

This Free E-Book is brought to you by Natural-Aging.com.

100% Effective Natural Hormone Treatment
Menopause, Andropause And Other Hormone Imbalances
Impair Healthy Healing In People Over The Age Of 30!

Dallas Schools Focus On Student Safety

By Patricia Hawke

Dallas Schools are dedicated to providing the best education possible, while keeping the children

safe. Unfortunately, our world has changed in the past few years. It is no longer as safe as it once was to visit other countries, to fly from one city to another (especially the truly large and/or important cities, such as Washington D.C.), or to even go to school, especially in a large metropolitan city like Dallas. Terrorists living within the borders of the United States have become a real threat. In Iraq, terrorists think nothing of bombing schools, so why would they restrain themselves here in America. This disregard of human life creates a heightened sense of fear, especially for our children. Dallas schools are doing something about it.

Ever since September 11, 2001, and the increase in student shootings within some U.S. schools, Dallas schools, under the Dallas Independent School District (DISD), have been instituting measures and programs to ensure they remain security focused and safety aware.

While allowing children and school personnel to go about their daily lives in as normal fashion as possible, Dallas Schools are maintaining a heightened awareness of any suspicious activities in order to lessen the fears of the children while adding greater safety and protection for both the children and school personnel. They have enlisted the help of every school employee — security officers, teachers, principals, administrators, custodial staff, and maintenance crews, as well as parents and students. Each has been asked to be vigilant of anyone who enters school property, including buildings and sporting events. They are asked to report any suspicious activity or concerns to the proper authorities or school personnel.

After 9/11, the Department of Homeland Security in Washington D.C. implemented our current system of security awareness. A yellow alert means the security threat is elevated, an orange alert means it is high, and a red alert (the highest) means it is severe. In the event of a red alert, Dallas schools will monitor recommendations from the federal, state and local law enforcement agencies. From these recommendations, they will take the appropriate actions to ensure the safety of the children. They will provide updated information concerning their intended and taken actions to parents and the community through the local television stations, radio stations, and at their web site.

Dallas Schools Focus On Student Safety

Dallas schools currently provide counselors to assist children, who have any related fears or anxieties. Additionally, all of the Dallas schools have been asked by the DISD to carefully review their campus level emergency plans, as well as the school board's emergency operations manual.

Dallas schools are putting the safety of your children at the top of their priority issues list. You can be assured that your child is able to focus on each school day of learning within a safe and secure educational environment.

Patricia Hawke is a staff writer for Schools K–12, providing free, in–depth reports on all U.S. public and private K–12 schools. Patricia has a nose for research and writes stimulating news and views on school issues. For more on Dallas schools visit

<http://www.schoolsk-12.com/Texas/Dallas/index.html>

Three Dallas Schools Make Newsweek's Best 100 High Schools List - Tag High School Is #1!

By Patricia Hawke

In their May 8, 2006, issue, Newsweek listed their Best 100 Public Schools across the nation. They ranked the schools using a ratio of the number of Advanced Placement (AP) and/or International Baccalaureate tests taken by all students within a school, divided by the number of graduating seniors. The 2006 list was based on the 2004–2005 school year. Their aim is to acknowledge those schools that do the best job of preparing average students for college, regardless of their economic background.

Three Dallas schools made the list with one taking top honors. Dallas schools' Highland Park High School weighed in at number 18 with a ratio of 4.735. Dallas schools' Science and Engineering Magnet took honors at number eight with a ratio of 6.275. Dallas schools' Talented and Gifted (TAG) High School had a 14.128 ratio and ranked number ONE! What an achievement for the Dallas schools.

Located near downtown Dallas in an impoverished neighborhood, TAG exemplifies how a school can meet the Dallas schools' goals of providing an excellent education for each and every child. The racially mixed student body receives a high–level of learning that challenges each child to achieve. TAG focuses on getting students into college through AP courses, providing the same opportunities to its students as the wealthy private schools.

Some educators refer to schools like Dallas schools' TAG as a boutique school, catering to special interest while ignoring course variety. Educators, including those in the Dallas schools, have been demanding reform for over 10 years; yet, they cannot agree on what works. In the `80s, the thought was to make all students college ready through a rigorous core curriculum. In the `90s, school choice and testing became the norm. Now, some are calling for dumping the entire public school system; while others see smaller schools, class size, and a boutique focus as optimum.

Even when a plan is working as it is in Dallas schools' TAG High School, opposition still rears its ugly head. Some believe that the smaller school loses the social acclimation that the larger high schools provide. They say that maintaining quality is difficult and the coursework lacks substance. Proponents

Dallas Schools Focus On Student Safety

of Dallas schools' TAG say that these Dallas Schools' students get more teacher and counselor attention and the children are less likely to get lost in the crowd, which gives the students an edge.

TAG is one of the Dallas schools that is committed to helping students achieve their best, encouraging each and every student to aim high. They stress the importance of attending college and try to make the AP as much a part of students' lives as music or hanging out with their friends. While only 30 percent of high school students across the nation take any AP courses at all, each TAG student is required to take at least one, with most students taking more.

Dallas schools' TAG and other boutique schools like it have increased the number of minorities taking AP courses, increasing their chances to attend college. According to the College Board, which administers the AP, four times as many Hispanics and three times as many Blacks took AP courses in 2005, as compared to 10 years ago.

Newsweek cited Dallas schools' TAG student Fanny Frausto, age 18, who has taken 16 AP courses and scored high on many of them. She scored a five on her final three-hour exam. Her transcript is definitely atypical for a public high school student, showing a seemingly impossible schedule of

classes. She attends MIT on scholarship in the fall of 2006.

Dallas schools' teachers at TAG go the extra mile for their students. They assist the youth in learning to meet deadlines, constructing essays and organizing their time, managing workloads, and dealing with the tension and nervousness students may feel during testing.

Schools that consistently have high achieving students and programs were not included in Newsweek's list. Their ratio formula only measures test participation, rather than testing success. Also, due to inconsistencies, the formula does not include drop out rates or state testing scores.

Patricia Hawke is a staff writer for Schools K–12, providing free, in–depth reports on all U.S. public and private K–12 schools. Patricia has a nose for research and writes stimulating news and views on school issues. For more information on Dallas schools visit

<http://www.schoolsk-12.com/texas/dallas/index.html>



This Free E-Book has been brought to you by Natural-Aging.com.

[100% Effective Natural Hormone Treatment](#)
Menopause, Andropause And Other Hormone Imbalances
Impair Healthy Healing In People Over The Age Of 30!