

DISTRICT NEWS
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Cy-Fair Baseball



The Cy-Fair High School baseball team won its first state title in school history on June 9 by defeating Harlingen South 6-1 in the Class 5A state championship at the Dell Diamond in Round Rock.

The Bobcats ended their season 32-7 with a District 17-5A championship and an undefeated playoff record of 12-0.

Campus/School Locator

To find information on a school or bus stop for a particular address, parents can use the Campus/School Locator by logging on to www.cfisd.net. The Campus/School Locator, under Quick Links, provides a map to the school, specific times for bus stops, general school information and a school day weather forecast feature.

Legislative Update

During the 80th Legislative Session, 896 bills were filed that related to school finance, public education, or property tax issues. Of the tracked bills, 153 (17 percent) were passed. For specific information on what bills were passed, go to www.capitol.state.tx.us.

Communication services available for parents

Communication between the district and parents in the community remains a top priority as CFISD continues to enhance and expand the comprehensive and interactive communication plan.

Using a newly redesigned website that averages more than 3 million hits per month, CFISD provides extensive and timely information to parents and community members.

The district updated a previous website model that had been online since January 2003, and capitalized on the talents of one of its own high school students—together with the expertise of district staff members—to create a more visually attractive, user-friendly design. In addition to improved color scheme, graphics, drop-down menus and Quick Links, the site also includes increased homepage access to CFTV programs and an available Google search bar on every page.

Advancement in digital technology has paved the way for the district to increase effectiveness of the delivery of information about our students, staff, schools and district. The website is just one of many modes of helpful communication that the district offers.



CFISD Podcast

Podcasting

Podcasting is one of the district's latest electronic media implementations. Using audio podcasts in the form of press releases—highlighting district news, student and staff honors and achievements—podcasting provides a new way to deliver information to the CFISD community via the district's website (www.cfisd.net). The CFISD Communication podcasts can be downloaded through a free subscription then transferred to an iPod or other portable media player. Specific instructions are provided on the website.

Since launching this effort on April 24, the district has posted more than 60 podcasts for both community members and media to enjoy.

Parent Internet Viewer (PIV): Grades Online

Parents of students in grades 3-12 have access to their students' grades online through PIV posted on each campus website. This application allows parents to view their student's grades, attendance (grades 6-12) and assignment information via the internet. The PIV is a secure system and requires a student's ID number and password assigned by the district. At any time, parents can view current grade information as well as information from previous marking periods.

For more information, visit the Quick Links drop-down menu on the district homepage and select PIV – Online Grade Viewer.

Key Communicator Letters

To stay informed on the most current information regarding issues impacting the district, patrons and community members can subscribe to be a CFISD Key Communicator. The most recent Key Communicator letters from Dr. David Anthony, superintendent of schools, have discussed the move to a seven-period school day in 2008-2009, high school TAKS test exemptions, the end of the school year, and the probable change in the calendar due to TEA TAKS testing dates.

In order to subscribe to the Key Communicators via email, visit the Quick Links drop-down menu on the district homepage and select Key Communicator.

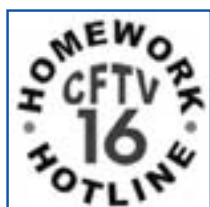
Event Notification System

The Event Notification System (ENS), implemented in 2006-2007, promotes more efficient emergency and non-emergency communication, especially after school hours.

Used by various school districts throughout the country, the system has been proven to increase school-to-home communication regarding both routine and emergency information. The ENS has the capacity to generate a large number of phone calls to parents and/or employees in a short amount of time and inform them of important district or school information. Calling capacity ranges from 6,000 to 60,000 calls per hour, depending upon the urgency level. Calls from the district are typically of an emergency nature. The system can also deliver the messages in English and/or Spanish when necessary.

CFTV Online/ CFTV Channel 16

Video-streamed broadcasts are posted on CFTV Online and aired on CFTV Cable Channel 16. CFTV offers live and pre-recorded programming produced by students and staff including Board meetings, high school graduations, the District News Show (in English and Spanish), Homework Hotline, Video News Releases, the Superintendent's Corner and a bulletin board packed with up-to-date information. The new district website has incorporated CFTV video on-demand into its new design to allow visitors the flexibility of accessing their programs of choice from the homepage.



District Publications

CFISD provides more than 30 publications including the *INSIDE Cypress-Fairbanks* newspaper, which is mailed out five times a year to Cy-Fair residents. Special online editions of the district newspaper are now being posted on the district website throughout the year. Other publications that provide important district information include the *Profile*, *District Goals and Priorities*, *State of the District*, *Board of Education*, *Pocket Facts*, *District Map* and *District Calendar*. Many publications are available in both print and electronic formats.

For more information on parental communication services, please contact the Communication Department, 10300 Jones Road, Houston, Texas, 77065, or call 281-807-8939.