

Comal Independent School District

NEWS BRIEFS

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Release Date: April 11, 2011

Care Van stationed at schools throughout the spring

The Care Van, which provides free immunizations for students and their siblings, will be stationed at schools in Comal ISD throughout the spring. On Wednesday, April 13, it will be at Startzville Elementary from 2-4 p.m. The Care Van is scheduled for Canyon Lake High School on May 12 from noon to 2 p.m. On May 3, the van will be at Mountain Valley Middle School from 1-4 p.m. The Care Van Program is a not-for-profit community program coordinated by the Caring for Children Foundation of Texas, Inc., with thanks to lead sponsor Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas.

Other immunization opportunities are available throughout the spring through the Christus Santa Rosa School Based Health Clinic Pedi Unit. At Mountain Valley Middle School, the clinic will be open on April 18 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Please contact your child's school for more information about immunizations.

Superintendent's latest letter tackles growth vs. smaller budget

The juxtaposition of growing enrollment with a shrinking operations budget will present its own challenges, according to the latest letter to employees from Dr. Marc Walker, superintendent of Comal ISD.

"In a workshop on Tuesday evening, the school board looked at the budget shortfall in the context of growing enrollment, the need for capital improvements and renewals, such as technology and transportation, and uses for the district's \$57 million

fund balance,” he said. “While no decisions were made, a great deal of discussion took place as we all try to cope with what at times seems like financial impossibilities.”

Dr. Walker said that the budget for Texas, which was approved by the House of Representatives, could force the district’s budget down, anywhere from 8-23 percent. The Senate has yet to approve a budget, though word from Austin is that it is turning out to be much more generous for school districts.

Dr. Walker’s letter can be found on the district’s website, www.comalisd.org, under “Comal Budget Update” link.

Parent summit slated for April 14

A summit for parents of students in the Canyon Lake High School feeder pattern is scheduled for Thursday, April 14 at Mountain Valley Middle School. A hot dog dinner, hosted by PTAs, will kick off the evening at 5:45 p.m.

Parents may select from the following topics for the first session, which begins at 6:30 p.m.: “Ins & Outs of Middle School Athletics,” “Developmental Assets—What They Are and Why My Child Needs Them,” “Power of Parents, It’s Your Influence” (presented by MADD) and “Summer Fun,” (presented by Comal ISD Parent Support Specialists).

The next session offers, “Transitioning from Elementary School to Middle School,” “Cyber Bullying,” “Nutrient Rich and Affordable Meals,” and “Teaching Children to Save.”

Free childcare will be provided. For more information, contact the Parent Support Specialist on your child’s campus.

Garden Ridge to host a celebration of young authors

Garden Ridge Elementary School is hosting a “Celebration of Young Authors,” featuring more than 400 young publishers. The event will be May 10, from 8 to 9:30 a.m.

This project started with a grant from the Comal Education Foundation. Parents, staff and community members are invited to the special occasion, which includes an Author's Chair book reading, book signing and sharing of the process.

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