



October | 12 | 2020

## **Pantherettes Receive State Championship Rings**



The Duncanville Pantherettes celebrated their 2020 6A State Championship last week - receiving their championship rings. The ceremony at Duncanville High School's Sandra Meadows Arena included words of praise from the team's coaching staff and a video full of well wishes sent by last year's seniors who were unable to attend.

The Pantherettes brought home the girls basketball championship in March during LaJeanna Howard's first year as head coach. The Pantherettes went on a 28-game winning streak and beat Cypress Creek 63-47 in the championship game. The title is the 11th for the Pantherettes in Duncanville High School history.

# Always a Panther: Soccer Goals Send Alumnus Abroad





Jaime Ibarra knew as a child he wanted to become a professional soccer player. So, when his family moved to Duncanville prior to his freshman year of high school, he tried out for the school team.

"Being on the team was something that helped me in making friends and building relationships with people I'm still friends with today," Jaime said.

Jaime played goalkeeper for Duncanville High School's varsity team. He also played for a club team, which took him to other cities – and ultimately to Argentina to play for six months during his junior year of high school.

Jaime credits his high school history teachers for encouraging his interests. After graduating from Duncanville High School in 2009, Jaime studied for a year at Mountain View College and then transferred to Southern Methodist University to study history – and to play soccer.

When he graduated from SMU, Jaime got an opportunity to play two years of professional soccer first in Puerto Rico and then in Costa Rica.

"I was living the dream – just graduating college, playing soccer for a living making just enough money to get by," Jaime remembers. "It was an unbelievable experience being in two beautiful countries and getting to wake up every day and play soccer for a living."

Read more.

## National Principals Month is Opportunity to Recognize District Leaders



Principals are among the hardest working individuals in education. They set the academic tone for their schools, and it is their vision, dedication and determination that provide the mobilizing force for achieving student success.

October is National Principals Month, and throughout the month we will share videos celebrating Duncanville ISD's principals on district social media and in our weekly newsletter.

We appreciate everything our amazing principals do to provide safe, encouraging learning environments for our students.

Join us in recognizing our principals and saying, "Thank you."

#### **Daily COVID-19 Screeners Required by All**

As we plan for reopening schools for in-person learning, we recognize that this will be an unusual situation with new procedures, but we remain committed to supporting your student's learning, as well as his or her safety.

To prevent COVID-positive individuals from entering our campuses, your student's school will require all staff, visitors and students to be screened.

The student screening procedure will be as follows:

- Parents/guardians will screen their students daily prior to school using the wellness screener located in <u>Skyward Family Access</u>.
- The wellness screener consists of two questions regarding symptoms and exposure.
- When a parent is logged in to Skyward Family Access, all of their children will be listed for convenience.
- The wellness screener may also be completed using the Skyward Mobile Access phone application.
- If you answer yes to either of the questions, please reference the <u>"Can My Child Attend</u> <u>School Today?"</u> guidance document to determine whether to keep your child at home.
- In the event your child is demonstrating symptoms of COVID-19 or has been in close contact with an infected person, please submit a <u>student self-reporting form</u>.

We hope that this information gives you confidence in the screening protocols on our campuses and appreciate you screening your child daily for the health and safety of all Duncanville ISD students and staff.

### **Calling All Nominations for Made with Pride**

It's time again to nominate teachers, staff and students who are "Made with Pride in DuncanvIIe."

Each month a teacher, staff and student is selected and honored for going above and beyond to make a difference in our schools. Each honoree receives a surprise visit from school leaders, is celebrated on social media and invited to attend a board meeting to be recognized before the entire school district.

If you know someone who is "Made with Pride in Duncanville," please nominate that person. Nominations can be made <u>here</u> on the website or by sending an email to <u>news@duncanvilleisd.org</u>.



#### **Upcoming Events:**

*In-Person Learning Begins,* on Monday, Oct. 19 for students who chose In-Person Learning at the beginning of the school year

*Duncanville ISD Board of Trustees,* meeting on Monday, Oct. 19 at 6:30 p.m. for closed executive session. The public portion of the meeting begins at approximately 7:00 p.m.



Staff News is distributed by the Communications Department at Duncanville ISD. The weekly newsletter, published each Monday, is intended to keep our employees informed about important news and events happening within the district. Story ideas or questions can be directed to: <u>Lari Barager</u> - Director of External Communications

#### news@duncanvilleisd.org

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