

# 2008 Bonfire Ablazing!

The traditional Homecoming Bonfire that was once rain soaked and postponed became a blazing Blue Devil beacon Wednesday night, October 29th. The Celeste High School Class of 2009 encircled the massive structure and launched torches to ignite not only the bonfire, but the crowd as well. Community members, parents, friends and family joined the student body to celebrate the Senior Class and Blue Devil football.

As the bonfire was crackling and popping, the CHS cheerleaders jumped up on a flat bed trailer and led

the school song and chants. "...We're calling Devils true" seem to beckon others to join as the crowd grew. Complimentary fire roasted hotdogs and soft drinks were served.

A new bonfire attraction drew a lot of enthusiasm from the student body. The Junior Class sponsored a car bashing. Participants enjoyed working over a 1982 Mercedes provided by Gene Cummings of Celeste Wrecker Service. "It was a perfect night: beautiful weather, good food, and great fun," stated CHS Principal Ricky Beadles.



## CISD Fall Festival Fun

A large crowd has on-hand to enjoy this year's PTO sponsored Fall Festival. School personnel joined PTO is putting together a family event filled with food and fun for every age group. First grade teacher Mrs. Hall arranged a new event, the train ride. The line was long with excited young ones wanting to jump aboard for a ride around the play area. The Fourth grade class sponsored delicious taco soup dinner, as the high school manned the grill cooking hamburgers and hotdogs. The hallways of CJHS were transformed into the scariest haunted hallways of all times. The auditorium was home to the ever-popular cake walk and the photo booths. The tennis courts provided a great place for the bounce house, and the CJHS gym was filled with activities from the duck pond to the basketball throw. The Celeste FFA cattle trailer was transformed into a jail cell, and a batting cage held the baseball throw. Special thanks to the Celeste PTO, every volunteer, and every staff member that made this event such a success, and of course, YOU, the Celeste ISD community.

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# Blue Devil Link

## Linking Education and Community

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## New Celeste High School Groundbreaking

The Celeste High School Ground Breaking Ceremony was held on Tuesday, September 23rd, at 6:00 p.m. at the construction site. The occasion got off with a bang as the CHS drum corps entertained the crowd. Many turned out for the exciting event. The ceremony represented a new beginning for future students of Celeste ISD. Members of the school board, drum corps, class presidents, and the presidents of the Future Farmers of America, Beta Club, and

Spanish Club were present to be a part of the actual groundbreaking. Superintendent, Collin Clark, addressed the crowd and commented that the support of the community has sent a clear message that we value the education and the future of our children in Celeste. School board president, David LaFavers, remarked on what a wonderful educational opportunity the students of Celeste have to look forward to.



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Track the new building's progress at:  
[www.celestehighschool.blogspot.com](http://www.celestehighschool.blogspot.com)

### Upcoming Events:

Oct. 29- Nov. 12	Celeste FFA Fruit Sale
November 11	Veterans Day Assembly
November 11	Celeste FFA District Leadership Competition
December 1-5	Beta Club Book Fair
December 2	Book Fair Family Night

Visit us on the web at: [www.celesteisd.org](http://www.celesteisd.org)



# Celeste ISD

## Earns “RECOGNIZED” Rating

The Texas Education Agency recently released the district and campus accountability ratings. Celeste ISD earned the “RECOGNIZED” rating; the state’s second highest rating. Only 26% of Texas Public School Districts, including charter schools, earned this rating. Celeste Elementary School and Celeste High School were among only 34% of all campuses who earned the mark of “Recognized”, with Celeste High School being among 12% of high school campuses to be “Recognized.” Celeste Junior High received the “Academically Acceptable” rating. “As the state continues to raise the bar for Academic Excellence, the teachers, students, parents, and community members can be especially proud of these accomplishments,” stated Superintendent Collin Clark, “Please celebrate

these ratings by congratulating the teachers and students of Celeste ISD. Hard work and dedication have yielded much success.” The state’s highest mark of “Exemplary” was achieved by only 3.5% of the public school districts. Celeste ISD is committed to excellence and with a tradition of high state marks, will be working toward “Exemplary, One Child at a Time.”

### Past TEA Ratings

2007-Academically Acceptable  
2006- Recognized  
2005- Recognized  
2004- Recognized

## CHS Spanish Club Begins 2nd Year

The Celeste High School Spanish Club has begun its second year with a new set of officers ready to help the club meet its goal of encouraging students to learn more about the Spanish language and culture. The newly elected officers state they are excited and ready to participate in all the events lined up this year. They began the year with a crowd favorite “Movie Night”. On these nights the students watch a film in Spanish that either teaches them more about the culture or is just pure fun, but is always educational. They also usually enjoy a snack prepared by Ms. Lamb, the Spanish Club sponsor. The last movie they watched was “Pan’s Labyrinth” and “the students really liked it”, says Ms. Lamb. Next, they will be going to the Latino Cultural Center in Dallas on November 4th to view an art exhibit on border issues by Beatriz Ezban. The students visited the gallery last year and were very impressed with the beauty and architecture of the center. Throughout the year, the students will participate in various activities like Net Ole which is held at TAMU-Commerce each year and is an event that allows the students to compete in various categories against other students from across northeast Texas, The National Spanish Exam, which tests their proficiency to read, listen, and write Spanish, and they hope to complete a project that will provide service to the community this year.

Ms. Lamb is so excited to have so many students interested in joining the Spanish Club and hopes that they will be able to raise the funds necessary to take the end of the year trip to San Antonio this year for Cinco de mayo. It truly is a club that fosters hard work, dedication to academic excellence, and an appreciation for different cultures.



*Back L-R Shelby Stubblefield- President, Amber Stembridge-Publicist*

*Seated L-R Micah Frederickson- Treasurer, Bailey Frasier-Secretary, Joey Brock- Vice-President*

# X-TEEMS Academy

Building a Lego Mindstorm robot, Wind Tunnel Building, and Holograms were just a few of the many educational activities challenging the Celeste Jr. High and Celeste High School X-TEEMS participants. Through The Greater Texas Foundation grant, Texas A & M-Commerce coordinates this project, which promotes the interest and learning in the areas of science, technology, engineering, education, and math. Celeste High School science teacher, Mitch Jordan, is heading up the combined team of 11th graders Logan Curtiss and Josh McCaslin, 10th grader Jo Ventura, and 7th graders Alyson Burke, Richard Horton and Hunter Little. Additional Academy activities

included observing each student's brain waves by an electrocardiogram, learning how bio-diesel is made, and attending lectures on a variety of subjects. The Celeste ISD X-TEEM has chosen to build a hovercraft that runs on ethanol for their year-long project. This team is very interested in engineering with an emphasis in Green Technologies. Mr. Jordan, along with team teacher, Cathy Jones, is very excited to work with such a great group of students. "These students represented Celeste ISD very well at the Academy which sparked an interest in engineering and technology," said Mr. Jordan.



*Pictured: X-TEEM members: (L to R) Alyson Burke, Richard Horton, Jo Ventura, Hunter Little, Josh McCaslin, Logan Curtiss and X-TEEMS teachers: Cathy Jones and Mitch Jordan with special guest: Voyager astronaut Jeana Yeager (front center)*

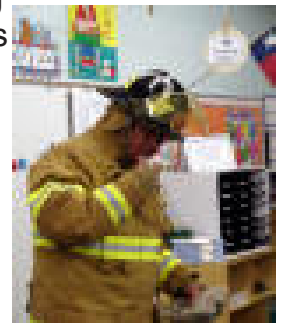
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## Celeste ISD Superior School *FIRST* Rating

Celeste ISD received the "Superior Achievement" rating from the state's School FIRST financial management and reporting system. School FIRST is a financial integrity rating system created by the Texas Education Agency to hold schools accountable for the tax dollars received and to ensure that those dollars are appropriately used for the education of the students. Celeste ISD scored a perfect 85 out of 85, which is quite significant, due to the complexity of the Texas school finance system. "We're especially proud of the perfect score as it reflects quality in the management of our district's financial resources," stated Superintendent Collin Clark.

## Fire Safety Awareness Week in 1st Grade

On Friday, Oct 10, the 1st grade classes of Celeste Elementary had a special guest. Jerry Minter, Lieutenant with the Dallas Fire Department, came to discuss fire safety. Mr. Minter wore his fire suit and had the students practice fire safety drills such as stop, drop and roll and crawling under the smoke. The students enjoyed listening to a story that Mr. Minter read about the day in the life of a firefighter. He ended the session by answering questions from the students. Mr. Minter is the grandfather of CES 1st grader, Mackenzie Minter.



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