

Blue Devil Link

Linking Education and Community

Celeste ISD Receives

Rtech Grant

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Celeste High School and Celeste Junior High students and teachers are about to get some much-needed assistance from a technology-based supplemental instructional program. Celeste ISD was recently awarded the TEA Rural Technology Grant Pilot program-Cycle 2, which yields \$55,000 from the state. Celeste ISD was one of only nineteen schools in Texas to receive the grant. Funding of this grant was determined by evidence of technical readiness to implement and support this grant program and specified requirements set by TEA.

The Rural Technology Grant pilot program is designed to improve student performance for students that are not currently meeting standards in English Language Arts, social studies, mathematics, science, or languages other than English and to supplement the education of students needing more opportunities than currently provided by the district.

Celeste ISD will soon be opening the library to all high school and junior high students before and after school to provide students with individual access to technology-based supplemental instruction. This pilot program is designed to offer rural students opportunities not normally found in rural school district course offerings. The pilot program will provide these students with technology-based supplemental instruction, research-based instructional support, academic tutoring or counseling, or distance-learning opportunities in the core curriculum areas and/or distance learning opportunities to earn college credit.

Celeste ISD is very excited about receiving this Rtech grant and is currently writing additional grants to support and expand the district's education program. The district is committed to keeping the most current technology in the hands of our teachers and students.

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Upcoming Events:

March 3-6	TAKS Testing
March 5-7	Celeste Baseball/Softball Tourney
March 10	Open House 6:00-7:30
March 12	Grandparents' Day (elementary)
March 13	UIL Awards Assemblies
March 13	Cheerleader/Dance Team Tryouts
March 16-20	Spring Break
March 16-20	FFA-Houston Livestock Show
March 24	Texas FFA State Officer Team Visit
April 18	Prom-Greenville Civic Center 8:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.

Visit us on the web at: www.celesteisd.org



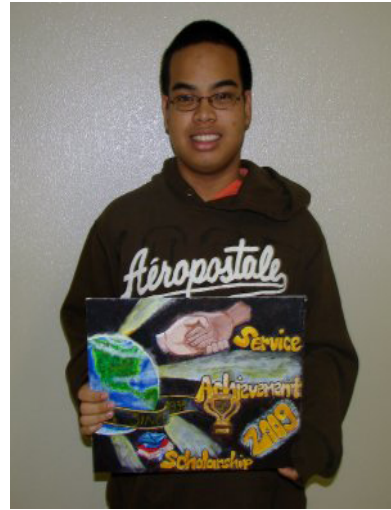
CHS Student Enters Beta Art Contest

Being a good student is an asset to anyone, but combine that with artistic talent and you have Celeste High School Beta Club's own, Eddie Madison. Eddie has completed his latest acrylic painted masterpiece in time to enter the National Beta Club's 75th Anniversary Art Contest. Eddie will compete with students from all over the country for a cash prize and a gift certificate for the Beta Club Store.

When asked to explain the significance of his painting, Eddie said, "The reason I painted this was to show how Beta makes our world brighter and better. With service, achievement, and scholarship, we can [always] move on with our skills. The outer space theme

is to show time and how Beta has progressed from 1934 to the present."

Celeste High School Beta Club and Celeste ISD are very proud of Eddie Madison and wish him good luck in the contest. We will be perched on pins and needles awaiting the announcement of the contest winners!



Book Fair a Success

The Beta Club Book Fair was a great success! The book fair theme this year was "Book Fair Safari". A family night event was held on Monday, December 1 from 6-8 p.m. Students dressed in wild wardrobes, such as animal prints, wacky khaki, and camouflage. Families shopped the fair and enjoyed cookies and lemonade, a visit from Clifford, the Big Red Dog and story time sessions read by Celeste High School Beta Club and Book Club members. The Beta Club uses the proceeds to fund several scholarships that are given to graduating seniors at the end of the year. CISD libraries use a percentage of the profit to add books to the libraries. A special thanks to the FCCLA for baking cookies and CHS Art class for painting the backdrop for the pictures!



CHS Financial Aid Meeting Well Attended

Forty parents and students attended a financial aid meeting held Thursday, February 5th, 2009, in the Celeste High School snack bar. We send a special thanks to all who attended! Linda Slawson, Director of Financial Aid at Paris Junior College, discussed issues from completing entrance applications to securing funds to attend technical schools, two-year and four-year institutions. Questions were answered concerning the FAFSA form and the importance of submitting it early. The FAFSA is the application for all federal grants and loans. Generally, it is submitted shortly after the Federal Income Tax has been filed. Information on these financial aid opportunities is available in the Celeste High School office. Please call with any questions or concerns.

Over the past 4 years, 60% of CHS graduates have gone on to attend college.



Dr. Ken Wilgus Offers Parenting Advice

Dr. Ken Wilgus, a licensed psychologist who specializes in the treatment of adolescents and their families, spoke to a group of Celeste PTO parents and teachers on January 15, 2009. The title of Dr. Wilgus' presentation was "Parenting Through the Life Cycle". He discussed the different stages of parenting, with an emphasis on the middle school years. His words of parenting wisdom included the importance of perspective and observance of children in relation to the calendar year. He described the lull that kids might be experiencing as they come back to school following the holidays. Dr. Wilgus mentioned that children experience so much excitement prior to the holidays, that as they return to school to begin the second semester, they may feel stressed or overwhelmed, and they may struggle to find something to look forward to. Dr. Wilgus suggested that parents give lots of assurance and support to these students. He stressed

that as parents, we may not have immediate solutions to our childrens' anxieties and fears, but we can offer our love and guidance to help them endure the rough times. Following the presentation, Dr. Wilgus opened the floor for questions and discussion. The Celeste PTO would like to thank Dr. Wilgus for sharing his knowledge and insight and giving parents, teachers and community members suggestions on how to deal with challenges that our children face. For more information, you can access Dr. Wilgus' website at www.drwilgus.com.



Construction Continues on New High School

Winter weather has been favorable, and the new Celeste High School building is only a few short weeks from being completely in the dry. Roofing is currently in progress and bricking the exterior is slated for next week. Interior studs are giving form to the classrooms, media center, and office space. Builders are pleased with the progress and believe that the August 1st projected completion date is a good one. Another note of excitement is that the new high school will also serve as a community-learning center. There's a lot to look forward to!

However, the new construction is presenting a challenge for baseball and softball fans. Fans are asked to use extreme caution as they make their way back to the diamonds. When coming from the north passed the current high school, take the first gated driveway off FM 1562. Signs will be posted.

Track the new building's progress at:
www.celestehighschool.blogspot.com

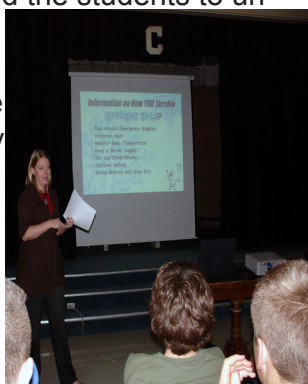


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CJHS Students Participate in English/Technology Project

CISD Nurse Presents Information on Extreme Cold

In preparation for their upcoming English/technology project in which students will be reading the novel, *The Call of the Wild* by Jack London, and researching the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race, Nurse Shannon Milton informed 8th grade students about extreme cold conditions and the effect it can have on the body. She discussed symptoms of hypothermia and frost bite and the consequences of not treating the symptoms properly. She made students aware of the importance of being prepared for extreme cold by planning ahead and having emergency supplies on hand. Students will be using this information as they follow the Iditarod and read the novel. The 8th grade class has chosen a specific Iditarod musher to follow during the race. Mrs. Milton helped the students to understand what types of severely cold weather conditions that the musher will face during the course of the race. The students are very excited and enthusiastic about this project! For more information on the Iditarod, you may access the Official Site of the Iditarod at <http://www.iditarod.com>.



8th Grade Collects Donations for Iditarod Musher

Celeste Junior High School 8th grade students are involved in an English/technology project in which students are reading the novel, *The Call of the Wild* by Jack London, and researching the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race. The students decided it would be fun to adopt an Iditarod musher that they could follow and cheer on during the race which is scheduled to begin on March 7th. The musher that the students chose to send donations to is a rookie. This is her first year to run the Iditarod. She is from Madison, WI and is 53 years old. This comes straight from her website: "Deb "Danny" Glenn-Iditarod 2009....truly desires to make the world a better place. She wants to help people. As a result, she is honoring The Potential and Power of the Human Spirit by raising money and awareness to charity. As a memorial tribute to Susan Butcher, four time Iditarod Champion who lost her battle with leukemia and because this year three of her four friends are being treated for it, she has partnered with The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society." You can learn more about Deb "Danny" Glenn at www.dannyglennjourney.com. Her wish list is on that website too. The kids collected hand and foot warmers, batteries of all sizes, Gatorade, energy bars and a wind-up flashlight.

FFA Auction Scheduled

The Celeste FFA Booster Club 2009 Auction will be held on Saturday, May 9th at 6:30 p.m. in the CJHS Auditorium. This event gives buyers opportunities to bid on items that students have made in FFA classes as well as donated items. Proceeds from this auction go to help purchase market animals raised by Celeste FFA students in the Hunt County Fair, and it will be used to award scholarships to graduating FFA seniors. The FFA auction will kick-off with a hamburger/hot dog supper at 5:00 pm in the elementary cafeteria. Check the school website for pictures of sale items.



Pat Roach Pruitt P.E. Pavillion

