

# Safari to Success

Austin PTO  
Newsletter

## Welcome Austin Raiders

October 2010  
1st Six Weeks

### A Note from the Principal

Our first six weeks "safari to success" has been fun filled! We have a record high of 560 students. After the first two weeks we added a fifth section of kindergarten. We welcome the number of new smiling faces to our campus! Along with new students we have several new staff members:

Miss Kimberly Tucker-Kindergarten  
Mrs. Maggie Neal-First Grade  
Miss Janell Thomas-Second Grade  
Miss Amy Tuegel-Third Grade  
Mrs. Holly Samuels-Fourth Grade  
Mrs. Minda Ciardi-Music  
Mrs. Susan Rose-Music  
Mrs. Vanessa Fry-lunch monitor

We are proud of our campus and the work Jill Flores and her beautification committee did to refresh our grounds. Our beautiful trees have been trimmed, pots planted with fall color and flower beds weeded. With the addition of our new playground, families are spending time on the weekends supervising their children and having picnics on the grounds. We appreciate trash being picked up and soon you will find some new trash receptacles around the picnic/playground areas. Keep Austin Beautiful!

Plans are underway for Fall Fest October 30<sup>th</sup>. This family event is an exciting experience for all. Games, booths, cake walk, air castles, food and silent auction are just a few things you won't want to miss. The PTO has sold Fall Fest T-shirts to promote the event. Contact Suzanne Strain and Tiffany Lamb to help.

Thank you for being patient and putting "safety first" during drop-off and dismissal times. We have a ten minute "traffic jam" daily, but most importantly, we watch for kids crossing the streets that border our campus.

Remember the words of Garrison Kellior...**Nothing you do for children is ever wasted.**

Austin Elementary is a special school because of the dedication and teamwork of the staff, parents and teachers. We hope all parents will become involved in the various school activities during the 2010-2011 school year. It takes all of us, working together, to see that it is the best year ever for our children.

Candy Scarborough  
Principal

### **Just Say No Officers for 5<sup>th</sup> grade Fall Semester**

Niblo-Annalise Moore and Kaeler Russell

Meyer-Allie Nichols and Wyatt Wink

Dooley-Sierra Mirales and Shane Rau

McLean-Joseph Allen and M'Leigh Cleveland

# GREETINGS FROM THE PTO!

Our school year is off to a great start! We have many wonderful activities planned throughout the year. I hope that you and your family will be a part of the Fall Fest Festivities on **Saturday, October 30**. I also hope that you are enjoying Skate Night each month and that you come eat with other families from Austin on the scheduled Chick Fil A nights. Information about each of these events and other activities planned will be sent home with your student.

Most importantly we are thankful that you are a part of the Austin Elementary School Family. We are very lucky to have a wonderful faculty, staff and student body.

Remember to visit the PTO website at [www.raiderspto.com](http://www.raiderspto.com).

Thanks for all that you do to make Austin great. Let me know if I can be of service to you and your family.

Sincerely,

Laura Moore

Austin PTO President

## *United Way*

**Austin Teachers see the value in the programs that benefit school children and their families. The teachers pledged a total of \$5,208.63. That is 100% campus participation and 5 fair share givers. Thanks for caring Austin teachers!**

## Student Hosts Selected

Student Hosts were selected for 2010-2011. These are the students that give campus tours to new students and their parents. They also help with pumpkin delivery when Dalzell Realtors drives their trailer full of pumpkins for the Austin classrooms. Mrs. Holder, the counselor, gives them an orientation at the beginning of the year.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> grade

Ball-Austin Beckham  
Thomas-Cole Patterson  
Hammer-Aiden Thompson  
Morris-Angel Boggess  
Moser-Christian Lamb

### 3rd grade

Aquino-Lane Wilson  
Einkauf-Christian Elias  
Pate-Israel O'Con  
Vandever- Justin Smith  
Tuegel-Eric Abbe

### 4th grade

Brewington-Ethan Terbush  
Coffey-Josiah Williams  
Samuels-Josh Carroll  
Hammack-Samantha McMillan

### 5th grade

Dooley-Myller Roy  
McLean-Jasmine Tennison  
Meyer-Wyatt Wink  
Niblo-McKenah Patel

## **Austin Student Council**

### **2010-2011**

Fourth and Fifth grade students gave speeches and selected a boy and girl from each class to the council.

Members will be inducted on October 4<sup>th</sup> at a ceremony with family and teachers in the Austin LRC. The fifth grade members will be attending a STUCO conference in Southlake, Texas to learn leadership skills and get ideas on how to help at the campus and community level. Marsha Hammack and Andi Brewington are the sponsors.

#### Fifth grade students elected:

McLean-Erin Hale and Sammy Guadarrama

Niblo-Hope Brown and Bradley Stevens

Dooley-Myller Royals and Addie Durrington

Meyer-Cassidy Lamb and Doak Holloway

#### Fourth grade students elected:

Brewington-Emily Wallace and Cole Edwards

Hammack-Samantha McMillon and John David Dugger

Samuels-Dakota Drennan and Gabby Crespo

Coffey-Briana Westbrook and Andrew Gomez

## **Punt, Pass & Kick Results**

Austin has 125 participants in the annual Punt, Pass & Kick Contest held after school September 28<sup>th</sup>. Winners in each division will advance to the Sectional competition at McMurry University.

#### **8 & 9 year old girls**

1<sup>st</sup>: Cara Evans

2<sup>nd</sup> Avery Womack

3<sup>rd</sup> Katie Pogue

#### **8 & 9 year old boys**

1<sup>st</sup> Eric Abbe

2<sup>nd</sup> Dakota Drennan

3<sup>rd</sup> Colton Perkins

#### **10 & 11 year old girls**

1<sup>st</sup> Avery Lara

2<sup>nd</sup> Annelise Moore

3<sup>rd</sup> Heather Cairns

#### **10 & 11 year old boys**

1<sup>st</sup> Myller Royals

2<sup>nd</sup> Josiah Tuegel

3<sup>rd</sup> Zach Hollar

**Thank you to Mr. Graham,  
Mrs. Sanderson and all of our  
awesome  
volunteers!**

## **Austin Elementary SKATE NIGHT**

PTO held the first monthly SKATE NIGHT September 21 from 6-7:45. We have many raider skaters and some for the first time. The winning class for skate night (most students) was Mrs. Samuel's fourth grade class.

Skate Night Winners:

### **K/First Grade**

Girls: 1<sup>st</sup> Karlie Stotts

2<sup>nd</sup> Savanna Lee

Boys: 1<sup>st</sup> Dylan Reynolds

2<sup>nd</sup> Micah Carr

3<sup>rd</sup> Andrew

Guadarrama

### **Second /Third Grade**

Girls: 1<sup>st</sup> Jackie Barry

2<sup>nd</sup> Madelyn Davis

3<sup>rd</sup> Abby Brown

Boys: 1<sup>st</sup> Carter Sneed

2<sup>nd</sup> Witt Holloway

3<sup>rd</sup> Michael Beal

### **Fourth/Fifth Grade**

Girls: 1<sup>st</sup> Jenny King

2<sup>nd</sup> Paige Wall

3<sup>rd</sup> Melanie

Reynolds

Boys: 1<sup>st</sup> Payton Olson

2<sup>nd</sup> Griffin Cook

3<sup>rd</sup> Austin Evans

# Meet Our New Teachers

## **Kimberly Tucker** **Kindergarten Teacher**

Miss Tucker is a graduate of Abilene Christian University and grew up in Abilene. She is the oldest of three sisters.

Pets: two dogs, Ryleigh & Carly

Favorite Books: Chick-lit by favorite author Sophie Kinsella

Favorite Food: Mexican and Italian

Favorite Movies: Chick Flicks..The Proposal, My Big Fat Greek Wedding.....to name a few.

## **Maggie Neal** **First Grade Teacher**

Mrs. Neal is a graduate of The University of Texas in Austin. She grew up in California and has a love of art. Her husband, Mark, is the lawyer for AISD and her son, Peter is an eighth grader at Madison. Maggie has two grown daughters, Emily is in the Peace Corp. and Hannah is finishing a master's of education at The University of Texas. The whole family are Texas Longhorns!

Pets: over the years 15..all in Heaven!

Favorite Books: One Hundred Years of Solitude, Franny and Zoey, Uncle Sammler's Planet, The Other Bolyng Girl

Favorite Food: Strawberry Cream Puffs

Favorite Movies: Out of Africa, Empire of the Sun, Lawrence of Arabia

## **Amy Tuegel** **Third Grade Teacher**

Amy is a graduate of Abilene Christian University and grew up in Abilene. She is one of seven children!

Pets: Elliot (dog), Ramona (cat)

Favorite Books: Redeeming Love, The Westing Game

Favorite Food: anything chocolate, ice cream

Favorite Movies: Young Victoria, Pride and Prejudice

## **Janell Thomas** **Second Grade Teacher**

Janell is a graduate of Hardin-Simmons University and grew up in Sterling City, Texas. She is one of four children and a soon to be bride!

Pet: a dog, Kira

Favorite Books: I enjoy anything that is suspenseful!

Favorite Food: Italian and a really good hamburger, brownies and ice cream

Favorite Movies: Sweet Home Alabama, The Proposal, Cinderella, A Knight's Tale

## **Holly Samuels** **4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher**

Holly is a graduate of Texas Tech University. Her husband Adam is the Music Minister at St. Paul UMC. She has two daughters Rigby who is in Mrs. Brown's kindergarten class and Hazel who is a busy two year old.

Pet: Hermit crab named Rosey

Favorite Books: I have read all of the Harry Potter series several times and currently reading David Baldacci novels.

Favorite Food: Mexican

Favorite Movies: I love all kinds...Sci Fi, Comedy and Drama.

## **Minda Ciardi** **Music Teacher**

Mrs. Ciardi attended Abilene Christian University (undergraduate) and received her master's at Stephen F. Austin. She is married to husband, Chris, and has two daughters, Lilly (almost 3) and Kate (16 months)

Pets: none (kittens are my favorite)

Favorite Books: Mitford series

Favorite Music: anything Classical

Favorite Food: Mexican

Favorite Movie: Anne of Green Gables