

Houston & Texas News

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Education Briefs

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4 area districts on music 'best' list

Four Houston-area schools cracked the list of "Best 100 Communities for Music Education in America," according to a recent survey by two trade associations.

Katy, Klein, Pearland and Pasadena were among the dozen Texas districts on the list. School systems earn their spots on the list — which has been compiled for eight consecutive years — for showing a commitment to quality music education.

Thousands of parents, teachers, administrators and community leaders from across the country participated in the Web-based survey with detailed questions about funding, enrollment, student-teacher ratios, music class participation, instruction time and facilities.

Responses were verified with district officials.

For the complete list, visit www.amc-music.org.

Public can air views on 'No Child' law

Anyone with an opinion about the No Child Left Behind federal education law is invited to a meeting from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday at Reagan High School, 413 E. 13th.

The hearing, organized by The Houston A+ Challenge, will begin with facilitated discussions about some of the law's key components — such as teacher quality and student testing — as well as school funding and public engagement.

A panel discussion about the future of the five-year-old law, which is up for congressional reauthorization this year, will follow.

Comments from the hearing and others nationwide will be reported to lawmakers this spring.

Sponsors include Parents for Public Schools, Communities in Schools, the Greater Houston Partnership and the Houston Independent School District.

For more information, visit www.houstonaplus.org or call 713-658-1881.

HISD recruiting in specialty areas

The Houston Independent School District is seeking certified and graduating students who are interested in teaching math, science, special education, Spanish, bilingual education or English as a second language.

The district is holding a job fair Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Hattie Mae White Educational Support Center, 4400 W. 18th.

Applicants should bring their resume, teaching certificate, transcripts, references, teacher or student evaluations, TExES scores, plus a copy of a flier found on HISD's Web site, www.hisd.org.

For more information, call 713-556-7373.

Female speaker will make history at Aggie Muster rite

Brooke Leslie Rollins will be the first woman to address fellow Aggies at Texas A&M University's annual Muster ceremony on April 21.

Muster is A&M's remembrance of students and former students who have died during the past year.

Rollins will speak at the College Station ceremony, which is one of 300 held worldwide.

Rollins, a 1994 graduate who served as student body president during her senior year, is president of the Texas Public Policy Foundation, an Austin-based research institute.

She previously served as policy director and deputy general counsel and ethics adviser for Gov. Rick Perry.

Garland will be dean at Baylor seminary

David Garland, a New Testament scholar and author, will be the next dean of the George W. Truett Theological Seminary at Baylor University, replacing the retiring Paul Powell on June 1.

Garland joined the seminary's faculty in 1997 as professor of Christian Scriptures and later was appointed associate dean for academic affairs.

Before coming to Baylor, the world's largest Baptist university, Garland taught for more than 20 years at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

He received his master of divinity and doctoral degrees from the seminary and also completed postgraduate work at universities in Germany and Australia.

Powell will remain involved with the seminary as special assistant to the dean.


Attorney general plans town hall on Internet safety

Houston parents can learn tips from Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott on how to keep their children safe on the Internet at a town hall meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday at Dulles High School, 550 Dulles in Sugar Land.

Abbott will detail how parents can protect their children from sexual predators on Web sites such as MySpace and Xanga, as well as on various chat rooms and blogs.

For more information, call the attorney general's office at 800-252-8011.



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