



Office of  
Community Relations

# North East Independent School District

8961 TESORO DRIVE - SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78217

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

November 10, 2009

## **Contact:**

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## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

- What:** North East ISD will host its first Mental Wellness Fair, a free event open to the community to provide families with information on mental illnesses that affect middle and high school students.
- Who:** NEISD students, parents, and nurses; local physicians; and representatives from the Rape Crisis Center, Palmer Drug Abuse and Prevention Program, Child Bereavement Center, National Association of Mental Illness and the Eating Disorder Center of San Antonio.
- When:** November 12, 2009, 5-8 p.m. Dinner: 5-6 p.m.; Educational sessions: 6-8 p.m.
- Where:** Johnson High School, 23203 Bulverde Rd., Cafeteria and Science Wing. **Media will need to ask accompanying parents for permission to film/interview/photograph students.**
- Why:** The fair is part of NEISD's wellness initiative to provide a healthy environment throughout the district. During educational sessions, physicians and counselors will help families identify and work through teen issues such as depression, eating disorders and addictive behaviors; learn the signs of "typical" or "troubled" behavior; and receive support from school and community organizations.
- Visuals:** Health experts will give presentations to identify and treat mental illnesses and vendors will have information booths set up. Free information and goodie bags will also be available to all participants.
- Other:** According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness and the U.S. Surgeon General, 10 percent of children and adolescents in the U.S. suffer from serious emotional and mental disorders causing functional impairment in their day-to-day lives at home and school. Less than half of them ever receive any mental health services. The Academy for Eating Disorders, a global association, states that one in 20 young women has an eating disorder, and the largest population treated for bulimia are adolescents and young adults.

**View this online at [www.neisd.net/ComRel/MediaCenter.html](http://www.neisd.net/ComRel/MediaCenter.html).**

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### About NEISD:

North East ISD has close to 70 schools and magnet programs with a fall 2009 enrollment of more than 65,000 students. NEISD employs more than 9,000 people. It is the second largest public school district in the San Antonio area and the eighth largest in the state. NEISD has 28 Exemplary schools, and is a Recognized district. More information about NEISD can be found at [www.neisd.net](http://www.neisd.net).