

# Hornet Herald

One School, Multiple Programs, Success for All

May 5-May 9, 2008

Remember to go to [www.kealing.org](http://www.kealing.org) for up-to-date project/test information and the Kealing website for everything else:

<http://www.austinisd.org/schools/website.phtml?id=011>

## *The Week Ahead*

### Monday, May 5

"B" Day

Teacher Appreciation Week!

Early Voting continues through May 6th

### Tuesday, May 6

"A" Day

Teacher Appreciation Week!

### Wednesday, May 7

"B" Day

Teacher Appreciation Week!

### Thursday, May 8

"A" Day

Teacher Appreciation Week!

7:30 a.m.-8:15 a.m., KMAG Meeting, Library. Guest Speaker: Linda Redler

2:55 p.m.-4:30 p.m., Chess Club meeting, Mr. Slapak's room-Room 112-A

4:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m., CAC Meeting, Library

### Friday, May 9

"B" Day

Teacher Appreciation Week!

11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Teacher Appreciation Lunch

12:00 noon: Deadline for submitting Hornet Herald items to Elissa Sterling at [alantroy@austin.rr.com](mailto:alantroy@austin.rr.com)

### **Teacher Appreciation**

May 5th through May 9th is TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK! This is the perfect time to let teachers know how important they are to students and their families. Please consider recognizing the teachers of your children with a "note of appreciation" or just a special "Thank You."

Encourage your children to wish their teachers a "Happy Week."

### **Teacher Appreciation Help Needed**

And speaking of Teacher Appreciation, the Teacher Appreciation Committee is seeking volunteers to assist with the luncheon on Friday, May 9 from 11-1. Gloria is also seeking donations of sodas or water and desserts. Interested persons may contact Gloria Frazier at [gloria.frazier@foxtv.com](mailto:gloria.frazier@foxtv.com) or 495-7780.

### **Eighth Grade Celebration**

Kealing needs your help for the **Eighth Grade Celebration**, an open house and dance to honor this year's eighth graders, which will be held June 3. If you have an eighth grader (or expect to have one in the next couple of years), please contribute one of these ways:

DONATE canned soft drinks or snack items prepared in a commercial kitchen to sell as concessions at the SPRING DANCE, which will be held the evening of May 16 at Kealing. We love homemade goods, but the Health Department won't allow us to sell them; as a result we are looking for pre-packaged chips and cookies. You can drop off drinks or food in the main office any time before the end of school May 16.

VOLUNTEER to sell concessions or run the photo concession at the Spring Dance. Contact Clare Stanfield at [cstanfield@blantonassociates.com](mailto:cstanfield@blantonassociates.com) to sign up for a shift. We're especially looking for eighth grade parents here, but will accept help from any parent.

LEND us your cooler, clearly labeled with your name and preferably full of ice, the afternoon and evening of May 16 to keep drinks cool.

FIND OUT OTHER WAYS TO HELP by contacting Susan McLeland at [mcleland@austin.rr.com](mailto:mcleland@austin.rr.com).

### **KMAG Meeting with Guest Speaker**

Lynda Redler, Kealing principal, will present her vision for the 2008-09 school year at the next Kealing Magnet Advisory Group (KMAG) meeting, **Thursday May 8th from 7:30 - 8:15 a.m.** Everyone is welcome to attend. Please contact Anne Heinen at [amheinen@gmail.com](mailto:amheinen@gmail.com) or Jodie Gordon at [jodieg@austin.rr.com](mailto:jodieg@austin.rr.com) for more information. Please see the Files section at [kealingmagnet@yahoogroups.com](mailto:kealingmagnet@yahoogroups.com) for minutes of past KMAG meetings.

### **Chess Club News**

On Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Kealing chess team took first place in the K through 12

Division at the Austin City Chess Championship held at Kealing Middle School.

Playing for Kealing were Serena Zadoo, Brad Girardeau, Madhumitha Venkatarman, Arthur Lee, Advith Anand, Allan Sadun, and Alex Bai. Serena Zadoo and Madhumitha Venkatarman tied as co-champions of the K-12 Division. Also, on April 26<sup>th</sup>, Serena Zadoo placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the nation at the Kasparov Girls National Chess tournament held in Dallas. If you see any of the chess team members, please congratulate them!

### **AISSD Calendar Survey**

Please go to the AISSD website and fill out the Calendar survey. It is an online survey to get stakeholders, like parents and teachers, input on the school calendar for the year 2009-2010 found at

[http://www.austinisd.org/inside/initiatives/calendar\\_planning/index.phtml](http://www.austinisd.org/inside/initiatives/calendar_planning/index.phtml) The Calendar committee needs to hear all concerns and ideas, so please take a minute to fill out the survey before May 9th! Contact Heather Bailey at [hbailey@navigantconsulting.com](mailto:hbailey@navigantconsulting.com), if you have any questions.

### **Carpool Database Available**

Looking for a carpool to Kealing for next year? The Magnet Office maintains a notebook in which new and current parents indicate their interest in carpooling, area of town where they live, and contact information. Stop by and ask Annette Moore, Magnet secretary, if you'd like to use it.

### **Kealing Student Receive Perfect Score on National Latin Exam**

ALLAN SADUN achieved a perfect score on the 2008 National Latin Exam. Only 1,062 students out of over 135,000 who participated in the entire United States, Australia, Mozambique, Canada, England, Italy, New Zealand, Poland, Brazil, Bulgaria, China, and Zimbabwe attained this distinction.

### **Help the Environment, Help Kealing, Help Needed Next Year!**

A volunteer is needed to do the recycling of laser/inkjet cartridges and cell phones for next school year. This is a project of the PTA and by the end of the year may have brought over **\$200** into the PTA budget just by RECYCLING! The job involves picking up the items from the school office as needed, boxing them and sending them to a recycling center. Please contact Ken Pfluger at [kmp@pobox.com](mailto:kmp@pobox.com) for more information or to take over the job for next year.

AND, you can do something for the environment AND help the Kealing PTA. Bring your used cartridges and phones to the main Kealing office and drop them off in the Recycling box just inside the door closest to the principal's office. If you have the box the laser cartridge came in put the cartridge in it, but if not, bring it anyway. If your work throws these items away, collect them and bring them to Kealing. The more we have the more support we can give to the PTA. For more information contact Ken Pfluger at [kmp@pobox.com](mailto:kmp@pobox.com). Thanks for your help.

### **KMS Sports Banquet - May 20, 2008**

The KMS Sports Banquet will be held on Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. on May 20, 2008 in the Cafeteria for KMS athletes and their families. Formal invitations will be sent in mid-May. Additional parent volunteers for the planning committee are welcome. Please contact Denise Pierce at [hdnp@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hdnp@sbcglobal.net) or at (512) 963-7699 (cell).

**Please see the attached flyer for more information on the Sports Banquet!**

### **Calling All Sports Photos!!!**

The KMS Sports Banquet committee is soliciting all still photos of Hornet games, teams, and special moments from the 2007-2008 season. Please e-mail your digital

sports photos (i.e., football, basketball, volleyball, soccer, tennis, swimming, and track) of games, moves, teams, and uniformed individual athletes or groups of athletes to Denise Pierce at [hdnp@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hdnp@sbcglobal.net). The Sports Banquet is working to compile a short slide show for presentation during the KMS Sports Banquet on May 20, 2008.

### **Eighth Grade CAP TAKS Scores**

Good News! We are excited about our 8<sup>th</sup> Grade TAKS scores for the Kealing Comprehensive Academy Program! In spring 2006, TAKS passing rate ranked the comprehensive school as one of the lowest middle school programs in the district. Kealing had used TEA waivers to prevent the school from being rated "unacceptable". It was clear that TAKS scores from the Magnet Program could not mask the lack of student achievement by the Comprehensive program.

During our first year in 2007, reclamation of the Comprehensive program began. We built key relationships with students, parents and staff; set high expectations for students and staff; and, made program changes where curriculum alignment, quality instruction and timely assessment were non-negotiable. This resulted in the comprehensive students achieving double-digit gains on the 2007 TAKS assessments. In 2008, Comprehensive eight grade students have shown greater progress increasing their TAKS passing rate 20-46 points in most subgroups. For example the TAKS reading passing rate of African American students is now 93%. In the Comprehensive Academy Program we believe that "All Kids Can Learn and Effective Education Ensures Their Future". Attached is a file that shows the Comprehensive journey over the past five years and below are highlights that document our recent success.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

##### Reading:

91% of all CAP 8<sup>th</sup> grade students passed the Reading TAKS exam during the first administration of the exam.

100% of students who participated in our in-school reading pullout program passed the exam.

Only 11 students failed reading TAKS during the first administration. The second administration will occur April 30<sup>th</sup>.

27% of the CAP students were commended.

80% of students in READ180 passed the TAKS exam.

All subgroups experienced tremendous progress.

##### Mathematics:

58% of all comprehensive 8<sup>th</sup> grade students passed the Math TAKS exam during the first administration of the exam. The second administration of the exam will occur May 13<sup>th</sup>.

48% of the high-risk young men who participated in the all male 8<sup>th</sup> grade math class passed the exam.

40% of students who participated in the in-school math pullout program passed the math TAKS exam.

100% of the Algebra students passed the TAKS exam.

Helen Johnson, Ed.D, Director, Comprehensive Academy Program

### **ALT Austin Fitness and Health Event**

On Saturday, May 17, 2008 at the Toney Burger Center at 3200 Jones Road from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., ALT Austin presents a FREE fun filled event for all attendees to learn about fitness and healthy eating habits. Activities to include:

- Soccer Challenge
- Wii Sports Tournaments
- Free Healthy Cooking Demos
- Free Health Screenings
- Innovative Family Games
- GameBike /GamePad Activity
- Karaoke and Dance Contests

Take part in this city-wide, first of its kind experience that inspires and empowers today's youth and families to live a healthy and ACTIVE Life! ALT Austin is produced by YouthInterACTIVE, a non-profit organization focusing on nutrition and physical activity, in partnership with Austin Independent School District's Physical Education and Coordinated School Health Initiative. Participants in the ACTIVE Life Challenge will be recognized

More information at [www.activelifetour.com](http://www.activelifetour.com)

Sabado, Mayo 17, 2008

What ALT Austin es un evento gratis para todos los asistentes para aprender como mantenerse en forma y tener habitos saludables de comer. Las actividades incluyen:

- Pruebas de football • Torneo de juegos Wii
- Demostracion gratis de cocina saludable • Panel gratis de salud
- Juegos familiares unicos • Juegos GameBike/GamePad
- Competicion de baile y Karaoke

ALT AUSTIN esta producido por YouthInterACTIVE, una organizacion sin fines de lucro enfocados en la nutricion y actividad fisica, en colaboracion con Austin Independent School District's Physical Education y Coordinated School Health Initiative.

Todos los participantes en el reto ACTIVE Life seran reconocidos. !Comparte esta experiencia que inspira y habilita a los jovenes y familias a vivir una vida activa y saludable con ACTIVE LIFE!

For more information, please contact: Brian Jackson • (512) 533-9555 or [brian@youthinteractive.org](mailto:brian@youthinteractive.org)

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### **Gifted and Talented Information**

Austin Independent School District's Department of Advanced Academic Services presents:

A Gifted and Talented Parent Education Forum-"Developing Self-Directed Gifted Kids." Presented by: Dr. Jim Granada, Director Department of Advanced Academic Services on May 6, 2008 from 6:15 – 7:30 p.m. at the Professional Development Center (located on the east side Ann Richards School for Young Women Leaders) at 3808 Keats Drive. Delivered in English language only. The session is free and no registration is required. For more information, call 414-9986.

Distrito Independiente, de Austin El Departamento de Servicios Académicos Avanzados

presenta: Un Foro para Padres de Estudiantes Dotados y Talentosos: "Crianza de Niños Dotadoscapaces de auto-dirigirse." Presentado por: Dr. Jim Granada, Director Departamento de Servicios Académicos Avanzados. La presentación es gratuita. No necesitan registrarse. 6 de mayo, 2008, 6:15 – 7:30 p.m. Centro de Desarrollo Profesional

(localizado en el lado este de la Escuela Para Jovencitas Lideres Ann Richards) 3808 Keats Drive. Entregado en lengua inglesa solamente. Para más información, llamar al 414-9986.

### **YEARBOOKS! YEARBOOKS! YEARBOOKS!**

The 2007-2008 Yearbook Sale is in progress. The prices are listed below. Reserve your Yearbook now. Yearbook Distribution Day will be during the last week of school. For extra questions or concerns, please the Yearbook Staff at 841-6558, or stop by Room 514.

<u>Sale Dates</u>	<u>Cost</u>
September, 2007 to April, 2008	\$25.00
May, 2008	The price will increase.

### **Kealing Community Listserv**

Join the Kealingcommunity listserv! Would you like an online forum for discussion, sharing information and brainstorming with fellow Kealing community members?

Join the Kealingcommunity listserv at [Kealingcommunity-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:Kealingcommunity-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) . This listserv is not an official communication outlet for the school, but all are welcome to join.

### **Joining the Kealing Listserv**

If you know of anyone who hasn't signed up for the listserv please send them this info. The listserv informs and alerts you via e-mail about school events, activities, and needs. To join, send a blank e-mail to the Kealing listserv address that includes the name of the program your child is enrolled in...

[kealingcomp-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:kealingcomp-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

[kealingmagnet-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:kealingmagnet-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

You will receive a subscription confirmation message - just send a blank reply to this message and your subscription will be complete.

**Band information** can be found on the band website - [www.kealingband.com](http://www.kealingband.com)

(\*NEW LINK\*)

**Orchestra information**: join the Kealing Orchestra's listserv. To join, just send an email to:

[Kealingorchestras-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:Kealingorchestras-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

You can post messages by emailing [Kealingorchestras@yahoogroups.com](mailto:Kealingorchestras@yahoogroups.com)

If you no longer wish to receive notices, you may unsubscribe by sending an email to:

[Kealingorchestras-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:Kealingorchestras-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com)

### **\*\*Help the Hornet Herald\*\***

Each week, the Hornet Herald strives to bring you the latest school news and information about upcoming events. However, we can print only those events or happenings that we know about! Please don't assume that we know about your event and send us your information so we can let everyone know! (We don't mind getting duplicate emails-really!) So if you have something of interest to share with the school community, email the information to Elissa Sterling at [alantroy@austin.rr.com](mailto:alantroy@austin.rr.com) by **\*NOON\*** the Friday before you want to see the item appear in the newsletter. THANK YOU!