

Good evening,

This is Jim Wells, Principal of Cypress Creek High School.

I would like to welcome all of our guests to our annual Cy-Creek High School Parent Night. The staff of Cypress Creek is very pleased to host you. Tonight is an excellent opportunity for you to meet your student's teachers, to receive a little information about the courses that they are enrolled in, and to get a sense of what their day might look like. This year you have the added treat of witnessing first hand some of the positive changes that have taken place to our facility over the summer. Our new construction and redesign project is the work of SHW Architects and our general contractor Satterfield and Pontikes. The project, which was a result of the 2004 bond issue, will continue for one more year, and during that time, Cy-Creek will continue to be transformed into a state of the art facility, offering our students many new educational advantages as well as a pleasant learning environment.

As you know, however, a beautiful facility alone does not make an outstanding school. For years (long before these improvements were planned) Cypress Creek High School has been one of the most outstanding schools in the Cy-Fair district, the state and the nation, gaining acclaim for many academic, extracurricular, and athletic program and achievements over the years.

Last year was no exception. In the spring of 2009 Cypress Creek High School received distinction as a Recognized campus from the Texas Education Agency based on our 2009 TAKS scores. Additionally, we were chosen for America's top high schools for the fifth time out of six years by making Newseek Magazine's challenge index list. This placed us among the top 1500 hundred high schools in the country based on our Advanced Placement participation rate for 2009.

Additionally, Cypress Creek High School was ranked in the top tier of Houston area high schools by the Houston Based non-profit organization, Children at Risk, last year. Cy-Creek ranked 25th out of 131 Houston area high schools. The ranking was based on indicators that included TAKS scores, composite ACT and Sat scores, percent of students demonstrating college proficiency, percent of students enrolled in Dual credit and Advanced Placement courses, and percent of students graduating and completing the state's recommended high school plan. Cypress Creek High School also produced the highest number of National Merit Finalists of all ten high schools in the Cy -Fair school district last year.

In 2008-09 our extracurricular programs were once again highly competitive in district 15-5A against very tough competition. Last year we captured six team district championships in football, girls' soccer, softball, boys' track and field, boys' swimming and girls' swimming, not to mention numerous individual championships and team play off appearances. Our outstanding band and choir programs received the highest UIL Sweepstakes honors and our orchestra program received Superior ratings. We had numerous other individual and group honors in speech, art,

photography, theater and journalism rounding out an outstanding fine arts program. The 2008-2009 school year might sound like it was an all time banner year, but it was typical of any year in Cy-Creek's 33 year history. Why have I taken the time tonight to share all of these things with you? Because the Cy-Creek High School community is a great community and it deserves the recognition! We have great parents, great kids, and a very dedicated and talented staff. We are looking forward to another great year of accomplishments, and to graduating our 30th class from Cypress Creek High School in May.

Before we resume, I would like to mention a few house keeping details. I've been asked to let you know that yearbooks will be on sell through our journalism department in the large commons, and you may also purchase Cougar spirit attire from our cheerleaders as well during and after class visitation.

We would welcome any parent to also join our Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS) program this year. There is a sign up and information pamphlet also in the large commons. By signing up, you will also receive the VIPs e-news that keeps you abreast of happenings here at Cy-Creek.

Another way to stay informed is to access our campus website through the CFISD site at cfisd.net. This year we will be posting our parent newsletter on our campus site instead of mailing it. We also have a new way for you to stay connected with our staff. You may go to our school website and click on the FACULTY link at the top. It will connect you to a faculty directory. Each of our teachers and professional staff members has a web page this year. Teachers now have their own online calendar and a resource page where they can post notes that students might have missed while absent or other classroom files. We encourage you to check your child's teacher's web pages!

You will also want to sign up for access to our Parent Internet Viewer (PIV) to keep up with your student's attendance, grades, and assignments. This information can be obtained by contacting Mrs. Carol Gibson in the director of Instruction's office to obtain a log in and pin if you do not have one from last year.

Tonight you will be attending each class for nine minutes with a nine minute passing period . We will have staff members and students from several students organizations including HOPE, Asia Club, National Honor Society, Student Council, HOSA and Key Club to point you in the right direction.

One last item, because time is limited, we would like to ask you to please refrain from engaging teachers in conversations regarding your student's progress tonight. You may e-mail, or call to schedule an appointment for that purpose.

As always, we look forward to partnering with you this year in order to provide your student the best education possible. We hope that you have an enjoyable evening!