

Westward Ho! Hidden Forest Elementary School Third Graders Reenact Journey
Students to Celebrate a Day in the Life of a Real Pioneer on March 8th

San Antonio, Texas, March 5, 2007 - Westward Ho! Third grade students attending North East Independent School District's Hidden Forest Elementary School will reenact a day in the life of a real pioneer traveling through the American West in the expeditions of the 1840s. This special event will be held Thursday, March 8, 2007 at 1:15 p.m. and features a wagon train around the school campus culminating with a campfire-type meeting at the top of the hill where children, in pioneer-themed clothing, will recite poems and sing songs from that time in history.

To prepare for their journey, each third grade class created small teams of students to represent real pioneer families. For several weeks, these adventurous groups of student families have planned their on-campus outing, built their own covered wagons and rounded up supplies, including appropriate clothing and personal utensils—aluminum plates, tin cups, and metal spoons, cloth napkins, and other accessories representative of gear from the 1840s.

“The children have had so much fun learning about the way the pioneers lived and sacrificed,” said Jean Ann Pace, Third Grade Teacher. “They also have demonstrated leadership skills, decision-making and teamwork as they planned the annual *Westward Ho!* covered-wagon train.”

The wagon train begins at 1:15 p.m. on the basketball courts at Hidden Forest Elementary School. For additional information or directions to the school, please contact Hidden Forest Elementary School Administrative Office at (210) 491-8425.

About Hidden Forest Elementary School

Hidden Forest Elementary School opened in 1978 and is located at 802 Silver Spruce in the Hidden Forest neighborhood located off W. Bitters Rd. School principal is Karin Stanley; Assistant Principal is Scott Cales. Each spring semester, third grade teachers take students through a comprehensive study of pioneer life that includes social studies, language arts, history, geography, art, and music curriculum. The student-led pioneer families work together to plan costumes and choose activities, as well as build a covered wagon and plan a cookout for the exciting journey around the school campus.

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