

NORTHAMPTON ELEMENTARY POINTS OF PRIDE

1. ***A strong instructional program***

- a qualified, professional staff
- aligned, relevant curriculum
- up-to-date instructional materials
- quality staff development to enhance the instructional program
- use of technology and other resources
- special programs - REACH Program, Gifted/Talented Program, Resource Services, Co-Teaching, English as a Second Language, Bilingual, Curriculum Mastery
- specialized staff including a counselor, reading specialist, TAKS specialist, diagnostician, school psychologist, occupational therapist, physical therapist, speech therapist, nurse, and librarian.

2. ***A strong volunteer program*** - The following areas are some ways in which our school volunteers enhance our school program:

- Computer Assistants
- Library Helpers/Book Fair
- Volunteer Readers
- Room Mothers/coordinate crafts, parties
- Music Appreciation Week/Symphony Docent Program
- Mini-museum of art work
- Art Appreciation Week
- Helping Hands/Volunteer Workroom
- Field Day Helpers
- Resource Speakers/Presenters
- Parent Faculty Organization (PFO) (provides funds, coordinates Cultural Arts Programs)
- Science Exploration

3. ***Positive School Climate***

- Principals' Proud Club - positive reinforcement for good behavior
- Golden Horseshoe Award
- "A" and "A/B" Honor Rolls
- social skills curriculum
- recognition of student and staff birthdays
- recognition for achievement in academics and in attendance
- mentor program (staff and Klein Oak High School students)
- S.H.A.D.E. (drug free club)
- school safety patrol
- food drives to help our families in need
- school parties at holiday time
- student participation in morning announcements

4. ***Communication with Staff and Parents***

- Welcome Center in front hall with parent/newcomer information
- All staff have email address and phone number
- monthly calendars
- Colt Capers School Newsletter and grade level newsletters
- Wednesday folders

- progress reports and report cards
- PFO meetings
- PFO monthly newsletter
- Constant Contact (Email)
- open-door atmosphere to administrators' offices for staff and parents
- Campus Instructional Development Council
- Campus Improvement Plan
- Open House twice a year
- parent/teacher conferences
- Klein School News
- campus and district web pages
- IRIS – Immediate Response Information System

5. *Appreciation for our students, staff, and parents*

- volunteer appreciation
- PFO Board appreciation luncheon
- students' lunches with the principals
- Kid Appreciation events
- breakfast/lunch/snacks provided periodically for staff
- Teacher Appreciation Week
- Staff appreciation luncheons throughout the year
- Nurse Appreciation Day
- Secretary Appreciation Day
- Stress-free Days
- Fifth Grade Appreciation Day and party
- Principals' Proud Club End of Year Party

6. *Staff Longevity* - at least 50% of the staff has been at Northampton longer than ten years.

7. *Family Atmosphere* - Our staff works together to provide support and assistance to each other in personal and school-related matters. Teachers are actively involved in the decision-making processes regarding curriculum and instructional organization.

8. *Technology Efforts* - We are constantly keeping abreast of the latest technological advances. Technology is embedded in our curriculum in all subject areas. Every classroom has five computers with Internet access, a projector, a Starboard, E-Instruction, and a document camera. Our computer lab is equipped with 29 computers including a teacher station with a projector. In addition, there are two mobile computer labs equipped with laptop computers.. Overhead calculators to accompany class sets of calculators are used regularly to promote technology in the classroom. There is a teacher at each grade level who serves as a Technology Mentor and models the use of technology and offers staff training as needed.

9. *Special Activities*

- Cultural Arts Programs
- Chess Club
- Colt Chorale - Choir for fourth and fifth graders
- End of Year Awards Assemblies for grades 3, 4, and 5
- Library activities - Children's Book Week, visiting authors, Hats Off to Reading, Character Dress-up Day, Bluebonnet Books, Accelerated Reading Program
- D.A.R.E. - Drug Awareness and Resistance Education in fifth grade

- No Place for Hate activities
- Destination Imagination
- Multi-cultural Celebrations - second grade classes
- Taste of Texas Celebration - fourth grade classes
- Snowy Day and Beach Day - kindergarten classes
- Field Days in May
- Kite Day - fourth grade classes
- Grandparents' Day - second grade
- Clifford's Birthday – first grade
- Fire Prevention Program - Spring Volunteer Fire Department
- Red Ribbon Week activities emphasize prevention of illegal drug use
- Spelling bee – campus and district competition
- Drug awareness activities and programs
- WHO Program (We Help Ourselves)
- Go Texan Day/Annual Hoedown
- Rodeo Art Contest
- 100th Day Celebration – kindergarten
- Grade level programs

10. *Our people (we saved the best for last)!*

- The best students, parents, teachers, assistants, and secretaries in the world!