

Dear Cougar Parents,

We hope that the first two grading periods have been successful for you and your student(s). As we approach the end of the first semester and the holiday season, Cypress Creek High School would like to invite you to come witness some of the outstanding talent of our student body. Our holiday concerts will occur on the following dates: orchestra-December 4, band-December 11, and choir-December 13. We hope that you can join us to help you get into the holiday spirit. Afterwards, the second semester will be here before we know it; and we will be moving full scale into our building renovation by early spring. On Tuesday, October 23, the Cy-Creek administration and SHW Architects shared the renovation plans and subsequent educational programming for Cypress Creek High School at a meeting scheduled for the entire Cy-Creek community. If you would like more information on our plans or progress, you may access Cy-Creek's website at <http://schools.cfishd.net/cycreek/index.html> and go to construction update.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge many of our Cougars for their outstanding performance in the 2007 National Merit Scholarship Program based on their 2006 PSAT scores. Their names are listed with their level of accomplishment on page 5 of this newsletter. We had 8 students qualify as National Merit semi-finalists, placing them in contention with only 16,000 other students nationwide out of 1.4 million participants. They will continue in the competition and will be vying for National Merit finalist status and will be notified in the spring. We are also proud to announce that we have 13 students who qualified as National Merit Commended students placing them in the top 34,000 students out of the original 1.4 million. Additionally, 6 students were recognized in the National Hispanic Recognition Program. Only 4,000 Hispanic students were recognized out of 196,000 nationally who took the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. Rounding out the honors, we have two African American students who were recognized as National Achievement Scholars. This designation places them among the top African American performers nationally who participated in the PSAT in 2006. Congratulations to all of these students, their teachers, and their families.

In closing, here's wishing you and your families a very safe, enjoyable holiday season. We are all looking forward to 2008 and all of the exciting possibilities that it will bring.

Respectfully,

Jim Wells