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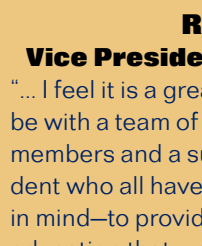
**MISD Board of Trustees**

**"I serve because ..."**



**Gary Bingham**  
**President, 8 years**

"... public education is incredibly important! The future of our economy and our democracy is largely dependent on how well public schools do their jobs."



**Rita Crump**  
**Vice President, 6 years**

"... I feel it is a great privilege to be with a team of school board members and a superintendent who all have one vision in mind—to provide the best education that we can for our MISD students."



**Robert Seward**  
**Secretary, 11 years**

"... I enjoy working for and serving the children of our community. I believe we have a responsibility to provide resources and opportunities for the children of our community so that they develop into lifelong learners."



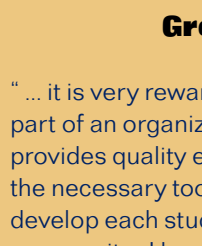
**Kevin Carbo**  
**8 years**

"... it's my way of giving back service to a community that embraced me and my family. It is an honor and a privilege to serve with a group of board members who do their best with every decision they make, and I am humbled by this opportunity."



**Randy Dobbs**  
**10 years**

"... I absolutely love kids. I receive incredible joy when I see the accomplishments and successes of the students of MISD, especially those with special needs, knowing that albeit small, I had something to do with their growth."



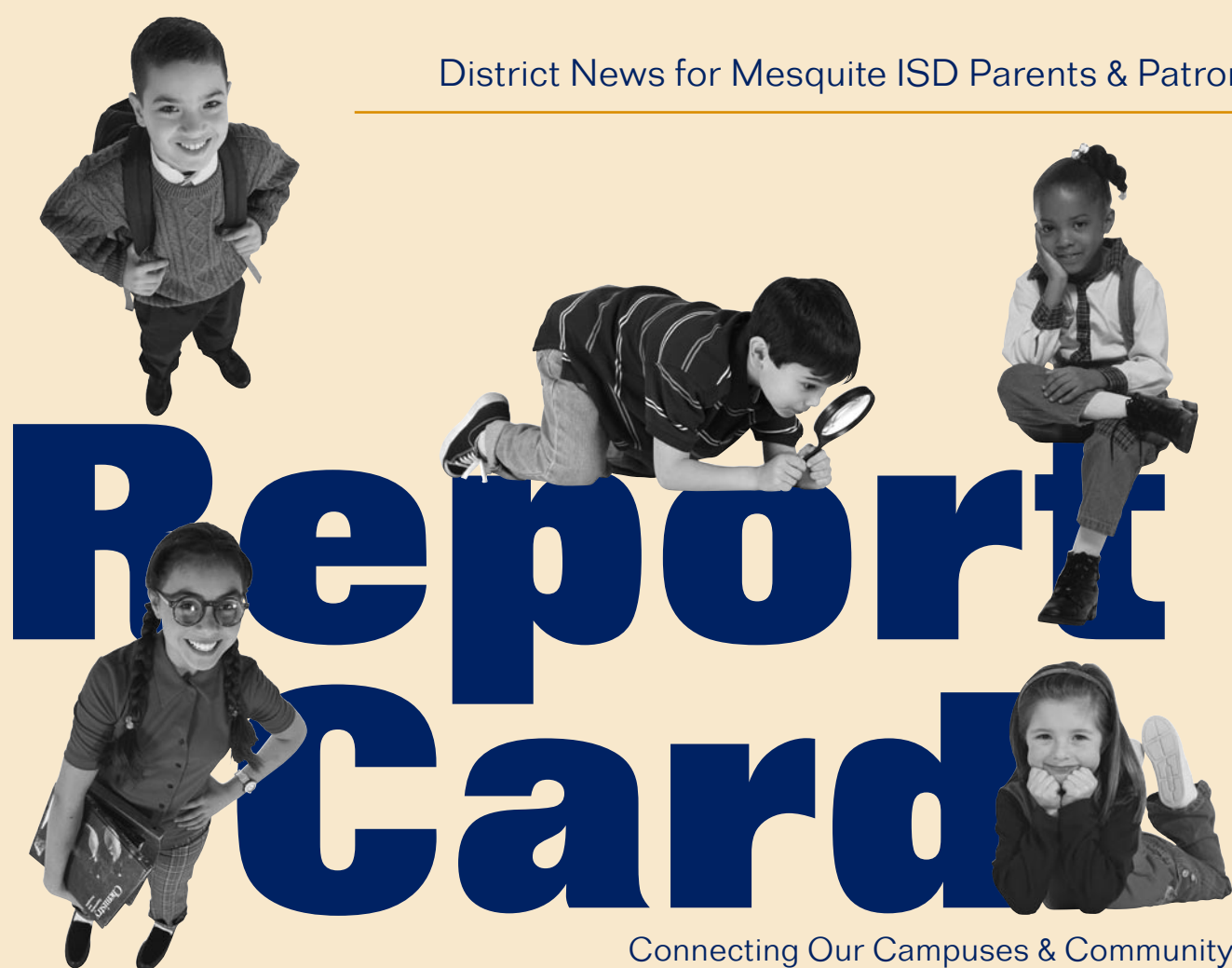
**Greg Everett**  
**13 years**

"... it is very rewarding to be part of an organization that provides quality education and the necessary tools to properly develop each student of our community. I have a strong desire to support the good things that occur each day in every school in our district."



**Cary Tanamachi, M.D.**  
**18 years**

"... I feel it's extremely important that we in the community give our time and our best effort to see to it that our kids get the finest education they can. Our future depends on it."



Connecting Our Campuses & Community

**MISD Establishes Education Foundation**

To help develop a higher level of community involvement and financial support, Mesquite ISD has established an education foundation. The Mesquite ISD Education Foundation, Inc., will serve to promote innovative programs and initiatives that enrich educational opportunities.

"It's our hope that this foundation will serve as a catalyst for involving the community in schools and will create excitement about education," says **Dr. Denise Kutch**, the district's liaison with the foundation. "Monies raised will impact students by funding programs for which tax dollars are not available or cannot be expended."

The Mesquite ISD Board of Trustees authorized the foundation steering committee in October. Since then, the committee has engaged in forming subcommittees, filing incorporation papers, drafting bylaws and a mission statement and electing officers for the foundation board of directors. Officers for the foundation's incorporating board of directors are **David Belt**, President; **Greg Noschese**, Vice President of Administration; **Marco Cisneros**, Vice President of Programs; **Lynn Davis**, Vice President of Development; **Sharon Cook**, Vice President of Community Relations; **Sue Ann Mackey**, Secretary; and **Herman Finley**, Treasurer. Other incorporating directors are **Kari Blocher**, **Marilyn Callies**, **Kathryn Lynn**, **Frank Medrano**, and **Evelyn Williams**.

Donations to the foundation are already coming in. First State Bank

opened the foundation's account with a \$1,000 donation, which was followed by a generous donation totalling nearly \$84,000 from the Medical Center of Mesquite.

"We are thrilled to have such an encouraging start to our fund raising efforts," says Dr. Kutch. "The community has always been behind Mesquite ISD. This foundation will provide one more way that community members can support their schools."

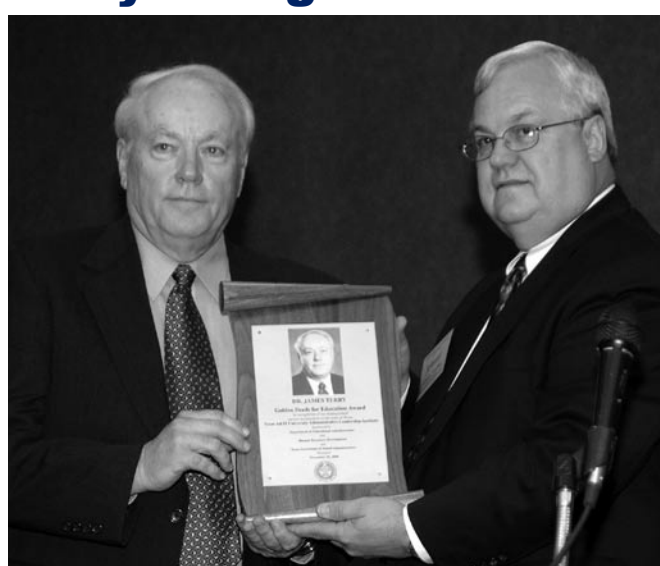
"We express our gratitude to all the steering committee members and especially to **David Belt** and **Evelyn Williams**, chairman and vice chairman, respectively, for their hard work in making the foundation a reality," says Dr. Kutch. Others who are serving on the steering committee but are not on the incorporating board of directors are **Darlene Aquilar**, **Tony Apel**, **Sandra Bibb**, **James Huckaby**, **Bill Porter**, **Lisa Stovall**, **Elaine Whitlock**, **John Williams**, and **Diane Wright**. **Dixie Parris** is serving as a consultant to coordinate efforts for the foundation's public relations campaign.

Anyone wishing to donate to the Mesquite ISD Education Foundation may do so by contacting **David Belt** at **(972) 288-4344**. Donations should be mailed to the following address:

**Mesquite ISD Education Foundation, Inc.**  
**405 E. Davis Street**  
**Mesquite, TX 75149**

Contributions are tax deductible as defined by the IRS Revenue Code.

**Terry Recognized for 'Golden Deeds'**



**Superintendent Dr. James Terry** (left) receives the *Golden Deeds for Education Award* during the *Administrative Leadership Institute in College Station*. The award honors individuals who have made significant contributions to improving the educational system to enrich the lives of all Texas school students. A statewide committee composed of Texas school leaders selected Terry for the award.

*January is School Board Recognition Month*

January is the time of year when we gratefully acknowledge our board members' commitment to our communities and schools.

These public servants are elected to serve by local citizens and receive no compensation for their tireless efforts.

"Across the state, it is unusual to find a school board that has the long-term stability and service shown by Mesquite ISD's members," said **Superintendent Dr. James Terry**. "These individuals are sincerely devoted to doing what is best for Mesquite ISD students."

Board members unselfishly contribute their time and talents toward the advancement of public education, devoting numerous hours, days and evenings to fulfill the requirements of their office. They represent a continuing commitment to local citizen control and decision making in education.

"Even though we are making a special effort in January to show appreciation to our school board members, we recognize their contributions reflect a year-round commitment," said Dr. Terry.

The board generally meets on the second Monday of every month in the Board Room of the Professional Development Center at 2600 Motley Drive. Meetings begin at 6 p.m.

Refer to the left side of this page to meet each board member, see their years of service on the board and understand why they volunteer their time to serve.

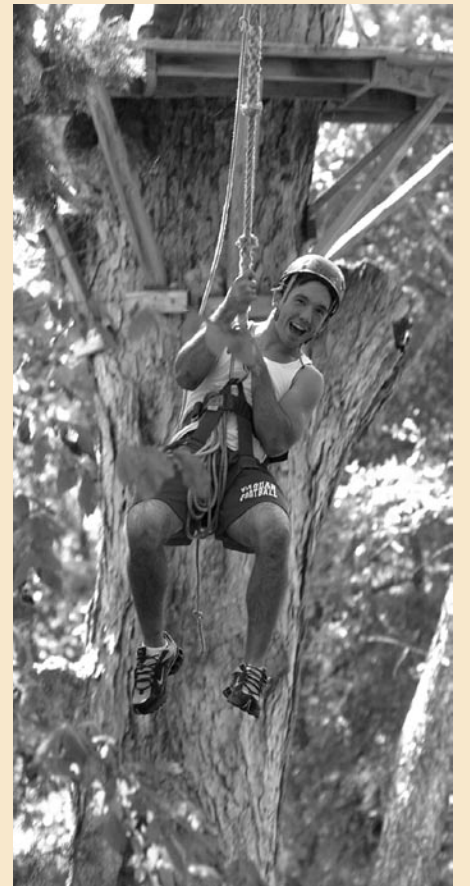
# BULLETIN BOARD

Right: To help students understand more about science, students from **John Horn High School** spent the day learning in the field at **Rorie Galloway Day Camp**.



As part of the Team Up for School program, Wells Fargo Manager Nancy Mack presents **Dr. James Terry** with a \$2,500 donation.

Child Care Guidance and Management students from **Mesquite High School** work with preschool children at Club Noggin. The club is held at Town East Mall, where the children learn songs and work on educational crafts.



Members of **St. Mark's United Methodist Church** recently donated nearly 300 new coats to underprivileged students at seven **MISD** elementary schools.

## FINANCIAL AID SEMINAR

for Juniors and Seniors and their Parents

**Jan. 18, 2005 • 7 p.m.**

**MHS Auditorium • 300 E. Davis Street**

Learn how to apply for financial aid for post high school education.

## Yellowcard Performs at Mesquite Academy



The **Mesquite Academy** cafeteria was transformed into a lounge for a special concert by the band **Yellowcard**. The event was part of a promotional contest won by **Academy** students.

Below, several students and teachers had a chance to meet the band **Yellowcard** backstage.



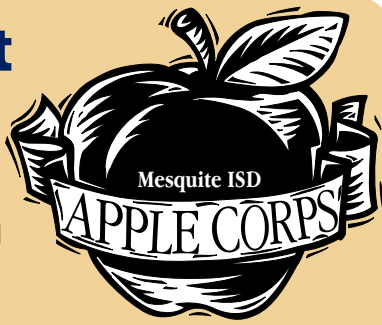
In honor of **Veterans' Day**, members of the **Vanston Middle School Spirit Club** sold red, white and blue paper chain links. Each link has the name of a veteran (including the three veterans who teach at **VMS**) or active duty service member.



Students at **Austin Elementary** marked **Children's Book Week** by observing "Slip Off into Dreamland with a Good Book Day." It was one of many reading-related events across the district.

# Mesquite ISD's Newest Apple Corps Members

Apple Corps Teachers are nominated by their peers, approved by their principal and administration and inducted by the Board of Trustees.



## OCTOBER'S INDUCTEES



**Cannon**  
Agnew Middle



**McClain**  
Berry Middle



**Shields**  
Range Elementary



**Waters**  
Shands Elementary

**Mark Steven Cannon** teaches physical education and athletics at Agnew Middle School. This is his eighth year to teach in Mesquite ISD. Mark says: "If it had not been for my middle school coaches and teachers caring about me as a student, I would not have had the success that I have today. I wanted to give back some of what was given to me and have a positive impact on students at this critical age." Mark believes that all students can be and want to be successful. He adds, "Some just need more help and guidance than others."

**Jenny Reavis McClain** teaches art at Berry Middle School. She says, "I teach because I enjoy the company of children—it's as simple as that." By making her class interesting and keeping it fun, she tries to wake up the creative spark and leave students with an appreciation for art and artists. She says, "I love the sound of a student's voice saying, 'I did it' or 'It worked.'" For Jenny, there is nothing more gratifying than to watch a student try something new, have a good time and feel successful. In the future, she would like to make better connections between Mesquite ISD's art students and the community.

**Brenda Shields** is the Reading Recovery teacher at Range Elementary, and this is her 14th year there. She says: "There are so many things I love about teaching, but I have found that my passion is teaching young children to read and write. Literacy is the framework for all education." Teaching is Brenda's second career. She says that even though she struggled over the decision to change careers, she knew she had made the right choice soon after she started teaching. Brenda explains, "I can't think of another profession that is so rewarding."

**Craig Waters'** undergraduate work was in child behavior and development, and after 20 years in the business world, Craig decided to return to his educational roots. He now teaches kindergarten at Shands Elementary, where he has been for the past nine years. He says: "I want every student of mine to get up each and every day and be enthused and excited about coming to school. If they want to come to school, then I feel I can teach them anything." Knowing the impact he has on young children, Craig says, "I tell my students I expect both myself and them to always do the best we can do."

## NOVEMBER'S INDUCTEES



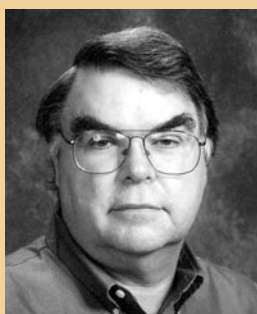
**Doolin**  
McKenzie Elementary



**Clanton**  
Mesquite Academy



**Turner**  
Gentry Elementary



**Dobbs**  
Porter Elementary

**Janeen Doolin** is a sixth-grade teacher at McKenzie Elementary, and this is her eighth year in the district. According to Janeen, the best part of her job is the kids. She says, "They keep me grounded, while I keep them on their toes." When it comes to her philosophy of teaching, she credits the words of a former student. Janeen explains: "She said that when she entered my classroom it was like being on a learning playground. My students are motivated with lots of interaction and hands-on activities."

**Lee Clanton** is a 28-year veteran of the teaching profession and currently instructs ninth-grade students at the Mesquite Academy. He says: "The single thing I enjoy most about teaching is seeing students learning how to learn and then becoming successful. The look on their faces when they get it is worth it all." Lee is inspired by what he calls, "the challenge." He explains, "I like the satisfaction of working with a student and helping him or her overcome the past, enjoy the present and focus on a positively productive future."

**Vickie James Turner** is a first-grade teacher at Gentry Elementary. During her eight years in Mesquite ISD, Vickie has also taught at Floyd and Smith elementaries. She became a teacher because she wanted to make a difference and have an impact on children. Vickie says, "I enjoy watching my students develop into enthusiastic, life-long learners." Her philosophy is that each child is capable of learning—no matter what. She explains, "It's our responsibility to ensure that happens."

This is **Bobby Dobbs'** seventh year in the district and at Porter Elementary, where he teaches fifth grade. Bobby says that he wanted to be a teacher for many years and reached a point in his life where he could return to school and pursue that dream. He says, "I enjoy working with students and 'seeing the light come on' when they understand a new concept." Bobby strives to create an inviting educational atmosphere, which consists of routine structure and responsibility. Regarding inspiration, he says, "I receive inspiration from my students and peers."



### High School Bands Excel in Competition

The **MHS Band** and **NMHS Band** each earned First Division ratings at the UIL Region Marching Contest and advanced to the area competition. The **PHS Band** also earned a First Division ranking at UIL Region and was selected as Grand Champion of the Plano East Marching Contest.

### JHHS Students Honored for Writing Skills

**JHHS** students **Julie Lynch** and **Heather McKinney** received the 2004 National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Achievement Awards in Writing. These girls were among 689 students selected from the 50 states, District of Columbia, Canada, Virgin Islands and American schools abroad. Judges looked for writing that demonstrated effective and imaginative use of language to inform and move an audience.

### KMS Students Walk to Fight Diabetes

For the second year, **Kimbrough Middle School** participated in the School Walk for Diabetes. The students raised \$2,800, and every Kimbrough student participated by walking. Each team also created an informative video about diabetes that was shown to the entire school. Congratulations to teams 7-2 and 8-2 for having the most creative videos.

### MHS Freshman Undefeated for Third Year

Members of the **MHS** freshman football team had an undefeated season this fall. This accomplishment continues the students' winning streak, which began with undefeated seasons in seventh and eighth grades at **Agnew Middle School**.

### National Achievement Scholars

**Modupe (Dee) Olagundoye, JHHS**, was selected as a National Achievement Scholar.

### National Merit Honorees

The following students received Semifinalist honors in the National Merit Scholar program: **Bahaa Badair, NMHS; Kris Gonzalez, MHS; and Christina Panousieris, NMHS.**

The following students received Commended honors in the National Merit Scholar program: **Nicole Carver, NMHS; Justin Cherian, PHS; Sarah Cole, NMHS; Matthew Davis, NMHS; Brandon Gamm, PHS; Scott Grant, PHS; Brittany Ashten Kimbrough, JHHS; Madeleine Lynch, MHS; Jonathan Palmer, JHHS; and Nathan Shotts, PHS.**

## New Textbooks on Public Display

The Mesquite ISD Board of Trustees will officially adopt textbooks/materials recommended by the District Textbook Committee for the 2005-2006 school year at the board meeting on March 21. Parents and community members will have the opportunity to view these materials while they are on display from Feb. 1 through March 21, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the MISD Service Center, located at 800 E. Kearney. Books and materials for the following subject areas are up for adoption:



- health (all levels)
- physical education (all levels)
- fine arts (all levels - art, music, band, choir, orchestra, dance, theatre)
- languages other than English (secondary courses)

If you have questions or comments about the materials up for adoption, please contact **Glenda Heil** at (972) 882-7441.

## Did You Know?

- We have been in existence for 12 years!
- We offer classes for all ages!
- We offer classes for nearly every interest!
- Our classes are fun and interesting!
- We offer an exciting and varied list of classes online!
- We offer after-school camps and summer camps with fun activities!
- You do not have to be a resident of Mesquite to take our classes!

For more information, to view our schedule or to register, log on to our Web site at

[www.communityedclasses.org](http://www.communityedclasses.org)

or call us at **972-88-CLASS!**

Look for our Spring 2005 catalog in January!



## Graduation 2005

Saturday, May 28  
Reunion Arena

NMHS .....	9 a.m.
MHS .....	12 p.m.
JHHS .....	2:30 p.m.
PHS .....	5 p.m.
WMHS .....	7:30 p.m.

### Baccalaureate

Sunday, May 22

Held at each high school campus

### Mesquite Academy Graduation

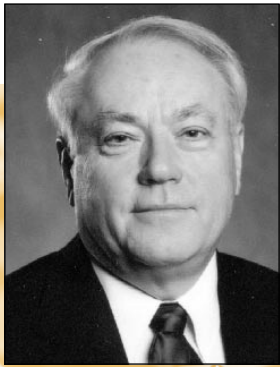
Friday, May 27

Mesquite High School Auditorium

## Gray Elementary Students Support the Troops in Iraq



Students from **Gray Elementary** supported Project Tribute to the Troops—a local effort organized to send 1,000 miniature quilts to soldiers in Iraq. The students collected spare change to help cover the cost of shipping the quilts. Their goal was to raise \$150, but the students were able to collect \$275 for the support effort. Each miniature quilt comes to the soldiers with a permanent ink marker so that it can be signed by their fellow troops. Here, **Gray** teacher **Pam Yates** presents a check to **Lori Shelton**, a representative of the quilting group.



### From the Desk of **James Terry, Ed.D.**, Superintendent

and how it will make a difference for Mesquite ISD students.

My vision is that the foundation will become a part of the culture of Mesquite ISD and support the district's core values: valuing all children, valuing all employees and valuing continuous learning and improvement.

All of us in this community want to provide the best education possible for our children; however, with the state providing only 38 percent of the cost of public education—even with local taxes increasing—school districts across Texas are limited in the opportunities they can offer. Despite funding obstacles, Mesquite

ISD has a history of doing more with less, but having an educational foundation will make it possible to raise additional funds that can be funneled toward enhanced programs for our students.

- An educational foundation will make a positive impact in Mesquite ISD by doing the following:
- It will provide additional opportunities for students and teachers.
  - It will provide additional funds to supplement the operating budget.
  - It will expand opportunities for the community to support its schools.
  - It will provide a perpetual source of funding.
  - It will make additional

funds available as state funding shrinks and local tax revenues reach their limit.

We have but one opportunity to provide a quality education for our 35,000 students. An educational foundation will improve our chances of being successful for each of those students.

**For information on school closings and delays due to inclement weather, tune to KEOM 88.5 FM.**



**Answers are just a click away.**

Visit [www.mesquiteisd.org](http://www.mesquiteisd.org)

- School Locator
  - Enrollment Information
  - Links to Campus Web Sites
  - Employment Opportunities
  - School Calendar
  - Student Handbooks
  - TEA District & Campus Reports
  - Lunch Menus
  - Student and Campus News
- and much, much more!**

## Report Card

Vol. XVIII • Number 3 • December 2004/January 2005

*Report Card* is published bimonthly by the Mesquite ISD Communications Department under the direction of the superintendent. Its purpose is to inform Mesquite ISD patrons about district programs, student accomplishments and other school-related information. Some postal patrons not served by Mesquite ISD receive this newsletter as a result of postal routes crossing over district lines. In an effort to save taxpayer money, Mesquite ISD uses bulk mail to deliver this newsletter to an entire postal carrier route. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause for those who do not wish to receive this publication.

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Robert Seward, *Secretary*  
Kevin Carbo  
Randy Dobbs  
Greg Everett  
Cary Tanamachi, M.D.

James Terry, Ed.D., *Superintendent*

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### Mesquite Independent School District

405 E. Davis  
Mesquite, TX 75149

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Mesquite, Texas

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