



# GOOSE CREEK

## CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

### Highlands Elementary raises \$14,787 for Heart Association

The students and staff of Highlands Elementary raised more than \$14,000 this year for the American Heart Association.

Highlands Elementary has for the past 30 years been one of the state's most generous and giving contributors to the American Heart Association through Jump Rope for Heart. A national fundraising program, Jump Rope for Heart promotes physical activity, heart healthy living, and community service to children.

Highlands Elementary has consistently been one of the top schools for raising money for the American Heart Association in the area and state, said event organizer and PE teacher Lindy Orr.

"Highlands Elementary students, parents, staff and community are the most giving and supportive group of people! We always have great support from all of them, and the American Heart Association always love to come to Highlands Elementary to receive their big, fat check," she said.

On Friday, Feb. 4, 325 students participated in the annual Jump Rope for Heart event. The event was held throughout the day with second-graders through fifth-graders jumping in teams. This year, Highlands Elementary raised \$14,787, up nearly \$1,200 from last year's total.

Highlands Elementary third-graders raised the most, \$4,176, followed by the fifth grade class with \$3,478. Fourth-graders raised – \$3,255, and the second-graders contributed \$2,121 to the fundraiser.

The top 10 student fund-raisers for 2011 are:

- Nathaniel McElroy-\$1,420 (school record!)
- Allison Estetter-\$420
- Summer Miller-\$355
- Mi'Unique Nichols-\$345
- Blayne Challenger-\$300
- Halle Woodard-\$238
- Luke Mitchell-\$220
- Caleb Purvis-\$206
- Kristopher Graves and Cierra Dean-\$195
- Kaylin Strouhal-\$180

The students earn prizes from the Heart Association according to how much they raise. There are eight levels of prizes starting at, as little as \$5 raised, up to \$1000. For example, for \$5 raised, students will be rewarded with a mini-sport water bottle and for \$40 raised with a Heart Association T-shirt.

The staff will also fulfill incentives promised to the students if certain dollar values were reached.



The top fundraisers of the Highlands Elementary School Jump Rope for Heart per grade level are shown holding their \$50 Wal-mart cards they earned for the hard work. In the front row, from left, are Nathaniel McElroy, third grade leader/school wide leader raising \$1,420 (a school record!) and Blayne Challenger, second grade leader raising \$300. In the back row are Susan Maris, P.E. aide, Cindy Creel, P.E. teacher/coordinator, Summer Miller, fourth grade leader raising \$355, Allison Estetter, fifth grade leader raising \$420, and Lindy Orr, P.E. teacher/coordinator.

The students had some incentives for certain dollar amounts raised. If they hit \$11,000 they earn three "free-choice" days in P.E. If they hit \$12,000 they will see some select teachers participate in some "Minute to Win It" challenges at our Jump Rope for Heart Celebration on Friday, May 13 for the whole school to enjoy!

If they hit \$13,000, some select teachers will challenge one another in a contest while wearing an inflatable belly bumper!

The last incentive the students reached was for \$14,000 where all of the male teachers at Highlands Elementary will perform as the "Totally Rad Rappers!"

These teacher participating incentives will all occur during the assembly.

"The kiddos are totally looking forward to all this fun, while understanding this is getting to happen because they were instrumental in helping others," said Orr.

Home of the Hawks, Highlands Elementary is one of nine state-rated "Exemplary" campuses in Goose Creek CISD.

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