



NHE News

January 30, 2012

**Northwood Hills Elementary PTA**  
14532 Meandering Way Dallas, TX 75254  
<http://www.nhepta.org/>

Published bimonthly by the NHE PTA

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## Useful Links



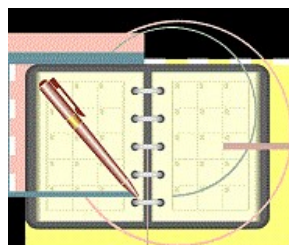
- [PTA Website](#)
- [NHE School Website](#)
- [NHE Facebook Page](#)
- [Weekly Falcon Update Online](#)
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## Calendar of Events

### February

- |                      |                                  |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| February 1           | NHE Night at Straw Hat Pizza     |
| February 10 @ 6:00PM | BINGO Night                      |
| February 16          | End of 4 <sup>th</sup> Six Weeks |
| February 20          | Student Holiday                  |
| February 23 @ 6:30PM | PTA Meeting                      |



### March

March 7 NHE Night at Straw Hat Pizza  
 March 12-16 Spring Break  
 March 19 @ 6:00PM Kindergarten Round Up  
 March 22 @ 6:30PM PTA Meeting & Open House

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**NHE Fun Fact**



**Did you know that...**

*The first school bell at Northwood Hills Elementary rang in September, 1965. At that time, the school consisted of nine rooms for first through fourth grades.*

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**Pancake Supper**



**The 2012 Annual Pancake Supper**

Thanks to those dads that came out to flip & serve many varieties of tasty pancakes at the PTA Meeting last Thursday! The line was out the door as folks waited for seconds (and even thirds)! Special thanks to Chris Rodgers and Pam Metzger for coordinating this yummy event!



Not only did we enjoy the dinner, but we were also treated to a special performance by *The Desperados* dancing club from Richardson High School.



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**6th Grade Bingo Night**

## Announcing... 6th Grade B-I-N-G-O Night!

Please joins us for dinner & family fun and play for fabulous prizes...Admission is free! Bring your family, friends and neighbors!

**Friday, February 10th  
6pm to 9pm**

To donate prizes or for any questions, contact [Bibi Negusse](#) of the 6th Grade Parent Committee.

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### Chess is Coming to NHE!

#### **Chess Instruction for Kids!**

*Did you know that chess is considered a portal to academic achievement for children and adults? Chess trains the mind to make rational decisions. Join us and expand your thinking!*

The class will meet at NHE on Thursday evenings from 5:15 to 6:15pm. Students of all skill levels are welcome. Herminio Baez, a national master teacher with over thirty years experience, will serve as our instructor! He has numerous students on the Top 100 list in the nation. [Click here for detailed information & registration form...](#)



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### Auction Donations



#### ***We Need Your Donations for the NHE Spring Auction!***

It's that time of year again! The spring auction is NHE's biggest fundraiser. Last year funds from this event raised more than \$27K and benefits paid for Enrichment Programs, Accelerated Reader, Field Trips and much more!

Support your kids and your school! [Click here for details...](#)

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### Used Book Fair

FEB 16-19th  
DAL RICH SHOPPING CENTER  
(Coit & Beltline, near Whole Foods)

Great weekend to stock up on cookbooks, children's books, movies/dvd's, just about all topics are covered at this sale. Proceeds go toward the JJ Pearce Scholarship Fund (awarded to students from each RISD high school, Richardson, Berkner, Pearce and Lake Highlands). You don't want to miss it!

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### PTA Board Nominating Committee

On Thursday, Jan. 26th the Nominating Committee was selected, with the task of slating new PTA officers for 2012-13 school year. A great nominating and election process produces the best leadership, so it's with appreciation we recognize the 2012-13 Nominating Committee:

Brenna Eager  
Sunni Goldberg  
Lisa Hord  
Sophie Kranz  
Elba Morgan

Alternates:  
Karen Crowder  
Tric Sohosky

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### Get to Know Ms. Kranz!



Ms. Kranz

Sophie Kranz teaches 2nd grade and has been with Northwood Hills Elementary for two years. Her own second grade teacher made learning so much fun that she felt inspired to become a teacher herself in order to give her love of learning back to kids.

Ms. Kranz also serves as a member of the Northwood Hills PTA Board and graciously agreed to be our first teacher interviewed for this spotlight article, which will appear every month in the NHE Newsletter. Enjoy getting to know her as you read her witty responses to our curious questions!

First, we wanted to know some of **her favorites**:

**Restaurant:** You can always find me at MiCocina on a Friday night or Taco Diner any other day of the week!

**Store:** Gypsy Wagon (you have to go!!), Anthropologie, JCrew, and Uptown Country

**Movie:** When Harry Met Sally, Across the Universe, and Almost Famous (all 3 must sees!)

**Color:** Turquoise, chartreuse, orange, pretty much bright colors!!...I mean have you seen my classroom??

**Band/Music:** My all time favorite band is the Beatles...but I am a well rounded music lover, so my list would include...Dave Matthews Band, the Black Keys, Ray LaMontagne, Stevie Wonder, Adele, John Mayer, Jimi Hendrix, the Avett Brothers, Crosby, Stills, Nash, & Young, the Decembrists, and James Taylor. Music is a big part of my life; you can say that I am a huge fan!

**What's the most rewarding part of teaching for you?**

I've always wanted to make some sort of difference in the world, no matter how big or small, so I would have to say that the most rewarding part for me is actually seeing the difference I'm making in children's lives.

**What's the most challenging?**

The most challenging part of teaching is TIME...where does all the time go?!...or as they say, "time flies when you're having fun!"

**What's one of your favorite "teaching moment" stories?**

Last year we were learning about the main idea of a story...while I was explaining what a "main idea" was, I just couldn't think of the right words. I stood there thinking for a minute when one of my students raised their hand and said, "Miss Kranz, do you even know what you are talking about?" Ha!

**What's surprised you most about being a teacher?**

Finding myself saying all of the things that my parents used to say to me when I was little that I swore I would never say!

**What hobbies do you enjoy when not teaching?**

Anything & everything to do with creating something...whether that's crafting, "antiquing" furniture, blogging, or amateur photography. I also have a slight shopping problem...if you can't find me at an antique shop on the weekends, then you will definitely find me at NorthPark Mall, hopefully with no bags in hand!

**If you could take your 2nd grade class on a field trip anywhere, where would you go & why?**

I would fly my class to London so we could visit where "Apple Studios" used to be and study the Beatles because I think music is an important aspect that should be present in every child's life! Then we would walk across "Abbey Road" together and take the iconic picture!

**Thanks, Ms. Kranz,** for sharing so much of yourself for this article as well as with NHE in all that you do every day! We'll end with one of Ms. Kranz's favorite quotes:

*"You must be the change you wish to see in the world" --Mahatma Gandhi*



Checking out the scrapbook made by her first class



Having fun at the Dallas World Aquarium



Red Ribbon Week: A student dressed as "Miss Kranz"



Field Day Fun

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**Parent Education Committee**

The [PTA Board](#) consists of about 40 people who focus on their particular committee or duties. While we work together on a lot of projects, Committee Chairs ultimately lead their projects. If you would like to get involved on the PTA Board, there are many ways to help! Please don't feel like you have to do a lot of heavy-lifting to help. Contact [Natalie Yancy](#), PTA President, to see how you can volunteer, thank you!

**Featured Committee: Parent Education**

The Parent Ed Committee works to bring programs that will help parents on topics related to parenting and being a partner to teachers in the education of their children. In the past, Parent Ed Chairs have coordinated Brown Bag lunches with speakers talking about parenting tactics with bullying, shy children, raising independent children, etc. While there isn't a lot of time to do Parent Ed programs, it's always good to have one or two informative programs throughout the school year.





This position also brings information to the board that RISD or the PTA Council may be offering for all schools. Most programs are offered free of charge, and funded by the PTA. Another reason to join the PTA - those dues go toward A LOT of things!

In each issue of eNews, we'll offer a parenting resource or tip as part of the PTA's commitment toward Parent Education. If you have a topic you'd like to see covered or another suggestion, please contact [Barbara Anderson](#), Parent Education Committee Chairperson.

**Upcoming Parent Education Seminar**

"Keeping Our Children Safe From Harm"

Presented by Ellen Magnis of

[The Dallas Children's Advocacy Center](#)

Tuesday, February 21st @ 7:00pm

Northwood Hills Elementary Library

Ms. Magnis will give pointers on how to communicate with your children and equip them to handle situations around potentially unsafe adults.

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**Feedback?!**

Got a question about this newsletter? Idea for an article? General suggestion? Please...let us hear from you! Send your feedback to [enews@nhepta.org](mailto:enews@nhepta.org)

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