

Contact: Tammy W. Lanier  
Director, Communications & Public Information  
tlanier@hcde-texas.org

## Barbara Bush attends ceremony to honor HCDE science consultant Dan Felske

Barbara Bush and representatives of Ignite Learning posthumously honored Harris County Department of Education Instructional Support Services science consultant Dan Felske for his commitment to providing science education to Katrina evacuee students.



Felske, recently deceased, was remembered for his collaboration in a project that brings a multimedia science and social studies program to eight area schools which took in considerable numbers of Hurricane Katrina students.

The former first lady donated funds to the Bush-Clinton Katrina Fund, earmarking them to purchase the educational multimedia science and social studies program called the “Purple COW,” or Curriculum on Wheels. Students at Fleming Middle School demonstrated the program for the visiting Barbara Bush. The school took in about 170 hurricane evacuee students this year.

Felske worked with Neil Bush in identifying schools which could benefit from the portable purple machines loaded with software aligned with national standards for teaching science and social studies. Felske’s wife Lisa accepted the award in his honor.

“Dr. Felske had a tremendous commitment to education through teachers and children,” said Brett Schriewer, the Katy Independent School District science specialist who was both friend and colleague to Felske.

After hurricanes Katrina and Rita hit the Gulf Coast areas, thousands of citizens called Harris County Department of Education to volunteer services, supplies and money to students who evacuated storm-raved areas. Several Katrina evacuee students attended the Fleming Middle School ceremony to express gratitude for those who donated to further their futures.