

## Signs of Change at Nocatee



Above is Nocatee's new sign along with the designer, Rodger Drawdy.

The concept for the sign began over a year ago after the students and staff at Nocatee decided to select a mascot for the school. With the help and support of teachers, staff, and parents, a variety of options for possible mascots were discussed which led to school wide student elections. The mustang was the winner. Once the mascot was selected, ideas for a sign to represent the mascot were discussed until we narrowed our list of considerations down to the final selection.

These are just a couple of the changes to the outside appearance of our school that we hope will help foster pride in our school and make a positive difference for the students and community who attend Nocatee.

On the inside of our school, we have made many changes as well. Some of these changes are cosmetic like the front office area, new cafeteria tables, new tiling in the hallways, and the addition of new walls in parts of the school just to name a few. We are also in the planning and development stages of renovating our cafeteria to include a new kitchen and serving area. We hope to begin construction of the new kitchen during summer 2011.

Other changes which are not cosmetic but no less visible are the new respect and teamwork themes which we are incorporating into our school culture. We started the process of making positive changes last year by defining our mission. We determined, with the help of all our stakeholders that *"The mission of Nocatee Elementary is to ensure that all students reach a high level of academic achievement as measured by national and Next Generation Sunshine State Standards and to provide a system of support to ensure this outcome."* By using this mission statement as a guide in our decision making processes, we incorporate policies, programs, and procedures which we feel will best support our mission.

We are very excited about the potential that is within our school and we plan to continue to move forward making the necessary changes that will provide the most productive learning environment for our students and allow us to be a better resource for our community. We welcome all those who would like to volunteer or businesses that would like to forge partnerships. If you are interested in taking part in the good things that are currently happening at Nocatee and want to volunteer some of your time or contribute in some way to help us accomplish our goals, we encourage you to contact us.

Mr. Anderson  
Principal  
Nocatee Elementary School

twitter



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We have added the popular social-networking site Twitter to our toolkit for providing information to parents, staff, and community members.

Users must have a Twitter account. A free account can be created at:  
[www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com). The School District of DeSoto feed can be found and followed at: <http://twitter.com/desotoschools>.



# School News