

# Comal Independent School District

## NEWS RELEASE

**Contact:** Jason Gordon  
830-885-1081

**Release Date:** Jan. 13, 2011

### **Parent/Community Summit Feb. 5 at SBMS** **Many expert speakers scheduled**

Highly successful Smithson Valley High head football coach Larry Hill will be among the expert speakers scheduled to lead breakout sessions at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Comal ISD Parent/Community Summit.

The summit will take place at Spring Branch Middle School (21053 Hwy. 46 W, Spring Branch, 78070) on Saturday, Feb. 5. The event will last from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

The summit is free to attend and lunch and childcare will also be provided free of charge. A Spanish translator will be present.

This year's theme is "Building Championship Families."

"We want to focus on providing parents with tools to strengthen the family unit," said Jamie Ezell, Comal ISD's Parent Community Liaison. "We want to help their children be successful both in and out of the classroom."

Hill will present a session called "Motivating your Team."

Speaker Dan Schmit will open the summit. He works for Apple Professional Development and has served as Comal ISD's Apple trainer since September 2008. He



has taught at the elementary, middle and high school levels as well and has served as a coordinator of instructional technology for the Nebraska Department of Education.

Schmit is the author of three instructional technology books, including “Kidcast: Podcasting in the Classroom.”

Other speakers and topics of breakout sessions will include Comal ISD Bilingual and ESL Programs Coordinator Jose Salazar (“How do I help my child? She speaks Spanish now!”), Comal ISD Director of Development and Accountability Tammy Lind (“Does this test count? Understanding the World of School Testing and Accountability”), and SVHS Academic and Career Advisor Kristy Castilleja (“College 101.”)

In all, 20 different breakout sessions will take place at the summit. Other topics will be (“Is It Gonna Hurt? A Look at the Emotional Aspects of Dyslexia”), (“Jeopardy: Internet Safety Videoconference”), and (“The Parent’s Playbook, Communication that Works.”)

“Parents will have the opportunity to select sessions based on their particular needs,” Ezell said. “We think it’s a wonderful way to bring people together with a goal of strengthening the families in our community.”

To pre-register for the event, [click here](#) for the English version and [click here](#) for the Spanish version.

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IN PHOTOS: Comal ISD Primary Instructional Specialist Lori McDonald will present a session on how to become your child’s reading coach at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Comal ISD Parent/Community Summit Feb. 5 at Spring Branch Middle School.

Comal ISD autism specialist Jenni Scott speaks to parents during her session “Unlocking Autism” at a past Comal ISD Parent/Community Summit.

# Building Championship Families



**Saturday, February 5, 2011**  
**Spring Branch Middle School**

Free lunch and Child Care.  
 Register at [www.comalisd.org](http://www.comalisd.org)  
 Contact Jamie Ezell at  
 (830)-221-2169,  
 or [jamie.ezell@comalisd.org](mailto:jamie.ezell@comalisd.org)

**\*Check in: 9:30 - 10:00 am**

Session 1 10:00- 10:45	Tammy Lind "Does this test count?... Understanding the World of School Testing and Accountability"	Steve Leavitt "Recognizing Anxiety in Children"	Dyslexia Team "Is It Gonna Hurt? A Look at the Emotional Aspects of Dyslexia"	Jose Salazar "How do I help my child? She speaks Spanish now!"	Kate O'Reilly "Cyberbullying and the Digital World"
Session 2 11:00-11:45	Lori McDonald "Lend an Ear- And So Much More: Becoming Your Child's Reading Coach"	Steve Leavitt "Training Children out of Anxiety"	Teresa Rogers & Danell Rosenauer "The ARD process"	Presentation in Spanish: TBA	Deputy Adam Pastrano /Crime Prevention "Prevalence of Prescription Drug Abuse"
12:00 Lunch and General Session "Winning Strategies for Digital Kids and Parents" Dan Schmit					
Session 3 1:00-1:45	TBA	Larry Hill "Motivating your Team"	Analaura McCrae "An Introduction to Intellectual and Developmental Disability (IDD) Services"	TBA	Jarrett Cochran & Matt Hattoon "Jeopardy: Internet Safety Videoconference"
Session 4 2:00-2:45	TBA	Shari Tucker "The Parent's Playbook, Communication that Works"	Jenni Scott "Solving the Behavior Puzzle: Making Connections for Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder"	Jose Salazar "How do I help my child? She speaks Spanish now!"	Kristi Castilleja "College 101"

**\*Entertainment: SVHS Jazz**