

Coahoma I.S.D. BULLDOG NEWS

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Fall 2009

Bulldog NEWS

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Superintendent's Corner: CISD achievements are many

By Randy Brown / Superintendent

Summer is officially over and the 2009-2010 school year is underway for approximately 780 Coahoma ISD students. Whether you are a newcomer or a returning student to CISD, we welcome you!

It has been a very busy summer for the district and much has been accomplished. There are many indications that Coahoma ISD is truly excelling.

We are thrilled to announce that the Elementary, Junior High, and High School campuses have all earned the "Recognized" distinction from the Texas Education Agency. In addition, the district and campuses all "Met AYP" on the No Child Left Behind report. AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress) is the federal standard of accountability.

On July 19, Coahoma ISD received notice that the class of 2009 graduates outperformed their peers from across the state on all areas of the ACT test. The ACT consists of curriculum-based tests of educational development in English, mathematics, reading, and science designed to measure the skills needed for success in first year college coursework.

Academic successes such as these don't happen without hard work from all the teachers, students and staff.

Once again, CISD received a "Superior Rating" on our Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas Report (FIRST). The FIRST Report is an indication of the financial status of the district. "Superior" is the highest rating a district may receive. The rating system is designed to ensure that the district is being held accountable for the quality of its financial management practices. We know these are difficult economic times, and we take responsibility for our tax dol-

lars very seriously.

In addition to the academic progress being made, work on school facilities is continuing. I would like to thank everyone for their patience as we are nearing the end of the project. I can assure you that the sacrifices we have made will benefit the students of Coahoma ISD. for many years to come. A ribbon cutting ceremony to commemorate the completion of the project will be held on Tuesday, October 27 at 6:30 p.m. All of the renovated and newly constructed facilities will be open for the public to tour.

The most important accomplishment of the Coahoma Independent School District is the continued effort to ensure success for every student. We are proud of our academic program as well as the extracurricular opportunities offered to students.

We hope you feel welcome in our schools and that you will take advantage of opportunities to become involved, to learn more about your school district and to be a part of the many great things that are taking place.

To find key information about your school and your district, please visit our website at www.coahomaisd.com

We look forward to the 2009-10 school year being a very successful one for the students of Coahoma Independent School District.



Coahoma ISD School Board and District Goals

The Coahoma ISD School Board and Superintendent developed Board and District Goals in July and August. Board President Jody Reid stated "Speaking on behalf of the Board of Trustees, we feel that we have set these goals to give our school a sense of direction. We believe that these goals are obtainable because of a strong administration, great teachers, and an outstanding student body. We also invite the community and parents to be involved with us in obtaining the goals and making CISD the best it can be for our

children and community".

"We are fortunate to have a strong school board, administrative team, and staff here at Coahoma ISD" said Superintendent Randy Brown. "The board is committed to working together as a team with the administrative staff to provide a quality school and positive learning environment for our students, parents, and employees. That commitment is reflected in the board and district goals".

COAHOMA ISD 2009-2010

BOARD AND DISTRICT GOALS

1. **Emphasize high expectations and continuous improvement.**
2. **Welcome visitors, creating a warm and friendly environment at each campus.**
3. **Create an attractive school environment for students and staff.**
4. **Provide students with quality, rigorous instruction designed to prepare them for life after graduation.**
5. **Encourage participation in and recognize achievement of student academic extra-curricular activities.**
6. **Build student pride in school.**
7. **Promote positive public relations and highlight achievements of students and staff through the use of local media and the district newsletter, website, and marquees.**
8. **Communicate and inform parents and the community in a frequent and timely manner.**
9. **Encourage parental involvement in academic and extra-curricular programs.**
10. **Maintain and improve the appearance of grounds and facilities.**
11. **Recruit and retain qualified professional staff.**
12. **Employment of a conservative and efficient approach to fiscal management.**
13. **Focus on dedication to excellence, commitment to children.**

Nurse Notes

By Terri Burlison / School Nurse

As you may know, H1N1 or swine or flu, can be easily spread from person to person. We are taking steps to reduce the spread of flu at Coahoma ISD. We want to keep the school open to students and functioning in a normal manner during the flu season. We need your help!

1. Teach your children to wash their hands.
 - Use soap, and water
 - Scrub while singing the A B C song
 - Wash before and after eating
 - Wash after going to the bathroom, and after blowing your nose, or covering a cough or sneeze
 - Hand sanitizer should be used when soap and water isn't available.

Since flu germs can live on objects, avoid putting fingers in your mouth, nose, or eyes, until you've washed your hands. Wash those germs away!

2. Teach your children not to share personal items, like drinks, food, and utensils.
3. Teach your children to cover their coughs and sneezes with tissues, or their elbow, arm, or sleeve, when tissues aren't available.

4. Know the signs and symptoms of the flu
 - Fever of 100 degrees or greater
 - Cough
 - Body aches
 - Feeling very tired
 - Sore throat
 - Runny or stuffy nose
 - Some people may also vomit or have diarrhea

5. Keep sick children at home. They are only allowed to return to school when they no longer have flu symptoms, and when they have gone **24 hours without fever and medicine for fever.**

Keeping children with fever at home will reduce the number of people who may get infected.

Do not send children to school if they are sick. Any children who are determined to be sick while at school will be sent home.

For more information, visit www.flu.gov, or call 1-800-CDC-INFO for the most current information about the flu.



Coahoma ISD official announce early release dates

December 7, 2009 and April 1, 2010 have been added as early release dates on the 2009-2010 school calendar. School will be dismissed at 12:30 p.m. on these dates.

On December 7 Coahoma Elementary will be hosting the District U.I.L. Academic Meet. Students not participating in the meet will be dis-



missed early. The Junior High Academic Meet will be held at Ballinger on the same date.

All of the schools in district 7-AA agreed to designate April 1 as an early release date to accommodate the Junior High Track meet which will be held in Ballinger.

Technology Corner

By Odis Franklin / Technology Director

School is off to a fast start and I am very excited about several things that are happening here at Coahoma ISD. One of which is the computers the school recently received from the Price Daniel Computer Recovery Unit in Snyder, Texas. This is a program in which inmates at the prison refurbish computers they receive from schools and redistribute them to other schools in need. This is a great recycling program that keeps e-waste out of our landfills and helps schools as well. Coahoma I.S.D. has participated in the program for several years and has saved over \$100,000 within the last two years alone.

We are trying to do everything we can to recycle and keep e-waste out of local landfills here and encourage local residents that have old computers or printers that you need to throw away to contact me about letting us recycle them for you. We can also accommodate printer cartridges and cell phones in our recycling program as well. If you need to contact me, you can call the administration office at 432-394-4290 to arrange a drop off.



BIG RED BAND

By Shane Faucett / Director of Bands

Are you ready for some football, I mean band? Hello Coahoma. Here it is, another Marching season has begun.

The band began practicing for this year's half-time show in early August and we have gotten off to a great start. This year the band will be performing music from some of TV and Movies most famous detectives and spies. We call our show "Mystery and Intrigue". The band will play music from Austin Powers, Peter Gunn and Mission: Impossible. You might even hear a little bit of Dragnet.

The band performed a great crowd-pleasing show last season, and we are putting together a very exciting and entertaining show for half-time this year as well. The band and I hope to see you all there on Friday nights, but especially on Saturday, October 10 at Abilene

Wylie and Saturday, October 17 at Ratliff Stadium in Odessa. Come support your "Big Red" Band.

We are looking forward to a very successful year this year in individual competitions also. The All-State Band tryout process begins this semester in December.

Good luck to all.

That's all for now.
Have a great year!

Shane Faucett
432-599-8327
432-935-6314



Elementary

By Patricia Bennett/Elementary Principal

The beginning of school is always such an exciting time for students, parents and school personnel alike. We have been busy making this an exciting year for all students.

In order for each child to be successful they need to be in school and on time everyday. Morning Assembly begins at 7:45AM in the cafeteria. This is our time together where students are recognized for various activities. Birthdays are a special time for all kids. During Morning Assembly students receive a bookmark and the school sings the "Birthday" song. The Pledge to Flag and our Minute of Silence is also part of this time.

Regular attendance is critical to your child's success in school. It is also critical to the school district's success because it is a factor in the district and campus rating under the state accountability system and is a determining factor in the amount of state funding the district is entitled to receive.

The school is required by state law to file a report with the Justice of the Peace if your child is absent from school on 10 or more days or partial days within a six-month period in the same school year or on three or more days or parts of days within a four-week period. You may be prosecuted for contributing to truancy

and your child may be prosecuted for failure to attend school.

To reward student attendance, children who are not tardy, do not leave before 3:10PM or do not miss any school days or parts of days in a three week period will be rewarded with Ice Cream Certificates from Dairy Queen and free time in the school "Game Room". Students are also recognized during Morning Assembly for perfect attendance for the six weeks. Students in attendance every day from 8:00AM-3:10PM during the semester will be eligible for an award drawing such as an Mp3 player, DVD player, bicycles, etc.

Help your child be the best student he/she can be by having them at school everyday.



The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

"I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas State Flag

"Honor the Texas flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible."

Junior High

By Dean Richters / Junior High Principal

We would like to welcome you to the 2009-2010 school year. We are excited about the new and improved junior high building! We have received new carpet, some new tile work, and new student and faculty restrooms. We are also looking forward to the improvements in the junior high gym. The gym received new dressing rooms, restrooms, and a new heating and cooling system. The buildings look fantastic. The atmosphere is buzzing with positive energy. We are looking forward to a very successful year!

In an effort to be successful and provide the best education, to all students, we have implemented a new school-wide discipline plan. The key is the staff works together, creating a sense of consistency, thus making life easier for everyone. The plan is based on a set of, "Ground Rules." Each teacher has the same basic rules

with the exception of supplies. Since each teacher has the same rules the students know what to expect when entering the classroom. The plan allows more time for instruction and less time spent on discipline and lack of organization. Students, not only like, but need a consistent environment where everyone knows what to do. It is our goal to create an environment that is conducive to student learning and achievement.

Thomas A. Edison said, "If there is a way to do it better...find it." We feel we have found a way to be more effective in the classroom. We are already seeing positive results and are looking forward to the benefits of a consistent plan, not only for ourselves, but most of all, for the children.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to call me at 432-394-4615.

Junior High Cheerleading

The 2009 Jr. High Cheerleaders are all smiles about this year's football team. The girls know the hard-hitting work and dedication the boys are putting forth in order to have a superior season and are working hard to support them. In their summer preparation, Coach Clark and the girls attended the United Cheerleaders Association cheer camp at Howard College, August 3rd-6th. The entire week was filled with super spirit, fun and, as a result, they are fired up about bringing home the 1st in Cheer as well as the 2nd in Dance awards.



The first Jr. High football game was played September 10th in Seagraves. There will be four Jr. High pep-rallies this year and the first will be September 17th in the Jr. High Gym. The girls will have a chance to show their spirit to the entire community on October 24th at the Howard College Cheer Showcase (formally The Battle of the Cheerleaders). Your support and enthusiasm will be greatly appreciated at these upcoming events. Come on out and help show that bulldog pride! **GO DOGS!!**

Junior High Receives Library Grant

Coahoma Junior High library has received a \$5,000.00 grant from Dollar General. We are very thankful to Dollar General for their generosity. We look forward to purchasing some much needed resources. Thanks again Dollar General!



High School

By Jay Kennedy / High School Principal

Well the weather still feels like summer, but the school bells are ringing here at Coahoma High School to start the Fall Semester. We are very excited about this year. Over the summer great things have been going on to prepare our students for the upcoming year. The construction on our building is coming to a close and we are excited to move in sometime this month. Our students, faculty and staff are excited about our new building. However, last year we found that you can do extraordinary things under the most adverse conditions. Coahoma High School was a recognized campus and we did this under some tough conditions. We are proud and excited to take our school to a new level and the new building will be a contributing factor to that.

Our students and staff involved in extra-curricular activities did not take the summer off either. We had girls and boys working on strength and conditioning all summer. Their coaches developed programs and made our facilities available to any athlete that wanted to get stronger and faster. Athletes were involved in summer league competitive programs that helped hone their skills. The more athletes we have involved in these programs gives us a fighting chance in our district. Our FFA teams were involved in summer conventions that gave our school and community many things to be proud of. Our cheerleading squads went to camp and garnered several team awards. We had many

more that prepared this summer for the 2009-2010 school year.

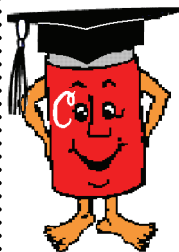
We are also excited about new programs and opportunities that we have put in place for our students. We will put our OFYP initiative in effect this semester. Those students that passed the TAKS test will get days off in October. We will be able to work exclusively with those that need TAKS remediation. We have also made money available to those students that are taking Dual Credit classes with Howard College. We were able to pay for one class for those students that were interested in these classes. Our teachers were trained this summer in a program called DMAC that will pinpoint what areas our students are deficient in and we will be able to develop our curriculum around those deficiencies.



Our goal is to challenge our students everyday, in all that we offer. The way our economy is, the job market has become very competitive.

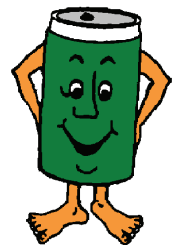
The key to getting these competitive jobs is education. One way we can prepare our students at Coahoma High School for this competitive market, is to teach them to work hard. The lessons that come easy and without effort are fleeting and soon forgotten, but those that are challenging and hard will always remain with us.

We are ready for a great ride. We know there will be bumps along the way this year, but that makes the smooth so much more fun. We invite you to come along and enjoy the ride with us at Coahoma High.



Cans For College

Don't forget that Katie Dunn is still collecting aluminum cans! All proceeds are donated to the Coahoma High School Scholarship Fund. This fund was set up in an attempt to give all Coahoma graduating seniors a scholarship upon graduation. All types of aluminum cans are accepted and they can be turned in at any Coahoma school campus or call (432) 263-2228 for pick up!



Future Farmers of America

By Aaron Custer / FFA Sponsor

Coahoma FFA is in full swing as we are now back in a completely remodeled shop. Our building looks great as we continue to move all our belongings back inside, get our banners back on the walls, and construction is completed in the shop area. We are going to have one of the nicer shops in the area when they finish.

Coahoma FFA had a great summer with sixteen FFA members attending State Convention this year in Dallas! We got to go play at Hurricane Harbor for a day during our stay in Dallas and got to see Aaron Watson in concert. I'd say everyone that went had a blast!! We also had nine of our Chapter members attend FFA Leadership camp at Howard College where K'Leigh Fowler was one of the seven FFA members elected from West Texas and Area II that actually put the camp on and were responsible for camp activities and the leadership portion of the camp. K'Leigh received some special training at State Leadership camp where only the top ranking FFA members attend and meet with the elite of the organization.

We are already staring at some deadlines rapidly approaching us as we need any sheep,

goat, or pig tag orders now. We will also be ordering rabbits very soon, so getting those orders together is also important. Ordering these tags or the actual rabbit is a must for getting your Supervised Ag Experience Program off to the right start. You should contact Mr. Custer to let him know about your intentions of project involvement by calling the high school at (432)394-4535 during school hours. Coahoma FFA has been asked again to be tour guides for the Ag In The Classroom portion of the Howard County Fair on September 30th. Our Chapter officer group always enjoys the chance to help out and this community service project is a great way for our chapter to help Texas Farm Bureau with a great agriculture education opportunity.

We have already had a district level meeting for our FFA Chapter where Brayden Iden, El Rancho District FFA President, Brent Wright, El Rancho District First Vice President and K'Leigh Fowler, Area II First Vice President were the key leaders in the meeting. We have some families going to the State Fair at the end of this month so we also want to wish the Castilaw, Coates, and Wright families the best of luck in the Swine and Steer barns!

JOIN FFA!

For anyone interested in joining FFA the dues are \$17.00 for high school and \$5.00 for junior high and elementary members. Our membership goal for the year is to have 100 members in high school and keep our totals for the Jr. FFA around 35. Please join us!



Athletics

By Kim Nichols / Athletic Director

The 2009 football season began with two-a-day practices on August 3rd. At one time, there were 51 young men playing football. The Bulldogs opened the season on August 29th with a 20 - 12 victory over Van Horn. They followed that up with a weather shortened 34 - 6 victory over Forsan. At the time of this writing we have 46 players in the program. The junior varsity opened the season on September 3rd with a 15 - 0 victory over Forsan. We have had several early season injuries that have kept some of the players out of action. We hope to have all players well and ready to go in a few weeks. As always, District 7-AA will be one of the toughest in the area. Coahoma, Ballinger, Colorado City, Jim Ned, Grape Creek and Wall make up 7-AA and will provide for an interesting district race. The Bulldogs are up to the challenge and are improving every day. This is your team. The

jerseys say "Coahoma" on them. Come support these guys.

We also have a staff of hard working student trainers and managers. They provide water and minor injury treatment as well as repair equipment at times. They work hard behind the scenes and are at every practice and every game.

Cross Country also started well before the first day of class. The boys and girls are coached by Coach Niblett. There are presently eight girls and ten boys running cross country. They opened their season on September 5th in Seminole.

Jr. High football began practice the first day of school on August 24th. At this time there are thirty 7th graders and seventeen 8th graders playing football. They opened their season on September 10th in Seagraves.

Coahoma Athletic Booster Club NEEDS YOU!

By Cindy Smith / Athletic Booster Club Secretary

Webster defines the word "booster" as "an enthusiastic supporter" or "an auxiliary device for increasing force, power, pressure or effectiveness." Taken to heart, your Coahoma Athletic "Booster" Club (CABC) enthusiastically increases the effectiveness of the fan support for all Coahoma athletic endeavors. I think this is a great way to look at the overall purpose of the CABC activities as we go to the games, sell Bulldog Fan shirts and spirit items, work in the concession stand, and organize special events.

After purchasing t-shirts, sweatshirts, car stickers and caps for your entire family to be appropriately decked out in Bulldog gear, you might ask yourself, "*What does that booster club do with all the money they make off of me?*" A legitimate question I would be asking myself if I wasn't actively involved in the booster club! So as a seasoned member of the booster club, I'm going to take the "did you know" approach to an answer:

Did you know...that the CABC provides four - \$500 scholarships to four deserving Coahoma senior athletes each year?

Did you know...that the CABC provides money to each sport, each year, to help them purchase items that were not included in their yearly budgets?

Did you know...that the CABC puts together the Homecoming Keepsake program each year to honor our seniors?

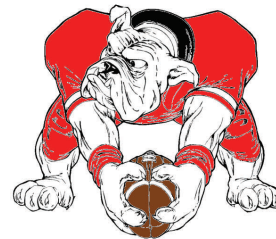
Did you know...that the CABC hosts the annual Coahoma Bulldog Athletic Banquet each year for all Coahoma athletes and their families?

Your CABC is active throughout the entire school year to "enthusiastically increase effectiveness" of Bulldog fans. We certainly can't do that without the involvement of many parents, siblings and fans. That's where YOU come in...that's right, the CABC needs YOU to continue the tradition and carry out the important activities for our student athletes. There's no cost to join - just suit up and show up and someone will find you a job to do! It's simple really...a group of parents and fans working to increase the support for our student athletes and showcase the pride we have for Coahoma ISD.

As you're telling yourself right now - "I want to be a part of that!", you'll have the perfect opportunity to join. The next CABC meeting will be held on *Monday, October 5, 2009 at 6 pm* in the Coahoma High School. Your enthusiasm and support are just what we need!

2009-2010 Coahoma Athletic Booster Club Officers
President - Laura Martin lmartin@cainelectrical.com
Vice President - Neasa Iden
Secretary - Cindy Smith
Treasurer - Donna Wright
Senior Class Representative - Candy Parrish
Junior Class Representative - Sally Grant
Sophomore Class Representative - Vicki Hector
Freshman Class Representative - Karla Macik

2009 Coahoma Varsity Football Schedule



DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE	TIME
8/15	Post	Home	TBA
8/20	McCamey	Home	TBA
8/29	Van Horn	Ratliff	6:00PM
9/4	Forsan	Home	7:30PM
9/11	Seagraves	There	7:30PM
9/18	Tahoka (HOMECOMING)	Home	7:30PM
9/25	Kermit	There	7:30PM
10/2	Open		
10/9	*Jim Ned	There	7:30PM
10/16	*Ballinger	There	7:30PM
10/23	*Colorado City	Home	7:30PM
10/30	*Wall	There	7:30PM
11/6	*Grape Creek (SENIOR NIGHT)	Home	7:30PM

*** DENOTES DISTRICT GAME**

Superintendent - Randy Brown
Athletic Director - Kim Nichols
Head Football Coach - Stacey Martin



Coahoma ISD Mission Statement

The mission of the Coahoma Independent School District staff is to prepare lifelong learners with positive self-images who are capable of experiencing success.