



ENLIGHTENMENT

January 11, 2012
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BOARD OF TRUSTEES

1. For Board Appreciation Month, Newgulf Elementary students presented the board with Boling ISD framed Certificates of Appreciation, a Boling ISD school shirt and a coffee mug.
2. The board extended the three year contract of Wade Stidevent, Superintendent by one year through June 30, 2015.



ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

Reported by Jeanine Kutach

Please check your **W-2 CAREFULL!!!** Check the spelling of your name, social security number and compare the year-to-date totals from your December pay stub with the amounts shown on your W-2.

If there are **ANY** errors, contact Jeanine Kutach in Payroll at 979-657-2770

or jkutach@bolingisd.net **IMMEDIATELY**.



THE POWER OF THE WRITTEN WORD

Some men give up their designs when they have almost reached the goal;
while others, on the contrary, obtain a victory by exerting,
at the last moment, more vigorous efforts than before.

Polybius



NEWGULF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Reported by Melinda Gary

Pre-K students are happy to be back from the Christmas Holidays. We will be learning about more letters, numbers, shapes and colors this month. The season of winter will be discussed and many more finger-plays and songs will be taught.

December was very festive in Newgulf Elementary Kindergarten Classrooms. The children were very busy making lots of presents and decorations for Christmas. They were all very excited about Santa coming soon. As a matter of fact, he actually made a surprise appearance during the Christmas program. It was very exciting. The children really enjoyed their classroom parties sharing lots of great food. Thanks to all the parents who helped. We hope everyone enjoyed their holidays. Happy 2012!!

The month of December flew by for first graders. Students were very excited to get to go to the AR Christmas store for the first time. Everyone spent the first half of the year reading and taking tests to earn money for the store. On December 14th, first graders did their annual performance of "The Twelve Dogs of Christmas". It is always fun to listen to them sing and show off their dogs. We finished up the day with our Christmas parties.

The second grade students participated in the AR Christmas store with their tokens received from reading and taking test. Students also had a Christmas party on December 16th after the students and faculty participated in Christmas songs and skits in the auditorium. They wrote letters to Santa and they were sent to the Wharton Journal Spectator for the Christmas Letter Issue. Students continue to learn their lowercase cursive letters and small words in handwriting. Second grade math classes are working hard on subtraction with regrouping! They will soon begin learning their multiplication facts. In Science, students are learning about how they use natural resources for things in everyday life and ways to use them. In Social Studies, students are starting to learn the continents, oceans, and countries.

The third grade students are completing Unit 3 and look forward to a new semester and new reading textbooks. They are currently learning about homophones, cause & effect, character, plot and settings along with many types of genres. Third grade math students completed a unit on money just in time for the holidays. The students were then able to count coins totaling more than a dollar. The students also learned how to count bills and coins together to be able to come up with a total amount of money. Third grade English classes are learning to combine sentences. This week they will learn about putting sensory details into their writing. Science is taking a middle of the year Science test. They will begin talking about soil, how it is formed, different types, and how to conserve it. They are also preparing for the six weeks test. The Social Studies classes are taking a middle of the year Social Studies test. They are also preparing for the Geography Test and the six weeks test.

The fourth grade students have been practicing their measurement skills by participating in numerous measurement centers. Triple beam balance scales and balance scales were used to measure and compare mass using grams. They used various ways to measure length, such as measuring themselves. Next, they practiced measuring volume and capacity by combining given measurements of colored water in which they had to name the measurement and the color it created.

The fifth graders at Newgulf Elementary have been keeping very busy! They spent a great deal of time practicing for the UIL events in December. They put forth a great deal of effort in ensuring that Newgulf Elementary came in with top honors. Students also enjoyed getting ready for the Christmas holidays. In their various subjects, students were able to incorporate fun holiday activities with learning. They were able to sing joyful holiday songs in class and decipher parts of speech from songs. Students also made some fun holiday decorations that spread some Yule tide joy throughout our hallways. Before their long Christmas break, everyone got to take a look at what a STAAR test might look like and practice their skills with a similar exam. They are beginning to study perimeter and probability in math as well as taking weekly STAAR quizzes. In science class, 5th graders have been busy doing activities to study energy. Pinwheels were used to study wind energy. Bubble wrap, clay, wood, Styrofoam and tuning forks were helpful in learning about sound energy conductors. Circuits were built to produce sound, light, heat, and movement.



NEWGULF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Reported by Melinda Gary
(Continued)

Flashlights, mirrors, bowls of water, pennies, and prisms were used to show the physical properties of light. The most fun was had in making colorful kaleidoscopes.

Music has been very busy in the month of December. Fourth grade did a great job with their performance of "Santa's Stuck in the 50's". We also spent some time singing our favorite Christmas carols and learning some new ones. We ended with a special presentation of "The Night the Reindeer Rocked" with the Newgulf faculty on stage. The children really enjoyed it!

In P.E, we are glad to be back and have lots of fun things planned for the New Year. We are working on doing exercises the correct way to prepare for the fitness gram. We will be starting basketball and having team matches. Roadrunners are going strong. Our top runner has close to thirty miles already.

Newgulf Elementary hosted the District Meet on December 10th with elementary school participants from Blessing, Damon, Danbury, Hitchcock, Markham, and Van Vleck. Newgulf students did outstanding placing students in 20 out of the 21 contests and having 62 out of 74 Newgulf students earn medals and ribbons.

Newgulf swept fourth and fifth grade Art. In fourth grade, Emily Gmitter - 1st, Jason Mach - 2nd, Kimberly Castillo - 3rd, Trista Garza - 4th, and Vanessa Espinosa - 5th. Chloe Merecka placed 1st in fifth grade Art with Samantha Kalmus - 2nd, Gabby Castillo - 3rd, Jasmine Munoz - 4th, and Celeste Rodriguez - 5th.

Fifth graders did a great job in events with Juanita Gomez placing 3rd in Dictionary Skills and Jessica Sanchez placing 5th in Social Studies. In Listening, Garrett Pless - 3rd, with Coby Villasana - 4th, and Estefani Segovia - 5th. Colby Bosch tied for 1st in Maps, Graphs, & Charts followed by Justin Ray Morin - 4th, and Kyler Silvas - 5th.

Newgulf swept the places in third/fourth grade and fifth grade Music Memory. In the 3rd/4th grade competition, Lena Goff placed 1st with Krista Wittig and Jennifer Rivera tying for 2nd, My'Kayla Waddy - 3rd, Hailey Sanchez and Dakota Metting tying for 4th, and Madison Haga - 5th. Denia Ramirez captured 1st in the fifth grade with Destiny Mrnustik - 2nd, Harmony Morales - 3rd, Dabraelyn Finex - 4th, Taylor Soliz - 5th, and Stephanie Garcia - 6th.

Newgulf placed well in fourth and fifth grade Number Sense. Drake Bartos won 1st, Zoe Winkenwerder - 2nd, and Maria Gonzales - 5th in fourth grade with Chase Chumchal placing 1st in fifth grade followed by Sarah Holt - 2nd, and Angel Jackson - 5th.

In the speaking events, Newgulf did a good job. In fourth grade Oral Reading, Preston Miller was 1st, Tori Arrington - 2nd, and Daniel Rodriguez - 3rd. Madison Floyd won 1st in fifth grade Oral Reading followed by Kaitlyn Hough - 2nd, and Abram Krushall - 3rd. In second grade Storytelling, Karis Meek was 4th and Azalynne Chilek was 5th. Colby Chilek won 1st in third grade Storytelling followed by Sydney Mach - 2nd and Tristan Downey - 3rd.

Spelling had seven students place. In third grade Spelling, Kade Killough and Marcos Borges tied for 2nd. Yatziri Ramirez was 2nd and Michelle Dube was 6th in fourth grade Spelling. In fifth grade Spelling, Danielle Bowers was 2nd, Sydney Archer - 3rd, and Quincey Hayes - 5th.

In the writing events, Newgulf placed seven students. Azalynne Chilek won 1st in second grade Creative Writing and Logan Stratiou placed 3rd. In third grade Ready Writing, Krista Wittig placed 3rd, Shannon Dube - 5th, and Josie Huddleston - 6th. Kimberly Castillo was 2nd and Yatziri Ramirez was 4th in fourth grade Ready Writing.



IAGO JUNIOR HIGH

Reported by Sarah Harborth

Happy New Year from Iago Jr. High! Our focus right now is the upcoming U.I.L. competition. On Wednesday January 18th, our 6th, 7th, and 8th grade Ready Writing and Editorial Writing participants will be busy composing award winning papers. Oral Reading, Impromptu Speaking, and Modern Oratory events will take place here at IJH on Thursday, January 26th. All other academic events will be held on Saturday January 28th. Our school is once again hosting the speaking and academic events. All participants have been practicing very hard and are looking forward to another victory.

This week we are taking Semester Exams and Benchmark STAAR for all subjects. Students are concentrating and doing their best to succeed.

Basketball season continues for the Bullpups and there are 3 games left. All teams continue to strive to compete and win.

Student Council is busy planning for the U.I.L. dance in February.

Our cheerleaders are promoting school spirit with posters to encourage our U.I.L. participants. They are also planning a U.I.L. pep rally. Our cheerleaders continue to encourage school spirit in athletics and academics.



BOLING HIGH SCHOOL

Reported by BHS Faculty

The Boling FFA kicked off the New Year with the monthly Jr. FFA Meeting on January 3rd, 2012. Members are busy preparing for Career Development Events, which will be held this spring. On January 24th, judging teams will go compete at the Katy FFA Invitational Contest.

Student Council members organized and executed another successful Secret Santa Week, December 12-15, to show teacher appreciation. Students teamed up and surprised faculty and staff with Christmas goodies and clues about their identities. Faculty and staff were to try and figure out their "Secret Santa". Thank you to all the members who participated.

Student Council and FFA hosted the annual BHS Christmas Luncheon. Guest were served turkey and dressing by the Student Council officers. Members brought homemade baked goods for dessert. Thank you to those who came.

The Boling High School Band performed Christmas carols at the arrival of the Kansas City Southern RR Holiday Express on November 29 in Wharton for the beginning of the Christmas celebration. The band also gave its annual Christmas Concert on the 8th of December. Several members of the BHS continued to spread Christmas cheer by performing musical Christmas greetings in the Boling/Wharton area.

In addition to Christmas performances, members of the BHS Band participated in the ATSSB Music Region 13 Band Auditions held on Dec 10. Gabe Sharkody placed 1st alternate - tenor saxophone; Alex Arriaga placed 8th chair trumpet - concert band; Tyler Wittig placed 7th chair percussion - concert band; Erin Torres placed 4th chair alto saxophone - concert band; Deanna Bourg placed 2nd chair baritone saxophone - concert band; Joshua Gary placed 2nd chair trombone - concert band; Spencer Gutierrez placed 7th chair trumpet - symphonic band and advance to the area auditions. Congratulations to these students and all who tried out and represented BHS so very well.

Congratulations to the following students for their awards at the Houston Livestock and Rodeo Art competition. Best of Show Savannah Steiner "Yesterdays Memories" - graphite. Gold Medal Emily Cheney "My Pen of Three for the County Fair" - oil pastel. Gold Medal Eric Gooden "Carrying on the Tradition" - Ebony pencil drawing. Finalists were Tierney Steiner "Country Sweethearts" - graphite, Sarah Nanez "Creekside Evening" - oil pastel, and Emili Storey "Purple Mountain Majesty" - oil pastel.