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NEWS RELEASE
May 18, 2016
For Immediate Release

ECSD News – Announcements and Upcoming Events May 19 – Jun 1, 2016

Announcements:

High School Movie Challenge: The winning video of the school commercial category was Escambia High School. Their short video can be seen at:
<https://youtu.be/QnlaCN-aKmw>

May School Board Acknowledgements
(Photos are available on Facebook, the Escambia Schools Public Relations page)

Stellar Employee of the YEAR: Ricky Neuman, a Custodian at Beulah Elementary School, was selected as the 2015-2016 school year, Stellar Employee of the Year. Neuman is known for going beyond the call of duty, for his outstanding dedication to his school, his willingness to lend a hand, and to help in any way. He is also known for being thoughtful, caring, knowledgeable and kind. He received a plaque, a check from Members First Credit Union, and he will be the honored guest of the Blue Wahoos at a game in June.

2016 Kids Tag Art Winners Announced: Escambia County Tax Collector Janet Holley greeted the Board and the many people in the Board room to announce the winners of this year's Kids Tag Art contest. These tags, as well as the winning tag from each school that participated, can be seen soon on the Tax Collector's web page where they can also be ordered. Every tag ordered will result in a donation to the artist's school for their art program. This year's Tax Collector's Choice tag was designed by Keandra Peazant from Longleaf Elementary School. The Superintendent's Choice was created by Hayden Ballinger from McArthur Elementary School. Congratulations to the students and their art instructors, Frances Jacobi (Longleaf) and Rebecca Burt (McArthur). The Tax Collector's page is being updated at:
<http://escambiataxcollector.konacms.com/kids-tag-art-purchase> to show the 2016 winners.

Unsung Heroes: The staff of Internal Auditing, represented at the Board meeting by David Bryant, Michele Kiker, Brad Mostert and Jeremy Williams, was acknowledged as the District's Unsung Heroes. The story of their contribution to our District, and others, goes back to Hurricane Ivan and the \$85 million dollars-worth of damages. Through their diligence, hard work, follow-through and the methodology they created, ECSD received its total insurance policy limit of \$55 million and they recovered \$27.6 million from FEMA. They have even been asked by the Florida Department of Education and the Governor's office to assist other school districts after natural disasters. Additionally, after the 2014 flood resulted in \$4.8 million in damages, with \$3.3 million at Holm Elementary School. The OIA team has already recovered \$3 million from the insurance company and are still working toward

recovering the remaining \$1.4 million to cover damages. In summary, they have recovered nearly \$61 million in insurance dollars and almost \$34 million in FEMA Grants.

ECSD's 1st Science Olympiad Winning Teams: The first ECSD Science Olympiad was held on April 27 at Woodham Middle School. Teams from ten schools competed in nine hands-on, minds-on challenges. With time limits, members of each team creatively solved challenges such as building bridges and programming a Lego Mindstorm robot. Medals were presented to the top three winners for each challenge and team results were tallied to determine the top three teams. Superintendent Thomas reminded the attendees last night that this was made possible by a donation from the Sandy Sansing Family Foundation. Their donation covered the cost of the robots and the medals and trophies for the event. It is hoped that next year this event will involve even more of our elementary schools. The top three teams this year were honored by the Superintendent and the Board members:

1st Place: N.B. Cook, Coach Julie Ferrara (all 4th graders, btw!) 2nd Place: Blue Angels, Coach Sarah Mason 3rd Place: Holm, Coach Mark Goolsby

NJROTC National News: Many members of Escambia High School's NJROTC unit were in attendance at the Tuesday night board meeting to salute them for their recent successful trip to NJROTC National Academic, Athletic, and Drill Championship, hosted by NAS Pensacola in April. To be eligible to compete at the National level, the unit had to be one of the top 25 units in the country. Once they were there, they were evaluated for their drilling ability (they came in second) as well as academics and athletics. They finished as the fifth best NJROTC Unit this year! Special honors also go to Cadet Commander Chris Gibson for placing number 1 out of 1000 cadets in Basic Drill. Cadet Faith Doby also finished in the top ten for Drill. Earlier this year, the EHS Unit won their fourth consecutive Area 8 Drill Championship - #1 out of 62 Units from Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama and Northwest Florida. They have held that title six of the last seven years! Bravo Zulu, Cadets!

2015 Five Star Schools: To become a Five Star School takes documenting everything the school's staff does to promote their relationship with their students' families, their community, and their business partners. This includes activities to develop parent involvement, to provide training opportunities for their families and for their volunteers. The majority of their staff must attend school-based volunteer training and the school must have a volunteer coordinator. In addition, the school must show what they have been able to involve their students in community service and they must have an active advisory council. The final criteria is the school must earn a "C" or higher school grade as determined by the State Dept. of Education. This year's winning schools are:

Elementary Schools: Jim Allen, Bellview, Beulah, Blue Angels, Hellen Caro, N.B. Cook, Cordova Park, Global Learning Academy, R.C. Lipscomb, Longleaf, L.D. McArthur, Molino Park, Pine Meadow, Pleasant Grove, Scenic Heights, and A.K. Suter.

Middle School: Brown Barge

NAFEPA Leadership Award: Marcia Nowlin, Director of Title I for ECSD, was acknowledged by the Superintendent and the Board for her selection to receive the 2016 NAFEPA State Leadership Award. The National Association of Federal Education Program Administration (NAFEPA) selected only four administrators for this honor to recognize them for the outstanding contributions they have made in the support of activities and goals of (NAFEPA). From the State's affiliate organization, the Florida Association of State Federal Educational Program Administrators

Upcoming Events:

West Pensacola Elementary School's 4th Grade Students Present, "First"

May 19, 1:30 p.m.

May 19, 6:00 p.m.

The final program for West Pensacola Elementary is set for May 19, at 1:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. The name of the program is, "First" a program about inventors and innovators. It will be presented by the 4th grade students in conjunction with our annual "Change Wars" to raise money for The American Red Cross. A check will be presented to the American Red Cross at the 1:30 program.

POC: Principal Sabrena Cunningham at 850-453-7470.

Beulah Elementary School's 2016 Family Fun Night May 19, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Beulah Elementary School will host a Family Fun Night on May 19 from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Grades 1 - 5 and special area teachers will host a variety of family fun and educational activities. These include: - A Dinosaur Walk, STEM activities, a chance to play Are YOU smarter than the average 5th grader?, construct a Water Xylophones, make a Straw Pan Flute, create Easter Egg, sculpt a clay origami items, and a chance to construct a Foldable Nursery Rhyme book. The Beulah PTA will provide light snacks and they invited 9 local organizations to attend and provide families with information. There will also be a chance to pick up Sight word kits for families of new KG and 1st grade students.

POC: Assistant Principal, Dr. Steven R. Schubert at 850-941-6180.

Bailey Middle School's Band Concerts

May 19, Starting at 5:30 p.m.

Bailey Middle School will be having two concerts on one night this year. Their Beginning Band and Blue Band will perform at 5:30 p.m. and their Advanced Bands (Jazz, White and Red bands) will perform at 6:30 p.m. Reminders and RSVP requests will go out when the date gets closer.

POC: For more information contact the school at 850-492-6136.

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POC: Principal Sabrena Cunningham at 850-453-7470.

Ransom Middle School's Jazz Band Performs May 19, 6:30 p.m.

Ransom Middle School's Jazz Band will hold a concert in the Main Stage Theater at the University of West Florida. Concert is set to begin at 6:30 p.m.

POC: For more information contact the school at 850-937-2220..

ECSD Mentor Appreciation Luncheon - By Invitation May 20, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

ECSD's Youth Motivator Mentors will receive invitations to attend this year's Mentor Appreciation Luncheon. It will be held at The Wright Place (the conference center at the First United Methodist Church, 80 E.

Wright Street - at Wright and Pallafox - Pensacola, FL 32501.

Registration will begin at 11:30 a.m.

POC: Sally Bergosh, 850-469-5676

Ransom Middle School's Chess Club Hosts a Scrapbooking Weekend Fundraiser and Workshop May 20, 5:00 p.m. to midnight May 21, 8: a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Ransom Middle School's Chess Club invited you to a scrapbooking weekend at Marcus Pointe Baptist Church, in the Student Center. The cost to attend is \$40.00 and a variety of classes and workshops will be offered (with material fees). The funds raised will help them travel to Nationals. It starts Fri. at 5:00 p.m. with dinner on your own and dessert provided. On Saturday breakfast is on your own but lunch and dinner will be provided. There will be classes/projects taught throughout including a beginner scrapbooking class on Friday night. All classes and projects will be an additional fee. Classes and techniques will be taught to include: Card Classes, Bucket List Board, Banners, Advanced watercolor scrap booking, Birthday and Thank You card classes, to name a few. Scrapbooking supplies will be on hand to purchase. Each person will have a 6 foot round table. Space is limited, so register early!

POC: For more information, and to register, contact Terra Reading at treading@escambia.k12.fl.us or Stacey Rising at srising@escambia.k12.fl.us.

C.A. Weis Elementary School's Wings Drama Club production of... "Mother Goose's Nursery Crimes" May 20, 6:30 p.m.

C.A. Weis Elementary Community School in partnership with the Pensacola Little Theatre, invites you to attend the Weis Wings Drama Club production of... "Mother Goose's Nursery Crimes."

An original play written by Jennifer Godwin and Weis Wings Drama Club Players. May 20, 6:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Funded by the "Grants for Excellence" from the Escambia County Public Schools Foundation.

POC: Cathy Melton, Music Specialist, 850-595-6888

Professional Development Certification Celebration May 23, 5:00 p.m.

The Professional Development Certification Program's Celebration of Achievement, FEAPS Completion, event will be held at the Spencer Bibbs Center on May 23, at 5:00 p.m.

POC: Kathy Smith @ 595-0030 ext. 287

ECSD Retirement Ceremony

May 23, 6:00 p.m.

The 2016 Escambia County School District Retirement Ceremony will be held on May 23, at 6:00 in the Theodore B.D. Bennett Auditorium at Booker T. Washington High School. All retirees are asked to check in by

5:45 p.m. A reception for retirees and their guests will be held directly after the ceremony in the atrium.

Montclair Elementary School's Humpty Dumpty Challenge May 25, 9:00 a.m.

Montclair Elementary School's 5th graders will be using their engineering and team work skills to create a container that will help Humpty Dumpty (a raw egg), survive a fall from a Gulf Power bucket truck onto the concrete parking lot. The event, which will take place on May

25, is a culminating activity for their month long, school wide STEM initiative. Kindergarten students as well, will be experimenting with Humpty in their classrooms and predicting which materials will protect him from a fall. They are excited to be spectators and cheer the 5th graders on!

POC: Kristen Danley, Montclair Elementary School, 850-595-6969.

Last Day of School for Students
May 26, dismissal times will vary

Memorial Day Holiday
All schools and office will be closed

Last Day of School for Teachers
May 31

Backpackprojectusa.com Spirit Night
Jun 1, 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

All three local Sonny's locations will be having Spirit Night to support the IB students' efforts to raise funds again this year to help the ECSD Maintenance Dept. fill Friday snack packs for local children. Tell your server when you place your order that you are supporting backpackprojectusa.com. Sonny's will donate 25% of your total to the project. This works for dine-in, drive-thru and/or carry out orders.

POC: Scott Stillman, 850-595-0135, Laura Brewer 850-595-1500, ext. 245.

GRADUATION CEREMONIES

The schedule for the graduation ceremonies can be found below. All times are Central Time Zone.

-Escambia Virtual Academy, George Stone Technical Center and Judy Andrews (Second Chance) Graduation – May 24, 2016, 6:00 p.m., Pensacola High School Auditorium

-Escambia Westgate Graduation - May 25, 2016, 9:00 a.m., Escambia Westgate

-Extended Program Graduation - May 26, 2016, 9:30 a.m., J.E. Hall Center, Room 160

-Tate High School's Graduation – May 27, 2016, 11:00 a.m., Pensacola Bay Center

-West Florida High School's Graduation – May 27, 2016, 2:30 p.m., Pensacola Bay Center

-Pine Forest High School's Graduation – May 27, 2016, 6:00 pm., Pensacola Bay Center

-Northview High School's Graduation - May 28, 2016, 4:00 p.m., Northview High School

-Escambia High School's Graduation – May 31, 2016, 11:00 a.m., Pensacola Bay Center

-Pensacola High School's Graduation – May 31, 2016, 2:30 p.m., Pensacola Bay Center

-Booker T. Washington High School's Graduation – May 31, 2016, 6:00 p.m., Pensacola Bay Center

-Summer School Program's Graduation – July 21, 2016, 4:00 p.m., Pensacola High School

Reminders

Now Available - Online Registration for New Students: Now available on the ECSD Homepage – ecsd-fl.schoolloop.com – there is a link to the new “Online Student Registration” page – ecsd-fl.schoolloop.com/focus/enrollment. ECSD asks everyone who meets a family new to Escambia County to please tell them to go to our homepage as soon as they can, go to this link and start the process to register their children in their neighborhood school. There is also a link to a form that will allow users to enter a street address to find out which elementary, middle and high school serves their new location. They will still need to go to the school with birth certificates, proof of residency (such as a utility bill), and school physical/shot records, but starting the “paperwork” online will streamline the process and shorten their visit. Any questions should be directed to your closest school or the School Choice Office at 850-469-5580.

Kindergarten Registration: Parents whose child will be 5 on or before Sept. 1st should visit their neighborhood elementary school to register their student for Kindergarten for the 2016-2017 school year. This can

also be started with NEW ONLINE REGISTRATION FORM!!!! They will still need to bring their child's birth certificate, immunization record, and a completed school physical form, and proof of residency (utility bill, rent receipt, etc.) to the school - but using the new online option will streamline your whole visit!!! If they have any questions, they should call their neighborhood school. If they are not sure which school to call, they can go to the district's home page.

Open the Quick Links list and then the link to Find Your School. They then enter a street name to find out which school to call. Back on the Homepage, there is also a link to a list of all of the ECSD schools that can be used to get contact information or to go to the school's homepage.

Up Date All Contact Information: Everyone is asked to help spread the word that all families need to keep their address and contact information as up-to-date as possible with their students' schools. Not only is this information critical if your student has an emergency or takes ill, but this information is also used to keep bus routes up-to-date and allows the transportation department to have the ability to contact homes if there will be a delay in the bus schedule. Your help is greatly appreciated. When parents go by the school, the staff can print out the information currently in the computer and then the parent simply annotates what needs to be changed!

Title I PreK/VPK Office: Please share the news that parents of children who will be 4 on or before Sept 1st, may want to visit the Title I PreK staff for assistance with their application for their State VPK Certificate of Eligibility, or to enroll their student (after receiving the COE from the State) in an ECSD Title I VPK program for the fall of 2016.

T-dap Booster Immunizations Schedule: If you need to check on your school's scheduled day/time for the T-dap Booster Immunizations, please go to the District Homepage and check the calendar on the right.
They begin Monday, May 16.

Media queries about any event listed on this release should be directed to Kim Stefansson, at 850-469-6219 or kstefansson@escambia.k12.fl.us.

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Visit ECSD's web page at www.escambiaschools.org