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# NDBSL UPDATE

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JANUARY 2013

## Annual NDBSL Member Meeting, January 12, 2013



North Dallas Bulldog Support League will hold its annual member meeting on January 12 in the North Dallas High School Library. All members and Bulldog supporters are welcome to attend. Focus of the meeting will be to elect new Board members to a two-year term and to make plans for Spring 2013. Meeting begins promptly at 10:00 and will end by noon.

NDBSL supports academic and student needs through monetary and volunteer contributions. This year our organization has already contributed to the summer project – Fresh Start – supporting beginning freshmen as they hone their reading, writing, math and science skills. We also purchased shoes for the band (students had uniforms but were marching in tennis and street shoes) and gave money to support student incentives for grades and attendance. If you wonder why an organization like NDBSL is needed, be sure to read the article in this newsletter about homeless students at NDHS.

Looking forward, we have already secured enough funds to continue the summer school initiative. NDBSL plans to hold an old-fashioned sock hop fundraiser as well as continue our "Own a Piece of North Dallas" activity. All members are encouraged to weigh in on suggestions to raise money and to continue to support quality academics at NDHS. We are also partnering with other ND organizations to help our alma mater.

Please join the NDBSL Board this Saturday for our annual membership meeting. Find out how each member can make a positive difference in a student's life and make a resolution now to join us in helping ND students have the best possible future.

**DON'T FORGET:**

Ms. Cleaver has requested \$5 gift cards to be used for teacher/student incentives. They can be for Starbucks, Target, Walmart, etc...just something for Ms. Cleaver to have in her desk to hand out when needed.

Bring them with you to the January meeting.



## HOMECOMING MEMORIES 2012



NDBSL Treasurer Brenda Coach and Principal Dinnah Escanilla



NDBSL officers Brenda Coach and Carol White with member (AND 1964 classmate) Tom Briscoe



North Dallas Cheerleaders

## “Homeless Learn to Rely on School”, Christina Rosales Dallas Morning News – 12/23/12

This three-page article ran in late December, focusing on students at North Dallas High School. Currently, ND counts 76 homeless students, down from 96 last school year. In November, the school offered a “drop-in center” with help of volunteers from Church of the Incarnation. Homeless students can stop by a designated classroom before school, have breakfast and receive hygiene products, coats or a sleeping bag, and staff can find out who the students are.

“We can’t help with whatever caused their homelessness,” said school principal, Dinnah Escanilla. “We can’t keep them from their family problems or from pregnancy, but we can help them get through school.”

Staff has become increasingly sensitive and supportive of the kids facing very grown up problems. “Some of these kids, you just would never be able to tell they’re homeless,” Sherrie Cleaver, Community Liaison, said. “And they’re adorable kids who just want to help their families and they want to be teenagers, experiencing high school like everybody else.”



When he was trying to attend school and care for his 2-year-old niece on his own, North Dallas High senior Ariel Sanchez turned to Rafael Rodriguez, a community liaison at North Dallas High School.

**North Dallas Bulldog  
Support League**  
PO Box 600996  
Dallas, TX 75360



**We're on the Web!**  
[www.ndbsl.org](http://www.ndbsl.org)

### REMEMBER!

#### Dates:

Jan. 12 – NDBSL Member Meeting  
March 4-7 – TAKS/STAAR testing  
March 11 – 15 – Spring Break

#### News:

Varsity Tennis Team is 2012 11-4A District Champion  
Read the article about NDBSL at the Booster Club's IHigh Site:  
[www.ihigh.com/ndhsboosterclub/article\\_145185.html](http://www.ihigh.com/ndhsboosterclub/article_145185.html)

## Bulldogs Focus on Student Success

The battle to move North Dallas High School to the Acceptable category is a fight that Dinnah Escanilla, Principal, is willing to wage. Attendance, graduation rates, grades and students participating in rigorous subject areas have all increased in the past two years. However, the student population must master the Texas Accountability testing requirements and meet the Federal requirements of Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). Because of the transient nature of the student population and a growing number of homeless students, North Dallas is focusing on the following student success initiatives:

- Highly qualified and effective teachers in every class (no vacancies at the present)
- Double blocked math and reading classes for identified students
- MED School – after school program for students who need extra help in math and reading
- Credit Recovery
- Tuesday/Thursday/Saturday School
- SAT/ACT/AP Prep sessions and classes
- Sheltered classes for Limited English Proficient students (English immersion)
- Daily journal writing in all classes
- Academy and Cluster planning periods for teachers
- Teacher Achievement Program (TAP) – coaching, support and mentoring for teachers

NDBSL is helping North Dallas with several of these initiatives, including financial support of MED School and attendance and grade incentives for students. Our goal is to continue to improve our fundraising efforts so that we can support more of these programs.