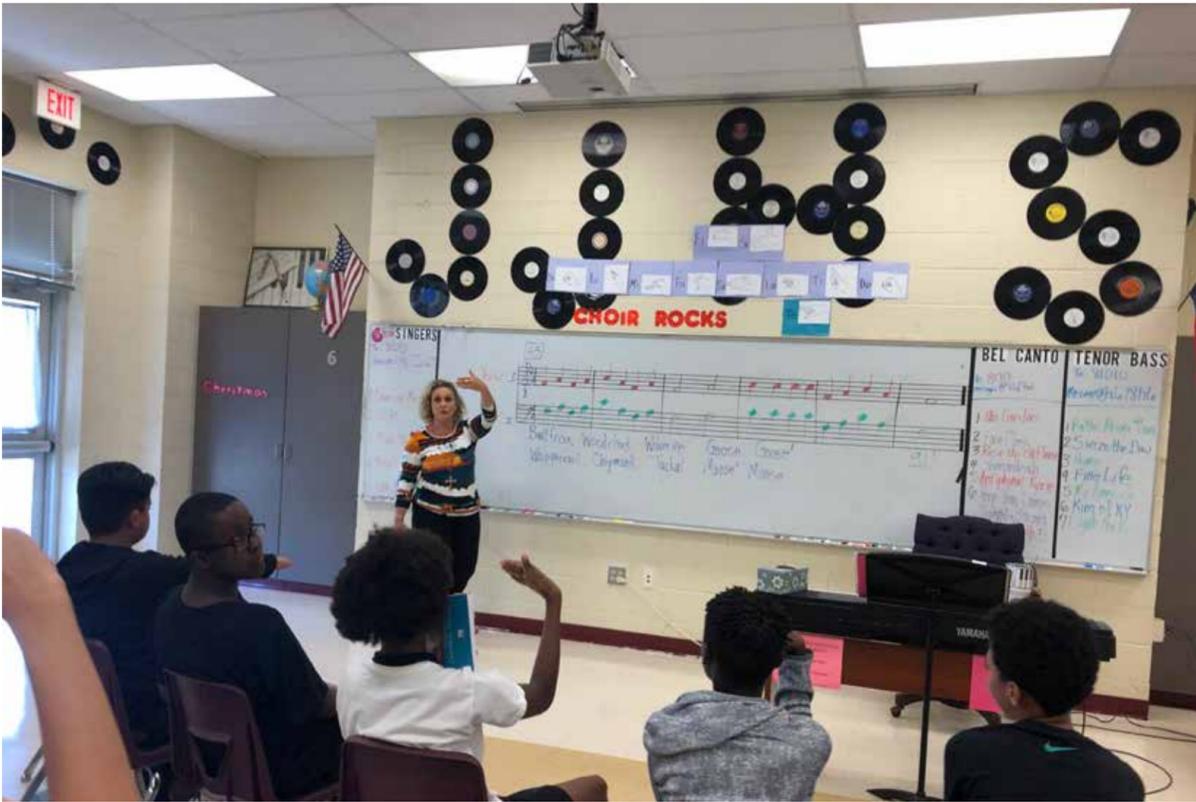
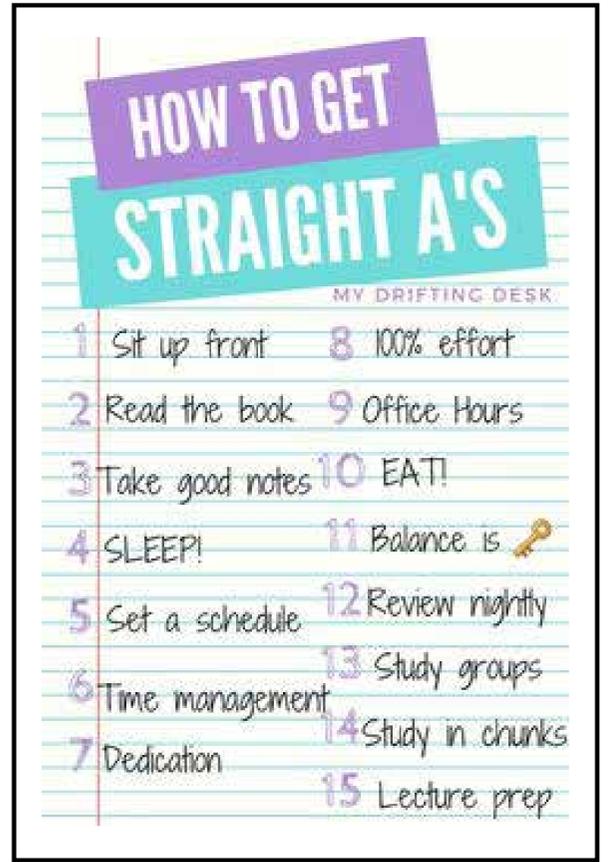


BULLDOG BEACON



LAAAAAAAAA Jefferson Junior High choir teacher Jennifer Rich teaches 6th and 7th grade choir students how to recognize and perform different notes during class last week.



Conservation Leadership Team Explores Caddo Lake

Collins Academy's 2019-2020 Conservation Leadership Team kicked off environmental inquiry activities on August 28th by visiting Caddo Lake. The Jefferson High School group, composed of Ms. Alma Rivera's Honors Chemistry Class, got an up close look at the irreplaceable resource, monitored river and backwater areas for water quality, and learned about efforts to control Giant Salvinia and other invasive aquatic species.



The group's first investigation involved collecting accurate water quality data at a river location and comparing results with data from a backwater site at Carter's Lake. Students expected to find better water at the deeper site. Results supported their hypothesis by showing warmer water and lower dissolved oxygen at Carters Lake.

Entering Carney Canal, Tour Guide Ron Hollomon (foreground) of Captain Ron's Swamp Tours, describes Caddo Lake's history & environmental characteristics to this year's Conservation Leadership Team.



to attack and control its spread, and production of a biocontrol measure, the Giant Salvinia Weevil.

(Above) Speight works Tony as he follows the scent trail from Zebra mussels to its source.

Lead scientist Laura Speight teaches the Conservation Leadership Team about production of weevils.

This year's team (Bottom, left to right): Ms. Alma Rivera, Caden Whatley, Mekhi Powell, Zoe Scott, Avery Keller,

Caden Ruts, Aliseo Almodovar, Trevor Runnels, and Karen Wales

The third stop of the morning was at the Weevil Laboratory located adjacent to BCA's greenhouses. Here, Speight introduced Tony, the invasive species service dog, explained training techniques, and then demonstrated how the friendly Golden Retriever uses its keen sense of smell to locate invasive Zebra mussels.

Inside the lab, Speight explained more about Giant Salvinia's only known natural predator, *Cyrtobagous salviniae*, and showed how weevils are separated from the alien invader and debris when counted. Team members also got to look at weevils under stereo microscopes. Students were also invited to volunteer to help distribute weevils to various parts of the lake under attack by the noxious weed.

Lead scientist Laura Speight teaches the Conservation Leadership Team about production of weevils.



Team members use electronic probes to gather data at Carter's Lake.

The Morely Hudson Weevil Greenhouses operated by the Caddo Biocontrol Alliance (CBA) at Uncertain was the second stop. Wildlife Biologist and Giant Salvinia eradication scientist Laura Speight described the monster weed's life cycle and exponential growth rate, how the CBA works with partners



Collins Academy and the Conservation Leadership Team thank Captain Ron's Swamp Tours, the Caddo Biocontrol Alliance for providing resources and valid information, and special thanks to Laura Speight for her great instruction.

Free Junior Golf Clinic in Longview

A free junior golf clinic is being held for boys and girls ages 5 to 12 at Alpine Target Golf on September 7 from 10 A.M. to noon.

This is a great opportunity to have your child introduced to golf for free. Plus any child needing a golf club will be given a free golf club for them to keep.

Each participant will receive free instruction on putting, chipping and full swing.

Any boy or girl who has played some golf can refresh their game for no cost by attending this clinic.

Register by calling 903-497-0078 or on the web at:

<https://www.thefirstteepineywoods.org/free-junior-clinic/>

Accountability Ratings

Jefferson ISD will host a community/public meeting on September 10, 2019 at 5pm in the Administration Building Board Room to discuss district and campus Accountability ratings. Public is invited to attend.



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