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# STAR/CSF-FW Times



Helping students achieve a  
choice in education!



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## Vision Statement

The Board of Trustees of STAR Sponsorship Program, Inc./CSF FW is dedicated to increasing educational options for children in Tarrant County whose parents do not have the financial means to provide an education best suited to their children's unique needs.

We believe the well-being of the entire community is enhanced when children are given a quality education that allows them to achieve to their utmost ability. Therefore, we intend, wherever possible, to encourage partnerships with schools, parents, community organizations and concerned citizens in supporting its children to achieve the American dream.



## 8th grade graduates *Make STAR Proud*

Summer approaching is a bittersweet time for STAR/CSF as we have 29 eighth graders graduating from STAR and Children's Scholarship Fund Fort Worth.

STAR/CSF believes the education received in grades kindergarten through eighth creates a solid foundation which supports future education. The critical nature of these formative years is why

STAR/CSF Fort Worth believes providing scholarships to students in these grades is so important.

Riina is one of our eighth graders who currently attends Our Lady of Victory Catholic School. Riina has excelled academically during her seven years in STAR. Her teachers have continually praised her hard work, dedication, and modesty. In addition to

academics, Riina has been involved with sports including softball and volleyball and enjoys piano. She is also active in school activities, and takes her role as being a leader seriously. Riina will attend Paschal High School.



Mrs. Myers and Riina

## Celebrating 10 Years



Ms. Myers (middle) with STAR co-founders Paul Greenwell and Janet Carter

This year marks the tenth anniversary of STAR Sponsorship's Executive Director, Patty Myers. Ms. Myers came to STAR in 1998 with a passion for education.

During these 10 years Ms. Myers has seen many wonderful students. "What is amazing is seeing these kids begin to graduate, go to college and beyond," Ms. Myers said. "It makes me proud to be a part of their educational journey."

Her hope is to give every deserving student who walks into the office a scholarship. "I see so many families truly deserving of a scholarship-

these families want the best for their children and are willing to sacrifice to give it to them," she said. Because STAR gives partial scholarships to families, parents are still burdened with a hefty portion of their child's tuition. This, Ms. Myers believes, is part of the success of STAR. "STAR is not a hand out in any way, it is a hand up." Join us here at STAR in shouting THANK YOU!

## STAR Student Graduates from TAMS



Photo courtesy Flash Photography

Former STAR student Ly Hoang graduated from The Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science (TAMS) this May. This program is a unique residen-

tial program for high school-aged Texas students who are high achievers and interested in mathematics and science. While living on the University of North Texas (UNT) campus, students in this two-year program complete a rigorous aca-

demic curriculum of college coursework and graduate as college juniors.

While attending TAMS, Ly achieved a 3.83 cumulative GPA and is attending Rice University to complete her bachelor's degree. She plans on continuing on to medical

school to become a surgeon. Ly is especially grateful to STAR for her success. "Without STAR, my parents wouldn't have been able to give me the education that I needed to survive TAMS or be successful," Ly said.

## School Choice

This May, Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue signed into law a 100% state tax credit for donations to organizations which grant private school scholarships. With this program there are now 23 government sponsored school choice programs in 14 states and D.C.

Herbert Walberg of the CATO Institute has found "positive effects" of allowing families to choose

their child's school. He studied vouchers, charter schools, home schools, private schools and competition generally to conclude school choice results in better performing schools. Further, results from an international study of 39 countries showed higher achievement test scores in countries where school choice was prevalent. The Supreme Court ruled government-sponsored school

choice programs constitutional in 2002. Since then programs allowing the freedom to choose have proven successful. Cleveland gives publicly funded scholarships to low-income, inner-city families to attend the school of their choice; Milwaukee allows low-income parents to send their children to a participating private school within city limits. These programs are a step towards improving our system.

## letter *From a student*

I applied to the Texas Prep course during the summer, and...I am one of the many that they (Texas Wesleyan University) accepted to go to their 8 week course! Of course it is going to be like going to school again, but that's okay, it's worth it...you have done such a great job helping me learn and Reach for the STARS...Thank you!

-Maria, 7th grader

"An investment in Knowledge always gives the best return."

-Benjamin Franklin

Please let us know if you know someone who would like to sponsor a student!

Donate easily online: [www.starcsffw.org/donate.html](http://www.starcsffw.org/donate.html)

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