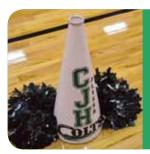


# An Educational Experience

### Cardiff Junior High helps students develop into quality leaders

Written by Kirsten Cornell | Photography courtesy of Cardiff Junior High School

Rooted in Katy history, Cardiff Junior High School (CJHS) is the namesake of the Cardiffs, one of the original families that settled the Katy area. Opening its doors a little over five years ago, they combined students from multiple campuses creating a unique education environment. "CJHS is known as one of the most culturally and economically diverse campuses in Katy," says principal Dr. Rick Hull. "Because of that, our students have learned to accept and understand their similarities, as well as their differences."



## **CJHS** Colt Classics

**Principal:** Dr. Rick Hull **Assistant principals:** Ashly Darnell, Sylinda Howard, Brandon Knapp, and Linda Wheeler School colors: Black and green Mascot: Colts Location: 3900 Dayflower Dr. Year opened: 2008 Current enrollment: 1,026



#### Student Involvement

Boasting the largest history club in the state of Texas, CJHS students take pride in their school programs and take advantage of the added enrichment they provide.

- Art Club
- Colt Business Club
- Colts Care
- History Club
- National Junior Honor Society
- New Student Welcoming Committee
- Photography Club
- Special Friends Committee
- Student Council
- Tutoring Committee
- Woodworking Club

#### **Building Leaders**

Colts as Mentors (CAMs) is a program intended to identify and develop students with leadership potential, based on staff member recommendations. "The students chosen do not have to be the strongest academically, but rather students who others look to and follow," explains Dr. Hull. The group takes an active role in student activities, as well as mentoring younger up-and-coming students in the CAMs program.

#### **Encouraging Philanthropy**

CJHS Colts are encouraged to give back to their community through food and supply drives. Two of their philanthropies are Epiphany Catholic Community and the Ballard House, which hosts families who need a place to stay while their family member receives medical treatment. "We want students to understand that no matter what their personal circumstances may be, they can always help others," Dr. Hull says.

#### Diamond in the Rough

The administration at CJHS focuses on providing their students with a solid educational experience that prepares them to be successful during their high school years and beyond. "Like a diamond cutter, we have worked to shape and polish our school," says Dr. Hull. "The result, is that we have developed a culture at our school of working hard, caring for others, and taking pride in our school."

The students echo his sentiments. "When asked, they told me, 'We want the community to know we are leaders, and we know what is expected of us," he says. "They learn from each other, and that makes them better people and a great school." **KM** 



KIRSTEN CORNELL is the lead associate editor for Katy Magazine and thinks that CJHS teacher Lisa McRae is a grade-A educator!

