

CAMPUS SNAPSHOT

Written by SHETYE CYPHER

WEST MEMORIAL JUNIOR HIGH

Striving for Excellence the West Way

As the second oldest junior high in Katy ISD, West Memorial Junior High opened its doors to a growing community in January of 1976. At present, with approximately 800 students and 56 teachers, WMJH is a school with a smaller and more personal feel. The school pulls its attendance from Cimar-ron Elementary and West Memorial Elementary, and as stu-dents continue with their education, they will attend Katy High School and a few will attend Taylor High School.

In the academic arena, the school has earned its kudos. This past year, the school improved in every area of the TAKS test, with the exception of 6th grade math. It also ranked in the Regional Science Olympiad and received The National Endowment for the Humanities New Picturing America Initiative. WMJH students also participated in the Sally Ride Science Festival at Rice University. In addition, the school had a student place first in the National Chemistry Week Poster Contest for the Greater Houston Area.



Principal Forney oversees 56 teachers at WMJH

"Our ultimate vision is to continue to equip our students for the future academically, behaviorally, and socially. We would like for our school to be considered a school of choice by parents and students." - *Principal Marcus D. Forney*

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ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENTS

WMJH also possesses many achievements on the athletic fields. Football 8A finished 3rd in district and finished the season 6-1. Boys Basketball 8A finished 4th in district. Boys Track 8th Grade won the Katy Junior High Invitational at Katy High School and Girls Track 7th Grade broke two all-time district records. Tennis finished 3rd in the North Zone Bracket and Golf finished 2nd in the North Zone Bracket.

“We want to improve student achievement in every area measured, become an exemplary campus as measured by the Texas Education Agency and continue to make strides in our Fine Arts/Athletic programs,” says Principal Marcus Forney.

EXTRACURRICULAR AWARDS

In recent years, WMJH has certainly excelled. They were 8th Grade District Football Champions in 2007; Science Olympiad State Winners in 2005 and 2006; had a Disney Teacher of the Year nominee in 2006 and an Inspired Teach Scholarship winner in 2007. They have won the Sweepstakes Award at UIL Contest and Sight-Reading for the Women’s Choir, 2008, and Tenor-Bass and Treble Choir, Superior rating at the Katy Choral Festival, 2008. The Concert Band won Sweepstakes in UIL Concert & Sight-reading Contest in 2007.

The choir has four All –Region Choir winners, one of which came in first for her section, and 14 Soloists all receiving Superior ratings. One large ensemble also received a rating of Superior. The various choirs have received Superior and Excellent ratings in UIL Sight Reading contests as well. The WMJH Choir was also selected to sing the National Anthem at the Harlem Globetrotters game at the Toyota Center.

The Art department also had students participate in the Katy ISD Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Art Competition, PTA Reflections, The Katy Spring Art Show and the Region 4 YAM Art competition. Honors ranged from 1st to 4th places.

With a motto of “Striving for Excellence the West Way”, WMJH continues to serve its students and work with its community in an encouraging manner. **KM**

SHETYE CYPHER is a freelance writer who has lived in Katy intermittently since 1976. She has written for several Houston based publications and is also the journalism teacher and publications advisor at Mayde Creek High School. She and her son both attended WMJH.



West Memorial is the second oldest junior high in Katy ISD



WEST MEMORIAL FAST FACTS

PRINCIPAL

Marcus Forney

ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

Shane Brummett
Charlotte Thompson

OPENED

1976

LOCATION

22311 Provincial Blvd.
in the West Memorial subdivision

COLORS

Orange and White

MASCOT

Jaguars

MOTTO

“Striving for Excellence
the West Way”



J-Unit, a student group at WMJH, held a clothing and food drive for Hurricane Ike victims

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