

BARBERS HILL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Barbers Hill

Summer 2016



BARBERS HILL
Independent School District

cover:
Beston Hoc, Top AR Reader
Elementary School North

Barbers Hill ISD Administration

Dr. Greg Poole
Superintendent

Sandra Duree
Assistant Superintendent
of Curriculum and Instruction

Stan Frazier
Assistant Superintendent
of Planning and Operations

Becky McManus
Assistant Superintendent
of Finance

Barbara Ponder
Assistant Superintendent
of Personnel

District Directors

Tom Westerberg | *Athletics*
Carla Rabalais | *Communications*
Becky Johnson | *Operations*
Susan LeBlanc | *School Nutrition*
Sue Garcia | *Special Services*
Katie Russell | *Technology*



Dr. Greg Poole, Superintendent

Stronger Than Ever

We had an interesting visitor on the first day of summer. Although he could have made a good linebacker, the game warden assisted us in removing a very agitated 7-foot male alligator. As crazy as it sounds, my first thought was to get a close-up photo and Tweet this event out! I am fairly new at Twitter, but it boggles the mind that a day later, 10,000 people had viewed that Tweet. I am confident the gator was trying to emphasize the fact the Barbers Hill truly is a unique place, and events that transpired this year emphasize that point. Barbers Hill students continue to excel at the highest level. District championships were the norm and for the 20th year in a row, Barbers Hill won the UIL Academic District Championship.

Our students at many grade levels represented Barbers Hill inside and outside the state of Texas. Regardless of the competitive outcome, one thing continues to remain, our students represent their school and families in an exemplary and classy way that causes others to often say... "I'm so impressed with your kids!" It's rewarding to hear our children bragged on, and in fact, other bragging is in order. Our High School was recently named one of the top in the Houston area and received an A+ in the Children at Risk study. We have six students - the most we have ever had - receiving potential National Merit Scholar recognition, which is the highest academic standard in the nation. We have the highest percentage of National Board Certified Teachers in the state. Barbers Hill has the second-largest Education Foundation in the state, and one of the largest in the nation in assets per pupil. Our Board of Trustees has granted raises 11 years in a row, not raised taxes, and increased our fund balance. Perhaps they should be managing the state's finances!

We have much to be proud of, and the Barbers Hill brand is stronger than ever. Yes, we have alligators, mosquitoes and an occasional hurricane, but our brand continues to influence people at social media speed.

VISION STATEMENT

Barbers Hill ISD envisions academic excellence characterized by goal-driven, college/career ready graduates who are responsible, accountable, contributing members of society.

Barbers Hill ISD School Board

Benny May | President
Becky Tice | Vice President
Cynthia Erwin | Secretary
George Barrera
Jef Farrell
Ron Mayfield
Fred Skinner



Class of 2016 Valedictorian **Jade Lewis**
Valedictorian Jade Lewis will attend the University of Southern Mississippi with a full scholarship in softball. She plans to major in Kinesiotherapy.



Class of 2016 Salutatorian **Ryan Mask**
Salutatorian Ryan Mask will attend Texas A&M University in College Station. Ryan will major in Mechanical Engineering.

From Sea to Shining Sea



Barbers Hill ISD goes National



National Merit Scholars

Seniors Rachel Carpenter and Paden Van

The National Merit Scholarship Program is the gold standard in the United States for measuring and recognizing student academic excellence. Every year, nearly 1.5 million high school students take the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. Of these students, less than 5% are selected for recognition. BHHS seniors Rachel Carpenter and Paden Van were named 2015 National Merit Commended Students for their outstanding scores on the PSAT. Rachel will continue her education at the University of Texas at Arlington, and Paden will pursue his degree at Texas A&M University.



Academic Decathlon National Winner

Senior Jeremy Nicolai competed in Academic Decathlon at the Regional and State levels, and won 4th place overall at State for the second consecutive year. Jeremy was the State Champ in Language/Literature, Art, and Social Science, and was invited to participate in the National Online Ac Dec competition. At the National level, Jeremy won 1st place in Language/Literature, 1st place in Social Studies, 2nd place in Science and 3rd place in Art. Jeremy will attend the University of Texas at Austin in the fall with a full tuition scholarship.

BPA National Participant

BHHS Junior Haleigh Thibodeaux competed in the Business Professionals of America's regional competition, placing first in Human Resources Management. She advanced to State competition, where she placed 3rd, and to National competition in Boston this spring, where she placed 22nd in the United States.



National History Bee

Eight students at BH Middle School South advanced to the National History Bee taking place in Chicago in June. The History Bee team includes: (l-r) Aedan Sherman, Jarett Talley, Colby Cheshire, Kate Wagner, Charis Strickland, Gabe Guerrero, Tyler Brock and DJ Mendez.

Odyssey of the Mind World Competition

BH Elementary North Odyssey of the Mind team advanced to the OM World Competition in Des Moines, Iowa, in May, placing 2nd in Spontaneous Performance and 11th overall of 55 teams in their division. More than 20 countries participated in the competition, with 800+ student delegates. Odyssey teams had to develop a drama that solved a stated problem within an 8-minute time limit, build their own set, and design and construct their own costumes. The OM team included (front) Maggie Baca, Reese Jennings, Griffin Cox, and Debra Bradfield, and (back) Chandler Cowan, Sophia Lannie, and Samantha Calma. The BHEN team was directed by Gifted and Talented Coordinator Tracy Tidwell.



The sounds of achievement ringing through classrooms





20th Consecutive Year!



Barbers Hill High School Academic UIL students brought home the 20th consecutive Sweepstakes Award during the District 21-5A meet this spring, along with 18 First Place medals. The Sweepstakes trophy is awarded each year to the school with the highest total points of all schools participating in the meet. Barbers Hill earned a total score of 509 points across 14 categories, more than 175 points above the second place school, Crosby. Other competitors included Kingwood Park, C. E. King, Dayton, Galena Park, New Caney, and Porter.

Ethan Goode wins 7th place at State UIL

Junior Ethan Goode advanced through Regional competition to participate at the State level in UIL Editorial Writing in May, placing 7th in Texas!



Alyssa Hooks UIL State Student Congress

Alyssa Hooks was 5A Regional Champ at UIL Student Congress in January, earning a spot at the State Congress. There, she was named Presiding Officer in her House, competed against 57 students at the 5A level, and placed 8th.

Goode and Johnson make State Debate Finals

CX Debate Team Pamela Johnson and Ethan Goode advanced to the Sweet 16 State Finals during UIL State competition this spring.

Academic Decathlon State Champs in Super Quiz

Our Ac Dec team in its fifth year of competition captured the State Championship title in Super Quiz this February. The team brought home dozens of medals in the 7 categories of regional and state competition. The theme for all categories this year was India.



The Spirit of Art

BHHS Art student **Alyssa Norsworthy** ranked in the top 1% of student artists in Texas this spring when her artwork received a Gold Medal at the Visual Arts Scholastic Event's State competition.



Rodeo Houston

ESS Fifth-grader **Carter Hall**'s artwork was selected for the People's Choice Award competition as part of Rodeo Houston. Carter was a winner in the popular-vote contest, and he was honored with a special Rodeo belt buckle, plaque, and \$100 gift card, in addition to meeting World Champion Rodeo Cowboy Clint Cannon.



Sophomore **Lauren Gray**'s Rodeo artwork won "Best of Show" for Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Art Contest at BHHS, and then was selected for the HLSR art auction. Her piece sold for \$23,000! Lauren will receive \$2500 from the sale proceeds in scholarship funds.

Principals of the Year



Elementary Principal of the Year
Mandy Malone
Barbers Hill Primary School



Secondary Principal of the Year
Lance Murphy
Barbers Hill Middle School North

Teachers of the Year



Elementary Teacher of the Year
Jodie Meredith, 1st Grade
Barbers Hill Primary School



Secondary Teacher of the Year
Heaven Klaus, Language Arts
Barbers Hill Middle School North



Kathy Hayman, STEM International program



Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) teacher Kathy Hayman at Middle School North was selected to the Teacher Liaison Program of the Space Foundation this spring. Hayman attended the International Space Symposium in Colorado as one of 150 teachers selected internationally to participate. The program links space study to classroom learning.



2015 NCBTs Lisa Ledoux, Kellie Rogers and Tiffany Woodward, with Board President Benny May.

National Board Certified Teachers

Three BHISD teachers this year achieved the highest credential possible for classroom teachers, the National Board Certification. Teachers Lisa LeDoux, Kellie Rogers, and Tiffany Woodward succeeded in the rigorous application and submission process, which takes approximately 2 years to complete. Barbers Hill now has 29 nationally certified teachers, one of the highest percentages of NBCTs in Texas.

Baxter

The Big-Hearted Dog



Many days this year, Baxter attended school with Makenna, resting in his own toddler bed inside a large kennel in the Ag building when he wasn't on call. Two to three days per week, he and Makenna visited other campuses that needed his special touch.

One day, Wilson received a call from one of the elementary campuses. A new student was very upset and didn't want to go into his new classroom. The counselor called for Baxter. The student and Baxter made quick friends, and soon after, the student was introducing him to his new classmates.

"Baxter helps people feel better when they're with him," said Makenna. "He helps people who are struggling with depression or anxiety to live more normal lives."

Baxter also makes regular visits to special education classrooms and to the library. He's a very good listener while shy or struggling students read stories aloud to him, and he lays contentedly on the floor while students play with him.

Our big Great Dane puppy and his mission have won the hearts of the Mont Belvieu community as well. Local veterinary clinic Abshier-Meuth Animal Hospital sponsors all Baxter's medical treatments, and the West Chambers Pilot Club donated his food for an entire year.

Interestingly, Baxter's veterinarian believes the Great Dane's tail is not genetically crooked at all, but rather a birth injury. But without it, Baxter would never have found Barbers Hill, or his therapy dog calling.

"It's been so much fun starting from scratch and making something great through this program," said Makenna. "Baxter is my best friend. It's really amazing to see the difference he's made in so many lives."



A crooked tail, an FFA program, and two women with a vision changed the world for a Great Dane puppy named Baxter.

Baxter was unwanted as a breeder puppy because of a crooked tail. When his owners opted to sell, it was the right moment for Barbers Hill Ag teacher Mary Wilson, who had wanted to begin a Therapy Dog program at Barbers Hill High School for several years.

Makenna Castaneda, an incoming senior at BHHS and president of their FFA Chapter, had considered a therapy dog project for her Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE), but she didn't have a dog that would fit the needs of the program.

Wilson purchased Baxter, and introduced him to Makenna.

"From the minute Makenna and Baxter met, there was an immediate bond," said Wilson. She was so sure the two would make a great team, she stayed at the school woodshop till midnight that night, building a new house for Baxter.

Makenna and Wilson completed the training course for therapy dog owners, and Makenna worked with him daily preparing him for his own tests. She trained him to respond to commands, and to be a mannerly puppy.

"Taking a one-year-old Great Dane who's had little to no human interaction and getting him trained is a really big deal," said Makenna. "But his temperament is perfect. He'll let you do anything!"

A few months after starting training, Baxter passed his certification test through the Pet Partners program, and the Eagle Paws program was born.

Mary Wilson, Baxter, and Makenna



PROTECT THIS HILL

WE WILL All the way to Austin

State Swim Meet Sophomore Lauren Gray became the first female swimmer from Barbers Hill to advance to State competition after she took first place in the 100-yard backstroke during the Regional Meet. Her backstroke time broke a pool record at Regionals, and the two Relay teams in which she participated both broke school records.

State Track Winners Senior Ashlyn Dobson, who has signed to run track for HBU in the fall, placed 5th at the State Track Meet in 300m hurdles this spring.



Eagles of the Year

For their sportsmanship, athleticism, leadership, and commitment to success, seniors Ashlyn Dobson (Track), Bryan Taylor (Baseball) and Leah Silva (Basketball) were selected as the 2016 Eagles of the Year.



Junior Matthew Rodriguez placed 5th at the State Track Meet in the discus.

State Cross Country The Varsity Boys Cross Country Team and Girls Cross Country individual Savannah Wilkinson advanced to the State meet last fall, representing Barbers Hill well through very difficult terrain and weather conditions.



Fall Sneak Peek



Barbers Hill 2016 Varsity Football Schedule

8/19	Sterling (S)	5:30/7:30	(H)
8/26	Vidor	7:00	(A)
9/2	Santa Fe	7:00	(H)
9/9	Crosby*	7:00	(A)
9/16	Kingwood Park*	7:00	(H)
9/23	Caney Creek*	7:00	(A)
9/30	Dayton*	7:00	(H)
10/7	Splendor*	7:00	(A)
10/14	Humble*(Homecoming)	7:00	(H)
10/21	New Caney*	7:00	(A)
10/28	Open		
11/4	Porter* (Parent Night)	7:00	(H)

*District Game



**Athletic Director
Tom Westerberg**

**For the 2015-16
Sports Year in Review
visit bhsd.net/Athletics**

BHISD recognized by NAMM Foundation

Barbers Hill ISD was recognized this spring by the National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) Foundation as among the Best Communities for Music Education, out of the nation's 13,515 school districts. Barbers Hill ISD was one of 41 districts selected in Texas for this honor.



Soaring Eagle Marching Band ranks in Top 10% in Texas

For the second consecutive full competitive season, Barbers Hill Soaring Eagle Marching Band advanced to the State marching competition in San Antonio in November. The BH Band included 263 students this year, of which 110 were freshmen. They performed the show, "Arabian Nights: The Music of Scheherazade," and competed with 31 other top bands from Conference 5A schools across the state. This competition was the 15th appearance at State competition for Director Stone, and the second appearance at State with Barbers Hill students since he began directing in the district in 2010. Barbers Hill Band is under the direction of Kevin Stone, Director of Bands, Sebastian Lopez, Assistant Band Director, and David Johnson, Associate Band Director.



All-State Band Musician

Rob Claassen, senior and officer of the Barbers Hill High School Soaring Eagle Band, was selected for the Texas All-State Band in San Antonio this spring. He is the first band student from Barbers Hill ISD since 1967 to earn this honor in the larger-school category. All-State is the highest honor a Texas music student can receive, with only the top 3% of 64,000 students who auditioned this year reaching this goal. Rob plays the bass clarinet and is a student of Jaime Yim-Talbert, under the leadership of Head Band Director Kevin Stone.



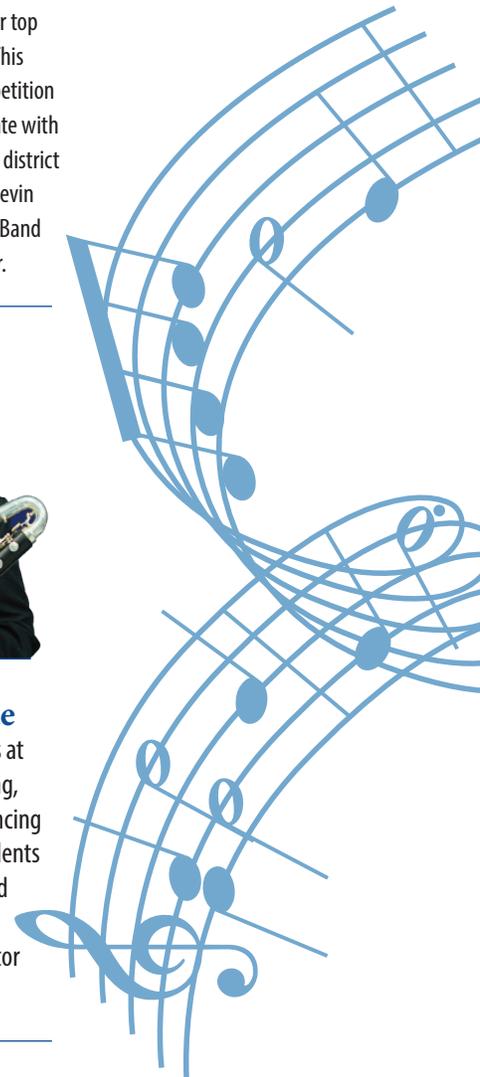
Choir students compete at State

BHHS Choir students earned 69 first place medals at Regional UIL Solo and Ensemble contest this spring, with 28 soloists and 14 ensemble members advancing to state competition in Austin. At State, choir students earned more than 30 medals for First and Second Division ratings. The BHHS Choir is under the direction of Sandy Pentecost, with assistant director Susannah Moorman.



Eaglettes win Sweepstakes

The Eaglette Drill Team competed at Showtime International's Fiesta Texas Dance Contest in April, winning the Grand Champion title and Sweepstakes Award. The Eaglettes Drill Team is under the direction of Melanie Gray, assisted by Cindy Widner.



Save *the* Dates

Important Dates for the 2016-17 School Year

Back to School

August 22

Online Registration

July 15 - 31

Parent Assistance with
Online Registration

July 18 and 29
MS North, 8am-6pm

Onsite Registration

Employees' Students

August 2, Location: All campuses,
8:30 - 11:30 am

Returning Students
(and New Kindergarten Students)

August 3, Location: All campuses,
8:30-11 am & 1- 5 pm

August 4, Location: All campuses,
Noon - 7 pm

New Students
(all grade levels)

August 8, Location: All campuses at HS,
8:30-11 am & 1- 6 pm

August 9, Location: All campuses at HS,
Noon - 6 pm

Drug Testing for Middle and High School Students

August 4, Location: MS North Gym,
Noon - 7 pm

August 9, Location: HS Gym,
Noon - 6 pm

Employee Convocation

August 11

Eagle Launch Dates 2016

August 10, 2016

High School
Freshman Orientation
6:00 p.m.

August 16, 2016

Kindergarten Center
A-L students 5:30 p.m.
M-Z students 6:30 p.m.

Primary School
A-L students 6:15 p.m.
M-Z students 7:00 p.m.

August 17, 2016

Elementary Schools
ES North 6:00p.m.
ES South 6:30p.m.

August 18, 2016

Middle Schools
MS North 6:00 p.m.
MS South 6:00 p.m.

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Barbers Hill High School Top 10 students and (rank): Front row: Jennifer Whitehead (6), Meagan Makarczyk (7), Emily Muscat (4), Janna Polvado (3), and Brooke Heckel (9). Back row: Jeremy Nicolai (3), Rob Claassen (5), Jade Lewis (1), Ryan Mask (2), Blake Fountain (9), Reid Gillings (8)

