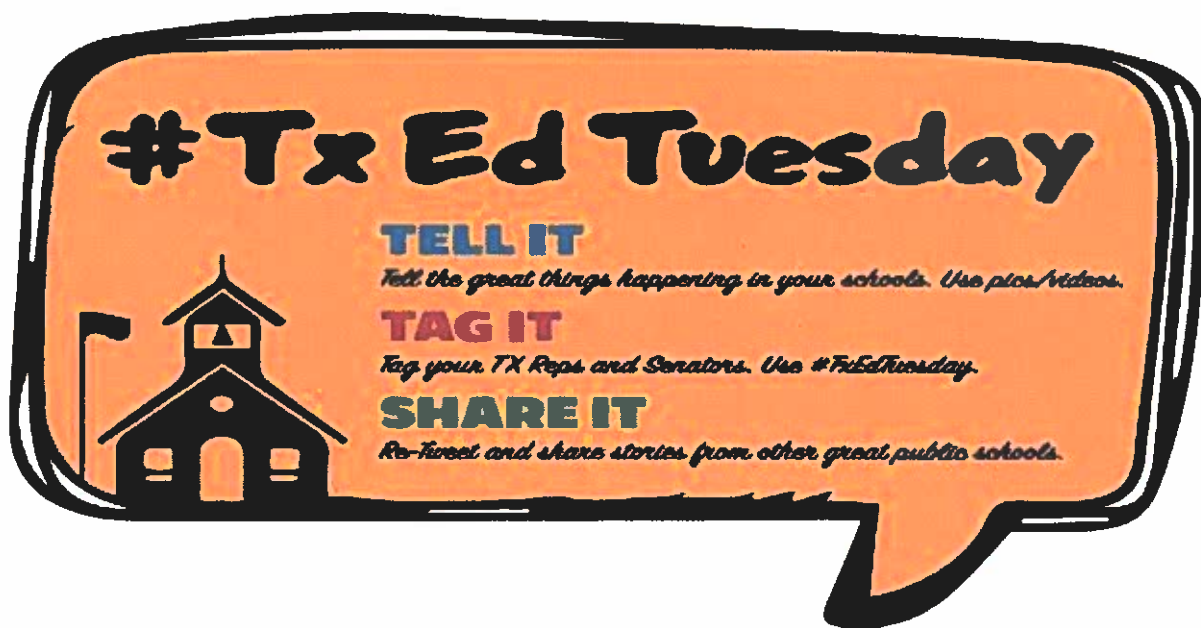


MYERS, CHERIE

From: LARGENT, JAMES
Sent: Friday, February 17, 2017 10:02 AM
To: GISD-Staff
Subject: Supt weekly 2/17/17

Good Morning GISD, I hope you are all having a wonderful week in the district. A few items of interest this week:

- The **Stowaways** competed in Killeen at Regionals Competition Saturday. The team was the **second highest scoring team of the entire competition** including dance studios, private schools and public schools. Both the officers and the team were awarded best in class for their division, judges awards for all 6 dances, honors for precision, presentation, choreography and dance technique and sweepstakes.
- The **Texas Retired Teachers Foundation (TRTF)** is now accepting **applications for its scholarship and grant programs** for current teachers. All applications, including supplementary materials such as transcripts (if applicable), are due to the TRTF office **no later than 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 16, 2017**. Be sure to share these applications with recent or soon-to-be college graduates or active educators you know. [Classroom Assistance Grants](#) help Texas public educators pay for unique projects, learning platforms and more! [DOWNLOAD APPLICATION](#)
- We do a great job of sending out **positive things on Twitter and Facebook**. A new initiative going around our state is call **#TxEDTuesday**. Please read the bubble below. The thought is to **flood the "twitter world" each Tuesday** with positive public school information. And, make sure to tag **@SenatorBirdwell** and **@RepMikeLang** when you tweet about great things going on in GISD.



Legislative Update: In the legislature this week, the Senate State Affairs Committee voted to send out a bill on payroll deduction to the Senate floor. **This bill would stop the horrible practice (tongue firmly in cheek) of allowing state employees to use payroll deduction to pay their “union” fees.** (Texas is a non-union state for teachers, but this would include dues to UEA, ATPE, TSTA, etc.) This is **considered a top priority for Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick**, along with his school choice voucher program. **Texas Professional Educators director** said, “**This bill is both unnecessary and discriminatory, and the legislature should focus on issues that actually matter.**” Law enforcement union leaders came to speak out against the bill as well. President of the **Austin Police Association** said, “**You are picking on people who make \$30,000-\$40,000 a year.**” The author of the bill, **Senator Huffman**, was asked if she had heard from local elected officials or administrators that this type of payroll deduction process was an issue. “**I have not personally received a complaint,**” she said...

Email this week:

From a Parent: I’d like to recognize **Brad Eppler, Danny Guidry, Greg McCarthy, and Matt Holly** for their dedication to their players. Each of these men takes a vested interest in their players. Their teams are great! However, it’s the work they put into these boys to create **upstanding, goal setting members of society** that should be noted. They **work with other sports and academic clubs to allow their students to become well rounded student athletes.**

They instill a sense of pride and work ethic in their players. Our family appreciates each one of these men and are so thankful they are serving as positive role models for our son.

From **Rich Teaching**, every one of the strategies in this book is powerful, but **giving fabulous feedback may be the holy grail**. As soon as you see progress, you get inspired. With quality feedback, the goal moves closer and hope rises. That's how it works for your students, too. Quality feedback has clear, shared goals, establishes progressions, provides actionable feedback that moves learning forward, activates students as the owners of their own learning, and allows students to track their big-picture trends. Here are a few examples of things you and your students can do:

- Ask more questions in class.
- Review work and talk it over.
- Summarize the learning daily.
- Preview learning before class.
- Work closer with a study buddy.
- Create a mind map or graphic organizer of the content.
- Ask the teacher for specific help.
- Look up difficult concepts.

Savvy teachers use feedback to stay in the know. Students cannot control everything that happens to them in class, but through student feedback, they can respond to your teaching. Feedback is the substance for positive change in your work. Seek it out, use it, and enjoy the difference.

I hope you all have a great weekend and **GO PIRATES!!**

JL

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