

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Sectional PPK competition yields Prosper ISD winners

PROSPER (October 23, 2015) Several Prosper youngsters could literally punt, pass and kick their way to glory in the National Football League's Punt, Pass and Kick (PPK) competition, says Will Mitchell, Manager of Parks and Recreation.

"Through our partnership with PISD, each elementary school held a PPK competition as part of their PE curriculum," he said. "Winners advanced to the sectional on October 21."

This is the Town's second year with the program, expected to become an annual event. In a previous year, two Prosper contestants advanced to the competition at Cowboy Stadium. Each NFL team market holds these competitions, with the Dallas area holding the largest.

"Having two kids from Prosper in this competitive market was remarkable," he added. "We're hoping that at least one will make it in their respective age group, but it's very competitive in the largest NFL market spanning five states."

The sectional consisted of age groups of boy and girl winners from all PISD elementary schools and Rogers Middle School. These youngsters qualified for the competition by scoring highest at their respective schools in punting, passing and kicking an age appropriate sized football, per NFL PPK rules. Winners were determined by the distance and accuracy of balls punted, passed and kicked.

"It was great working with Coach Chris Groff and PE teachers from various schools who assisted with the competition. The kids had a great time at the sectional, as did Town staff and the teachers who helped," said Mitchell.

Winners in the PISD sectional included: Kailee James, Cockrell Elementary, age 6-7 female group; Ryder Ranzer, Folsom Elementary, age 6-7 male group; Brooke Walpole, Rucker Elementary, age 8-9 female group; Collin McKiddy, Rucker Elementary, age 8-9 male group; Madison Brinkley, Folsom Elementary, age 10-11 female group; Harrison Rosar, Rogers Middle School, age 10-11 male group; Elissa Griffin, Rogers Middle School, age 12-13 female group; and Nathaniel Turner, Rodgers Middle School, age 12-13 male group.

The top four winners from all sectional competitions in the Dallas Cowboy market will advance to a regional competition at Cowboy Stadium before a Cowboy game, and perform an exhibition at half-time while each child gets acknowledged. From there, winners in their age categories will have the opportunity to advance to the national finals to be held during an NFL playoff game.

"This competition is a memory of a lifetime for the kids," he said. "Kids fortunate enough to advance get to be a superstar for a day as they rub shoulders with Cowboy cheerleaders and NFL athletes. The excitement is well worth the effort they put in."

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NOTE: Photo and cutline attached.

ABOUT THE TOWN OF PROSPER – The Town of Prosper is a fast-growing suburb with small town charm, located 30 miles north of Dallas at the crossroads of U.S. 380, Preston Road and the Dallas North Tollway in Collin and Denton Counties. Prosper sits on 27 square miles and is home to more than 15,000 people. A home-rule municipality, governed by a council-manager form of government, the town has full-time fire and police departments, including its own dispatch service. As the Town grows to its projected build-out population of 70,000 residents, Prosper's vision is to remain a "Place Where Everyone Matters."

Photo and cutline



PUNT, PASS, KICK WINNERS – Prosper ISD students who won their respective age and gender groups in this year’s Punt, Pass, Kick competition, put on by the Prosper Parks and Recreation Department and sponsored by the NFL, display their medals. These winners will compete at the regional level for a chance to go on to the national competition, according to Prosper Parks and Recreation Manager Will Mitchell. The sectional winners include (front row, left to right) Ryder Ranzer, Collin McKiddy, Brooke Walpole, Kailee James and (back row, right to left) Madison Brinkley, Elissa Griffin, Harrison Rosar, and Nathaniel Turner.