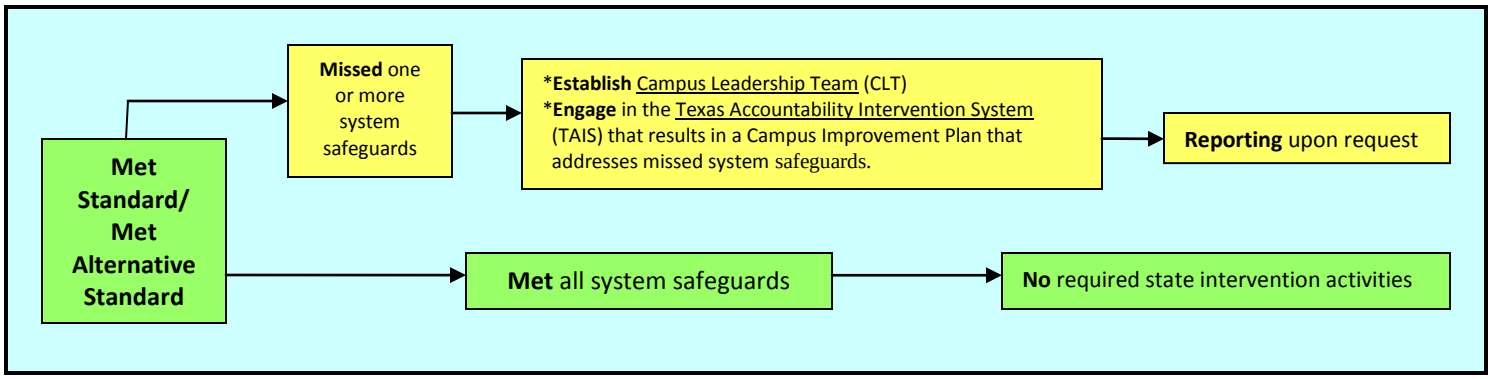
Volume 3 September 16, 2013

Congratulations to these WPISD employees. They were awarded a Microsoft Surface RT at district staff development training for use in their classrooms. Pictured: Linda Roberts, Primary; Katelyn Tucker, Intermediate; Rhyannon Page, Junior High; Nancy Bell, Middle School; and John White, High School.

EARN A MASTER'S DEGREE

The University of Texas at Arlington is offering Wills Point ISD teachers the opportunity to earn a master's degree for an amazing price. If you have taught in Wills Point ISD for the past four years you are eligible for a significant tuition reduction through a Title I grant program. Regular tuition for their online program would run $9,840. Your cost under the grant program would run $2,840. That is a $7,000 savings. All courses are online. For additional information about this program, contact Amanda Wallace, or the university representative, Kate Roth at 214-726-6900.

CHANGING DEMOGRAPHICS IN TEXAS

When the class of 2014 receives its diplomas this spring, it will mark the beginning of a new era for Texas public schools. The current crop of seniors will likely be among the last not containing a majority of Hispanic students. It will also, based on preliminary enrollment data from the 2012-13 school year, probably fall among the last without a majority of students from impoverished backgrounds. Hispanics became the majority of total public school students for the first time in 2011, growing by about 10 percentage points over the decade since 2000. Since that same year, the overall percentage of economically disadvantaged students has also grown, from less than half to 60 percent of all public school students — more than double a 20 percent increase in the public school population as a whole. Both trends are expected to continue. The changes present both challenges and opportunities to Texas public schools. How Texas public schools navigate the demographic shift will depend a great deal upon the ongoing lawsuit over the state's school finance system, and the subsequent actions of the Legislature. Of late, the state has been showing improvement in academic achievement for both Hispanic and economically disadvantaged students. We need to make sure stakeholders comprehend the situation, actual results, and what is needed to keep schools successful.

State Accountability: Campus-Level Plan for Interventions