

Recommendations for next three elementary schools and middle school scheduled to open be ready for opening in 2012

Billy Vandeventer Middle School – to be located west of Independence, north of Rolater (will relieve Fowler and Scoggins)

Billy Thompson Vandeventer taught for 29 years total, 26 of those in FISD, before retiring in 2003. A graduate of Frisco High and valedictorian of her class in 1961, Vandeventer obtained her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of North Texas before beginning her teaching career in Carrollton-Farmers Branch. In FISD she taught fourth grade at Acker and Rogers for 16 years and math at Frisco Middle School and Staley for 10 years. Because of her skill and compassion, she was a coveted teacher in FISD – there was mutual respect and admiration between Billy and her students, parents and colleagues. Former colleague Janice Scott states that Billy was gifted in capturing her students' interest and attention and in making her teaching relevant to their lives. She also invested in the whole child, showing that she cared about students individually and helping them find success both academically and emotionally. Her passion and talent for teaching and her ability to cultivate a love of learning has kept her in the hearts and minds of former students and colleagues.

Billy Gene Phillips Elementary School – **to be located** west of Teel, south of Little River Dr., just to the south of Stafford Middle School (will relieve Robertson, Boals and portions of Carroll and Pink)

Billy Gene Phillips served on the FISD Board of Trustees from 1970-1985. During that time he served as secretary for two years, vice president for five and president for one year. He chaired the Homecoming Committee for one year in 1971 and served on the Youth Center Board for 12 years. Helping youth in other ways, he served as assistant scout master and chaired the United Way Fund campaign in this area. Other volunteer efforts include serving with the volunteer fire department for 25 years - 15 of those as chief. Those endeavors extended to helping organize and start the Collin County Fireman's Association and the North Texas Fire and Rescue Organization. He was appointed to the Housing Authority Board and also served one year of an unexpired term on the City Council. He has continued to support the youth and education in FISD, even serving for a year on the Wester Middle School Campus Improvement Team. He is a graduate of FHS - class of '52. He and Oma Lee's two sons are FHS graduates, as well.

Joyce Comstock Elementary – **to be located** east of Alma, north of Silverado, McKinney City limits (will relieve Elliott and Ogle)

Joyce Comstock was an early pioneer of special education in Frisco ISD. A mentor and role model to many in the FISD, she was *the* special education department at Frisco high school in the 80s. She went to college after her children started school and she first began teaching first grade in Indiana, where she became interested in working with special needs students in her church before programs were officially offered in public schools. Her late husband's work caused them to travel a great deal throughout their

lives so she taught in many places and at many levels before landing in this area, teaching at Wylie and Frisco. Former colleagues say one of her most beloved traits is her willingness to be involved in lives of her students. A friend of Sue Stafford, she became active in her work with helping migrant families and she was a strong advocate for her special education students. She and her husband helped students get prom dresses and tuxedos and would take them to the prom and be dance partners for the evening. Her care and compassion made her beloved by all and, although retired after 21 years in education, she is still active in FISD – she has been teaching adult ESL classes in the evening for the past 7 years.

Gene and Ruby Nichols Elementary – to be located west of Teel, south of High Shoals, to the southeast of Pioneer Heritage Middle School (will relieve Sparks, Bledsoe and Allen)

Gene and Ruby were 1951 graduates of Frisco High and lifetime fans and supporters of FISD. Ruby loved life and people. Her quick wit and big heart were wonderful skills to have when she worked as the high school principal's secretary. She loved being around young people and was also very active when her kids were in school, from PTA and band boosters to float building and attending all sporting events.

Gene's passion and area of volunteer interest was Frisco School sports. It didn't matter what sport, he loved to support the kids. He ran the game clock for Frisco football games for 42 years - from 1952 until 1994. When he first started, he was climbing a pole to the old crow's nest, which was a small steel platform attached to a pole on the side of the field. In retirement years, he served as a school crossing guard at Rogers Elementary. Known as Gene Pop to most after he had grandkids, he always had gum, candy or a little money to give to kids he would see in the community or at sporting events.

Gene and Ruby were both raised in families that valued education and school involvement. Her dad, W.F. Reynolds, attended Frisco High and served on the board of the Robertson School, very near where this school will be built; he served an additional year after Robertson became part of FISD. Gene's dad, Frank, was a football coach and coached in Frisco for three years after moving his family here in Gene's junior year. Their three children graduated from FHS – Sue Ann, Van and Kim -- and they and their families have been active in service in Frisco and wherever they have lived. Van served on city council; Sue Ann's husband, Gary, served on the school board; and Kim is an educator. Several of their grandchildren are teachers, as well.