



The Mane Tail



August 28, 2015



Dates to Remember

Aug	31	5:30	2 nd and 3 rd Curriculum Night
		7:00	4 th and 5 th Curriculum Night
Sept	01	5:00	PPCD, K, 1 Curriculum Night
	02	8:45	VIPS Breakfast Cafeteria
	04		Spirit Shop during lunch
	07		Student Holiday (no school)
	09		Boosterthon Kickoff
	14	9:30	PTO Meeting
	18		Boosterthon Run
	23		Student Pictures

Dear Parents,

We are proud to announce that Sampson is now a P.B.I.S. school. "PBIS" is short for Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports.

PBIS emphasizes that classroom management and preventive school discipline must be integrated and working together with effective academic instruction in a positive and safe school climate. Our school motto is:

We are SAMPSON

Show Integrity
Team Work
Respect
Ownership
Neighborly
Growing Learners

Walking Students to Class

Beginning Monday, Aug. 31st parents will no longer be allowed to walk their children to their classroom each morning. Our Sampson Superhero Staff will help the students find their classroom.

Dismissal Reminders

Club Rewind: Parents can begin picking their children up at Club Rewind at 3:30 p.m. The front and side parking lots are usually clear by this time for you to park and come inside.

Parents: Please do not **park** your car in the front car rider line. This creates an extremely dangerous situation for walkers and car riders.



Did You Know?

Sampson Elementary received a rating of: Met Standard from the Texas Education Agency. Sampson also earned 5 out of 5 distinctions.

Library News

Welcome back to school! All Sampson superheroes will be using their POWER TO READ this year! Books of all kinds for all ages can be found in the Sampson Library and our students have the power to read them! See attachment for important dates in the library this year. Visiting authors, Accelerated Reader, Book Character Parade, and the AR Reading Celebration are already scheduled. Be sure to mark your calendars!

PLEASE MAKE NOTE: There will be no magazine fund raiser sponsored by the Sampson Library this year.

GOT BOOKS?

Thank you to those who have sent in book donations. Our teachers greatly appreciate it. As you continue to clean out and weed through books your family is no longer using, please continue to send them to the front office. Our classroom libraries are ready for students to shop from, and the more books, the better!

Going home today with all students is important PTO information. Community Flyers are now on the district website, CFISD.net

**Sampson PTO
News and Information**

Sampson PTO Membership Drive!

The Sampson PTO has begun its membership drive. As a part of that membership you will receive a copy of the membership directory which lists students and their families to aid in communications for school events, car pools and other activities. The donation to join the PTO is \$10 per family. With this membership, you will also be granted access to our secure, online version of the directory.



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To become a member:

NEW FAMILIES - please go to
<http://www.myptodirectory.com/sampson>

RETURNING FAMILIES - An email has been sent out with your secure link to sign up for this school year. If you have not received an email notification yet, please contact Jane Dunn at janedunn4@gmail.com.

PTO Breakfast

Calling all Sampson Superheroes! Please join us for the PTO Back-to-School Breakfast on **Wednesday, September 2nd** from **8:45 to 10:15 AM** in the Sampson Cafeteria! We will offer breakfast, a chance to meet the PTO Board & Committee Chairs, information on volunteering, committee sign-ups, and an opportunity to have your picture taken for your badge. Your little superheroes are welcome to join us!



Spirit Shop

DID YOU KNOW?? Each Friday is Spirit Day. This is a great opportunity for your child to show his or her Stallion Power by wearing their Sampson T-shirt on Fridays. Spirit Shirts are \$10/ea. and will be available for purchase at Spirit Shop.

Our FIRST Spirit Shop of the Year is Friday, September 4th during all lunch times. We will have Sampson items for sale as well as other fun trinkets! Items will be available for \$.25 & up... Don't forget to send your child with "Spirit Money". We look forward to seeing your Stallion at Spirit Shop!



Attention 5th Grade Parents

Reminder 5th grade Fee is due Friday, September 4th. We need to place our shirt order ASAP, so that they will be ready for our 5th grade photo in October. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Linda Ramcharan at lramcharan@hotmail.com or Shelley Boyle at shelleyboyle@att.net. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and support! We are looking forward to a terrific year!

Many thanks,
5th Grade PTO Representatives,
Linda & Shelley

District News

STUDENT SCREENING FOR CREDIT-BY-EXAM

Students in grades K-5 will have four opportunities during the school year to use "credit-by-exam" to accelerate to another grade level. Students will only have one opportunity to test for each grade level considered.

To apply to take the test to skip kindergarten, a student must be 5 by September 1, and registered in a CFISD school. To apply to take the test to skip grade 1, a student must be 6 by September 1, and enrolled in a CFISD school.

Students who earn scores of 80% or better on each component of the credit-by-exam will qualify to advance one grade. Only one grade level may be "skipped" each year. No retests will be given.

If you are interested in getting more information about credit-by-exam, please contact the school counselor. Applications for this session of testing are due by Tuesday, September 1, 2015.

**Notice to Parents of Students New to Cypress-Fairbanks ISD:
Testing for the Gifted and Talented Program**
Cypress-Fairbanks ISD provides fall testing for HORIZONS, our gifted and talented program, to students who have moved from out-of-state schools, private schools, or home schools. (Charter schools are considered as public schools.)

- Parents/guardians interested in having their children screened for GT services, should inform the elementary Counselor at the campus.
- Testing will be administered ONLY if the student has not been previously identified in his/her former school.
- Parents/guardians will be asked to complete a *Parent Survey and Permission to Test* form.
- Testing will occur between August 26 and September 16. The specific date will be determined by the campus.
- If the student qualifies for HORIZONS, parents/guardians will receive a notification letter of placement/qualification and will be asked to sign a *Parent Permission for Services* form. Once permission is granted, the student will begin receiving GT services.



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- If the student does not qualify, he/she may not again be referred for testing until the *Open-Referral Period* during the 2016-17 school year.

Cypress-Fairbanks ISD provides Mid-year HORIZONS Testing to current Cypress-Fairbanks ISD students and students who have moved from other districts in Texas including charter schools.

- The *Open-Referral Period* begins October 1 and closes December 1, 2015.
- At that time, parents interested in having their children screened should contact the elementary campus Counselor for additional information.
- Students may test only once a year.

Notice to Parents of Previously-identified Gifted and Talented Students

- If a student has been previously identified as gifted and talented, he/she is eligible to receive services in Cypress-Fairbanks ISD once previous GT placement can be verified.
- To verify placement, parents/guardians must provide a copy of the student's notification of qualification and placement within the gifted and talented program from the former school district AND a copy of all test results used for screening.
- After submitting required documentation, parents/guardians will be asked to complete a *Parent Permission for Services* form. Once permission is granted, the student will begin receiving services.
- If the parent/guardian cannot provide the required documentation, the student is eligible to be tested during the Fall Testing window **only** if he/she moved from an out-of-state school, private school, or home school. (Charter schools are considered as public schools.)
- If the parent/guardian cannot provide documentation for a student who moved from another district in Texas, the student is eligible for Mid-year Testing and may be referred during the *Open-Referral Period* from October 1 through December 1, 2015.
- If the student has transferred from another Cypress-Fairbanks ISD school and has been identified already as gifted and talented, the parent/guardian should alert the campus's elementary Counselor. No additional testing is required, and the student will be enrolled in CFISD HORIZONS classes.