

# INSIDE *Northside*

## RAVES

**Hunter Paul**, a 1st grade student at **Elrod ES**, finished in the TOP 10 (out of 1000 entries) for the 1st grade category in the Via Metropolitan Transit Youth Art Contest. **Laura Hoffmann** is his art teacher.



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All Professional and Classified Employees are required to access this web site and acknowledge that they know where to find their respective Handbooks on – line. The deadline for completion is Sept. 30.

Seven out of 14 student journalists from **Marshall HS** won state awards at the Interscholastic League Press Conference Summer Workshop held at the University of Texas at Austin. The annual workshop brings in high school students from across Texas, Oklahoma and Louisiana for extensive training in producing student publications. The students, all seniors this year, are: **Patricia Chamberlain**, **Patty Delgado** and **Nicole Higdon**, Outstanding Newspaper Design and Writing; **Amanda Mata & Shahla Nadem-Mollaei**, Outstanding Yearbook Editorial Leadership; **Aaron Campos**, Excellence in Newspaper Packaging and Writing; **Rebecca Villareal**, Outstanding Feature Photography. Their adviser is **Lisa Schweers**.

Two NISD teachers were awarded scholarships in the second annual Educator's Scholarship program from FirstMark Credit Union. **Stephanie Brantley**, a PPCD teacher at **Colonies North ES**; and **LaRae Stephens**, an art teacher at **Ward ES**, each received \$500 to spend on supplies, teaching tools and added extras for the classroom.

### Online Sexual Harassment training required again.

It's that time of year again. All employees will need to complete the Sexual Harassment training online by accessing the Human Resources website and clicking on the Sexual Harassment pushbutton. The deadline for completion is Sept. 30. It will take approximately 30 minutes to complete. If you have any questions, call Grantly Boxill, Employee Relations Officer, at ext. 8808.

## *Jay HS launches school-wide security system*

- **First of its kind in San Antonio**
- **Dozens of surveillance cameras are live**

When students at **Jay HS** returned to school on Monday, Aug. 22, Vice Principal **Robert Harris** watched his computer monitor to make sure that everyone was safe and secure.

Approved by the School Board in July, the new state-of-the-art system is unmatched anywhere in Bexar County public schools. **Jay HS** is the first of 11 high schools to receive the system that includes ceiling and wall mounted digital video-cameras, glass-break sensors, access controls, door contacts, alarm monitoring, badge identification systems, and infrared detectors that are monitored via computers in real-time, as well as archived digital video. Funding for the integrated security systems was approved by the voters in Bond 2004. Approximately \$3.2 million is being earmarked for this nine-campus project.

From his desk, Harris (and other authorized staff) can view through any one of 59 cameras located both inside and outside the school buildings. For instance, he can see one the parking lots and zoom in close enough to read the license plate of a car entering or exiting the parking lot.

"Using technology is one more way to keep our campus safe," Principal **Gerardo Marquez** said. "It doesn't replace people—we'll still be monitoring the halls, interacting with the students, meeting with visitors, and making sure that things go smoothly. This is just one more tool that we will use to provide a safe and secure learning environment for our students and staff."

**Lt. Brad Mills** with the NISD Police Department says that from the law enforcements point of view, they feel like they're getting double the money with this new system. "This system supports the campus administration with the abilities to view what's going on, but it also documents what happens after hours."

"Once the school is locked and secured for the night, the security component of the system kicks in," he explained. "We'll be able to watch, in real time or in recorded time if necessary, if there is a violation taking place, such as tagging, and will be able to respond immediately."

"We want to be very open with what we are doing," Marquez said. "We will hold student assemblies and an Open House for parents to explain and demonstrate how the system works and what's going on."

In addition to the video surveillance component, the system will also include an access control module which includes a staff and student digital video badging system to reduce unauthorized access to facilities, motion detection and alarm monitoring throughout the building, and perimeter access controls and alarm devices.

**Jay HS** was chosen to be the pilot school to launch the new security system because it had recently been renovated with new cabling and because it is basically one big building. Next are **Stevens**, **Holmes**, **Taft**, **Warren**, **Marshall**, **O'Connor**, **Clark**, **Health Careers**, and **Holmgreen** high schools to be installed by spring 2006.

The campus-based Integrated Security Management System was identified as a high-priority in the District Strategic Plan for Safe and Schools, Technology, and Facilities. Additionally, integrated security system was a key recommendation in both the Elert & Associates 10-Year Technology Plan (2001) and the Sako & Associates School



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