



Office of
Community Relations

North East Independent School District

8961 TESORO DRIVE - SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78217

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact:

Chrissie Kolb
210-407-0553
210-262-5295 (cell)
Heather Willden
210-407-0040
817-360-7807 (cell)

MEDIA ADVISORY

- What:** Hidden Forest Elementary School will host Westward Ho!, a re-enactment of the early pioneers and settlers moving west.
- Who:** All third-graders will participate in the re-enactment, guided by their teachers along the trek.
- When:** March 10, 2011, 1 – 2 p.m.
- Where:** Hidden Forest ES, 802 Silver Spruce
Media will need to check in at the school's front office. School staff will identify students with permission to be filmed, photographed or interviewed.
- Why:** In culmination of their study on the Westward Movement, Hidden Forest third-graders will participate in a re-enactment of pioneers moving west, called Westward Ho! The students will be divided into "families" and given new names as they begin their trek west. Cards will be dealt along the way with some not-so-great circumstances they may have to endure. The trail ends around the chuck wagon with beans, biscuits and sing-a-long.
- Visuals:** About 100 third-graders and their teachers will be dressed in pioneer-garb for the trail drive. The "pioneers" will travel as families across the plains to Oregon—the school's back parking lot. They will each have wagons, and authentic chuck wagon dishes and tools. Each family will stake their claim to land and set up camp. They will gather their water from a pretend well and feast on biscuits and beans prepared by the students the day prior to the event. The families will gather around the faux campfire and sing songs.

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About NEISD:

North East ISD has more than 70 schools and magnet programs with a fall 2010 enrollment of more than 66,000 students. NEISD employs more than 8,000 people. It is the second largest public school district in the San Antonio area and the eighth largest in the state. Under the Texas accountability system, 87 percent of NEISD schools are rated Exemplary or Recognized. The district earned Recognized for the third year in a row. More information about NEISD can be found at www.neisd.net.