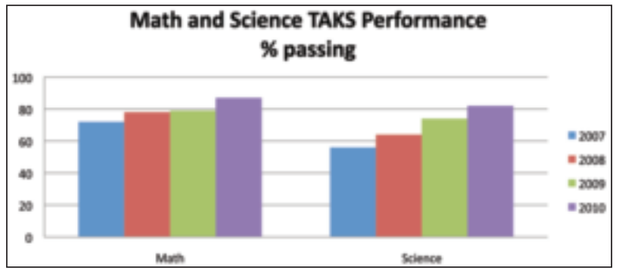
GLADEWATER ISD MAKES HISTORY IN 2010

Gladewater ISD has reached an all-time high in academic performance. The district and all five campuses received the Recognized rating from the Texas Education Agency. The district had gains that ranged from 2 to 12 percentage points in the 23 accountability areas. In 20 of the 23 accountability areas, the district scored in the Exemplary (90%) range. "The gains made this year in reading, and especially math and science, made it possible for GISD to achieve the Recognized status. I congratulate our students, teachers, and administrators leading us in the right direction," said Dr. J. P. Richardson, Superintendent of Schools.

In addition to earning the Recognized rating, Gladewater ISD and all campuses will "Meet AYP" (Adequate Yearly Progress) again this year. GISD's math and reading scores surpassed the federal standard as did the Graduation rate and Participation rate. About 1,100 GISD students participated in TAKS testing.

While Reading, Social Studies, and Writing TAKS performance have consistently been at a high level, improving student performance on the more difficult math and science TAKS tests has been a focus for the last three years. The chart indicates the improvements that have occurred since 2007.



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Bear Facts

Issue One
Volume Three
September 2010

Gladewater Independent School District – "The race for EXCELLENCE has no finishline."

GREAT BEGINNINGS AT GAY AVENUE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Starting a new year at Gay Avenue Primary School is more than just starting "a new year." It is the start of an educational journey that leads to a life time of success. Small accomplishments are celebrated as huge milestones and all efforts by students, parents, faculty, and staff to help GPS youngsters reach their goals are appreciated and honored. At the beginning of the year, students are becoming aware of the simple basics that some might take for granted. Boys and girls are learning how to walk in a line, how to hold a pencil, and are becoming more familiar with books and learning how to read. For teachers and staff, the beginning of school presents new endeavors as well. Making sure children get fed at lunch time, helping them to learn how to stay with their class, and making sure students get home safely takes top priority for the first two weeks of school. It's a matter of meeting their basic needs so learning can take place. Gay Avenue Primary is ready for a great year and looks forward to all of its many celebrations in learning.

A NEW YEAR AT BROADWAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

We have a terrific group of new 2nd graders at Broadway Elementary School this year! The 2nd graders are adjusting to their new campus and they are doing great!

FIRST DAY AT WELDON INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

The first day of school was exciting at Weldon Intermediate School. Many students enjoyed starting the day with breakfast at school. The remainder of the day was spent becoming familiar with schedules, teachers, and the campus.

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN CLASS GHS

Learning at Gladewater High School doesn't begin and end with traditional courses. Students in Mr. Robert Stanley's Architectural Design class are studying the architectural history of Greek, Roman, Byzantine, and Gothic periods. Throughout the year, students will continue to learn about architectural design, and will eventually build a model floor plan.

MOVING RIGHT ALONG INTO 2010

The car drop-off and pick-up line is a new procedure at Broadway Elementary School. We want to thank the parents for working with us to make this a success. The afternoon line is now moving through in less than 10-12 minutes. The new line is to help keep our students safe when they are dropped off in the mornings and picked up in the afternoons.

2010-2011 EARLY RELEASE DAYS

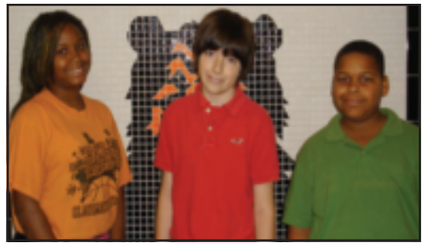
There will be six early release days this school year. Students will be dismissed approximately two hours early on the following dates: September 22, October 8, November 19, December 17, March 11, and June 3. The September date is a Wednesday and all other early release days fall on a Friday.

STUDENT BULLY PREVENTION PROGRAM GMS

Gladewater Middle School students, teachers, and staff members took a stand against 'student to student bullying'. The entire GMS family voiced it's opposition against bullying whether physical, verbal, or cyber bullying. A number of GMS students voluntarily took the stage to come up and share their views and experiences concerning bullying. GMS will continue to conduct programs and be proactive in regard to student safety.

WE NEED YOU! BECOME A VOLUNTEER!

Calling all dependable, supportive and dedicated individuals! GISD challenges the community to get involved. The goals of GISD's volunteer program are to increase student achievement, give added support and help to classroom teachers, and increase parental involvement in schools. Please contact Jennifer Ross at 903.845.6991 or at rossj@gladewaterisd.com for more information.



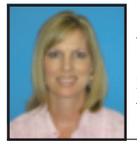
HOW TO SURVIVE MIDDLE SCHOOL

GMS welcomed it's newest family members. One hundred and forty-four new sixth graders participated in the annual Cub Camp activities. The sixth graders participated in a number of informational sessions designed to assist them with becoming more at ease with their new school environment.

SCOUTING OUT WELDON INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Jay Knapps and Doug Wylie spoke to the 4th and 5th grade boys about Cub Scouts. Information was provided about scouting activities such as camping and box car racing. Flyers are available at the campus offices for more information about joining.

NEW FACES & PLACES



"Being the principal at Broadway Elementary School is a wonderful privilege and a blessing. Our faculty, staff, parents, and students have made me fell so welcome and I look forward to coming to work each day. Our theme for the year is "The Power of Teamwork" because we believe that "working together equals success!" - *Libby Gamble, BES Principal*

"I am excited about this year. I think that we are doing great things for our kids. We have a very caring staff and are truly concerned about the students. I am looking forward to a great year here at Weldon Intermediate School." - *Shirley Rowe, WIS Principal*

"I am very excited about being here at Gladewater Middle School! It is an honor and a privilege to work with such wonderful students, teachers, and staff. I appreciate the warm welcome I have received from everyone." - *Cathy Bedair, GMS Assistant Principal*

"I am really excited to be the Fine Arts Coordinator for GISD this year. This position will afford me the opportunity to help bridge the gap between the fine arts disciplines within our district, making it a more cohesive and visible department not only within the district, but within the community as well." - *Darren Richardson, Fine Arts Coordinator*

STARTING THE SCHOOL YEAR OFF RIGHT !

Students came back to school to see a new system in place for checking out textbooks. Teachers brought students to the book room where their student ID numbers were scanned into the computer along with the numbered book tags. As books were scanned, they were automatically inventoried and assigned in the system to the students. This system will ensure that a more accurate inventory is generated.

In some cases at GHS, ebooks and books on CD are available for students to load onto their laptops. All-in-all, everyone is excited about the new book inventory system.