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MEDIA ADVISORY

Friday, August 18, 2017

The Lancaster Independent School District Announces the Ribbon Cutting & Grand Opening of Two New Elementary Campuses

Lancaster, TX/Lancaster ISD – The Lancaster Independent School District announces the ribbon cutting and grand opening of two new Pleasant Run and West Main elementary campuses. Located on the sites of the original buildings, district leaders, parents and community members will gather to officially cut the ribbon and mark the opening of these two new state-of-the-art facilities on Saturday, August 19.



The West Main Elementary ribbon cutting ceremony will begin at 9 AM and the Pleasant Run ceremony will follow at 10:30 AM. Both events will feature remarks from the Lancaster ISD Board President Ty G. Jones, Superintendent Dr. Mike McFarland as well as the Mayor of Lancaster, the Honorable Marcus E. Knight. In addition, the Lancaster Alum Group, represented by School Board member Ellen Clark, will make a special dedication. At the West Main ceremony, West Main Alumnus W.M. Pinson, Jr. will do the invocation and the principal, Nakesha Reddick, will also have remarks. For the Pleasant Run ceremony, former longtime principal Cindy Lynch will do the invocation with principal Kelli Watson sharing remarks as well.

The two new multi-million dollar structures have 21st Century education features and a tornado shelter integrated into the facility design. Each school has been designed so that any part of the facility – indoors and out – can be used as a learning space. Also, each campus facility will have natural lighting in every classroom and augmented energy efficiency.



The two new future-forward facilities replaced the two outdated facilities that were more than 60 years old and part of the original buildings in the school district's initial expansion. The original West Main was constructed in 1951 and Pleasant Run Elementary School was built in 1955, respectively.

The two new schools were built using funds approved by Lancaster voters during

a May 9, 2015 \$125.9 million bond election. The new West Main campus is estimated at \$24 million and will house just under 730 students and the new Pleasant Run costs about \$25.9 million.

During this project, the core team consisted of Dikita (Program Manager), Huckabee (Architect) and Pogue (Construction Company) and Lancaster ISD's Chief Operations Officer Gregory Buchanan.

Everyone is welcomed to participate in this milestone achievement for Lancaster ISD and its community of stakeholders. Following both ceremonies, the campuses will host their Back-to-School events.

The Lancaster Independent School District serves more than 7,000 pre-kindergarten through grade 12 students in 11 schools. Our vision is that all students achieve self-sustaining success and leave a lasting legacy. And our mission, in collaboration with parents and communities, is to ignite learning that translates into sustainable success for all students in an ever-changing society.