

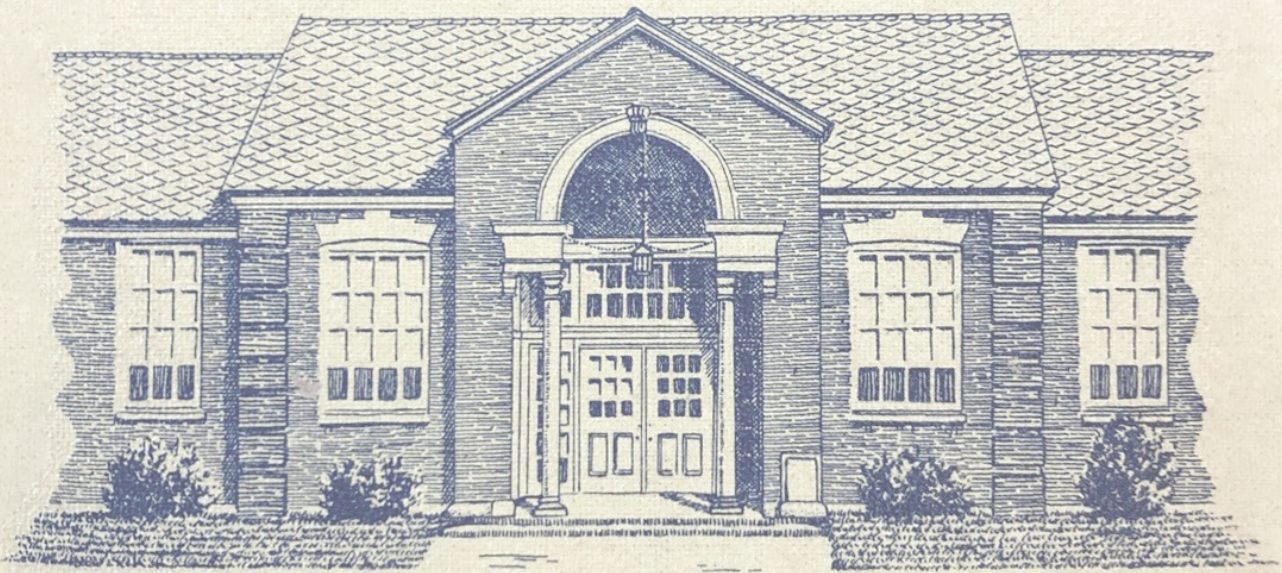
BARBERS HILL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

BarbersHill

Summer 2021

KIDS

FIRST



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

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Fred Skinner

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Cynthia Erwin

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Clint Pipes

Becky Tice



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of Human Resources*

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of Planning and Operations*

Sue Garcia

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of Special Services*

Kristen Davis

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Lori May

Safe Schools

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School Nutrition

Mandy Malone

Student Services

Kids Come First at Barbers Hill



Dr. Greg Poole
Superintendent

It is just part of a Superintendent's job that I rarely go to a public event without being approached by those who wish to share their opinion. Truth is, this isn't that unusual, but what is unusual is the comments are not concerns, criticism or issues regarding cheerleading! Instead, I uniformly get praise regarding Barbers Hill's actions during the COVID crisis. I share with each of those kind citizens what I share now with you. A plan is only as good as those carrying it out, and those we had carrying it out are absolutely the best staff in the state! Every single Barbers Hill employee selflessly put kids' interests before their own and one needs only to look at other school districts' COVID responses to know how unique our actions were.

There are many things that made this crisis like none before. Chiefly, the fact that leaders at the State and National level often provided NO guidance, or worse yet, politically-motivated guidance. Our Board forged a COVID plan that emphasized listening to our community, and we didn't allow outside interference, which was no easy task! Never before have the actions of Barbers Hill's Board of Trustees and staff given more credence to "We Can, We Will." I appreciate the kind comments I continue to receive in public, but let's give credit where credit is due.

It's the bus drivers, custodians, teachers, aides, cafeteria workers, police officers and countless other Barbers Hill employees who put the needs of this district and our wonderful children first! As I write this, we are making a run at a State title in baseball and softball. Our year's successes were numerous, we won the UIL Academic District Championship for the 24th year in a row, and our high school End of Year Course Exam scores were some of the highest in the state. Indeed, it was an exceptional year in which the Barbers Hill brand was strengthened by our Board of Trustees' strong leadership. Still, I look forward to the future when we can and will see COVID in our rearview mirror!



On the cover: Kindergarten student Benjamin Flores and Class of 2021 Valedictorian Evelyn Longorio

KIDS FIRST

BHISD staff serves children amidst pandemic

In March, 2020, Texas classrooms were closed, instruction moved to an online format, and all sports and activities were canceled after the discovery of COVID-19. Barbers Hill teachers and staff quickly learned to deliver remote lessons to maximize student learning as we closed the 2019-20 school year.



one-way hallways became the new normal, and instruction continued throughout the year. Hurricanes Hanna and Laura, Tropical Storm Beta and Winter Storm Uri in February brought additional concerns and interruptions to instruction this school year.

In spite of the challenges, Barbers Hill ISD students, staff, and families demonstrated resiliency, courage, and commitment to keep staff and students' needs and education at the forefront of decision-making.

This year BHISD students were named All-State athletes and musicians, UIL Academic Champions, Art and Healthcare winners, AP and College Board scholars, undefeated District Champs, and more.

In July 2020, more than 80% of BH parents said in a survey that they would prefer in-person instruction for their students for the 2020-21 school year. We were one of the only districts in the state of Texas to resume in-person instruction in August, but district leaders knew that path would be best for our children. Staff members worked hundreds of hours to prepare and to modify campuses and classrooms in a way that maximized safety for students and staff to return to campuses.



In spite of enduring some of the most trying times in our district's history, we are proud of our students and staff for demonstrating a "We Can, We Will" attitude at every opportunity.

Desk dividers, masks, hand sanitizer, distancing and signage, assigned seating, divided play areas and

Welcome, Board Members!

School Board elections in May maintain incumbents



Fred Skinner
15 years' service



Becky Tice
12 years' service



Eric Davis
3 years' service



BH STUDENTS LEAD



Salt Dome Theatre, led by Director Travis Poe, earned 4th place at State for their One Act Play performance of "Ugly and Majestic," based on a short story by Leo Tolstoy. Director Poe retired this May after 35 years at BHHS, with 19 state appearances in his career, the third highest in UIL OAP history.



Barbers Hill High School Salutatorian Katie Strickland (left) will attend the University of Texas, and Valedictorian Evelyn Longorio will attend Rice University. Both students are AP Scholars with Distinction.



Robotics team members Hayden Walker and Nathan Clearo, along with 12 other Robotics members, advanced beyond State for the first time in BH history to the VEX World Competition.



Five student musicians advanced to the highest level: All-State Band and Choir, including (front) Jonah Stewart, Duncan Zadraba, (back) Colby Stone, Katelyn Menard, and Cameron Horn. An additional 64 students in Band and Choir qualified for State Solo and Ensemble.

Miah Barras (top) and Fenecia Shaiju earned Gold Medals at the State VASE Art Competition with the 2 pieces pictured. Taylor Tomlinson and Fenix Ward also advanced to State competition.



Academic Decathlon team finished 5th at State competition, with Madison Boyles earning 1st place Overall in Scholastic, and Kaylee Myers earning 3rd place in Social Studies.



Debate Team members Graycen Clements, Kaylee Myers, and Madison Mesa competed in CX Debate at UIL State.



Junior Savannah Herrington was the first student in BHHS history to enter and to qualify for State in Theatre Costume Design.

Sixteen Health Occupations Student Association (HOSA) students qualified for State competition in categories such as Clinical Specialties and Job Seeking Skills. In addition, 9 students scored in the Top 10% in Texas in Health Care Issues.



For the 24th consecutive year, BHHS students earned the District Championship in UIL Academic competition.



FFA seniors Noah Clearo, Chris Merritt, and Cheston Sikes qualified for State competition in Tractor Mechanics. Four additional FFA teams qualified for State in Livestock, Poultry, Floral Design, & Vet Science.



AT EVERY LEVEL



Senior Alyssa Thomas placed 2nd in the Discus and 3rd in the Shot Put at the UIL State Track & Field competition.



Sophomore Kaci Andrus placed 4th in Pole Vault at the UIL State Track & Field competition.



Sophomore Grant Doggett placed in the Top 25% at the UIL State Golf Tournament.



Junior Meagan Mayfield placed 8th in High Jump at the UIL State Track & Field competition.

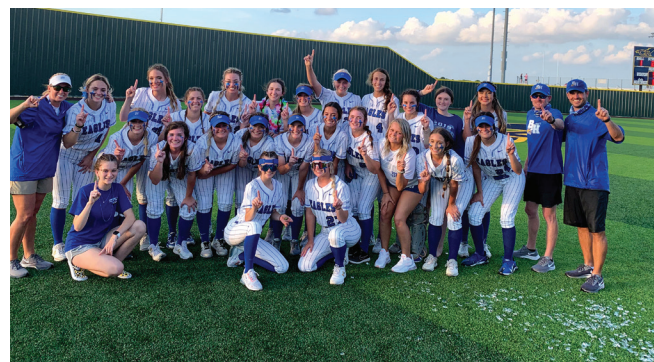
Eagles of the Year



Seniors Camden Grogan (left) and Faith Guidry were selected by BHHS Coaches as Eagles of the Year for their dedication, strong work ethic, and leadership among their teammates.

SOFTBALL STATE-BOUND & Baseball advances to Regional Championship

At press time, Barbers Hill Softball had advanced to State playoffs, and Baseball was bound for the Regional Championship round. For info on all BH Athletics seasons and results, visit bhisd.net/athletics.



Summer Sports Camps

Work with BH coaches and Varsity Eagles this summer to sharpen your athletic skills!

Visit bhisd.net/athletics for details

Parent Advisory Dress Code Committee

A 16-member dress code committee, comprised of district parents nominated by each trustee, was chaired this spring by BH Class of 2002 grad and BH parent Mark Wilson. The committee examined the district's current dress policies, reviewed policies of other high-performing school districts in Texas, and developed lists of both pros and cons of our current dress code.

After an anonymous vote, the committee unanimously recommended that Barbers Hill retain its dress code policy as written.

"The Barbers Hill dress code is made to aid and foster an environment where children can flourish, and to prepare them for wherever their journey may take them," said Wilson. "There are so many opportunities for students here. We, in my family, are persons of color, but that doesn't change the many opportunities available to my children. I am saddened that so many people saw this topic as a racial issue. If people could only look at what our district is producing and has produced over the years, I think their perspective would be very different."

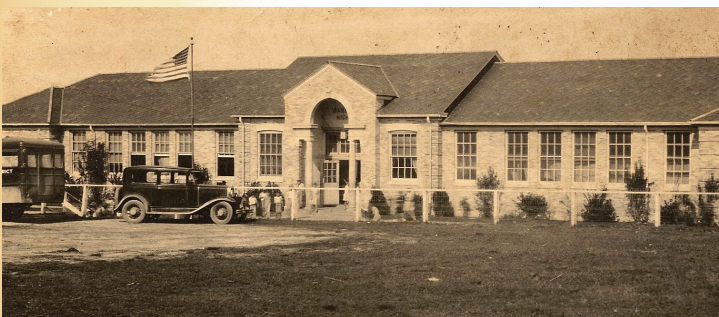


Barbers Hill Parent Advisory Dress Code Committee Chairman Mark Wilson greeted Board Member Fred Skinner after a presentation on dress code at a Board meeting in April. The committee was tasked with evaluating the continued relevance of BHISD's dress code.

LEADERSHIP SUPPORT CENTER

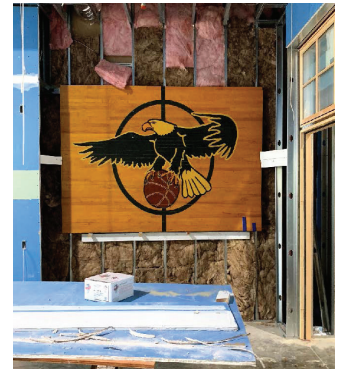


Barbers Hill ISD Leadership Support Center



Barbers Hill High School (circa 1934) built on the Hill and demolished nearly two decades ago.

The Barbers Hill Leadership Support Center is a 55,000 sq. ft. facility built in the style of the original 1930 Barbers Hill High School on the Hill. It includes a 300-seat Board Room named after longtime superintendent J. Justin Jenson, large-group instructional rooms for teacher training, and office space for district administrators to facilitate collaborative planning district wide. It will also house the Barbers Hill Hall of History, which is a collaboration between the City of Mont Belvieu and the school district to honor our interwoven past. The LSC was approved by voters in Bond 2017 and is scheduled to open this summer.



The center court from BH's 1969 high school gymnasium (now MSN) was salvaged after Hurricane Ike in 2008 and is now displayed in the LSC.



Main entry to the LSC.

KIDS FIRST



MSS One Act Play "The Miracle Worker" won 1st place in UIL competition.



ECC gathered over 9000 non-perishable items to be donated to the Mont Belvieu Food Pantry this fall.



Top Reader Deegan Collins earned more than 1300 points in Accelerated Reader.



Rylie Currier brought home the Grand Champion Ribbon and #1 spot at the Chambers County Live-stock Show & Ranch Rodeo in May.



MSN's UIL Chess Puzzle Team contributed to the campus's sweep in UIL competition this year, with grades 6, 7, and 8 placing First Overall.



In-house UIL Academic competitions at ESS and ESN brought lots of competition and opportunities to shine.

What is Social-Emotional Learning?

Barbers Hill ISD participated in a yearlong initiative in 2020-21 to help students grow beyond academics.

Beginning in August, classrooms at every grade level paused a few moments each week to talk about the soft skills of life that can have huge impacts on students' future success. Following curricula from "Character Strong" and "Purposeful People,"



students discussed and practiced such character traits as kindness, responsibility, empathy, respect, diligence, service, courage, gratitude, honesty, and self-control.

The new program at BHISD was born out of a desire to be a school district that cultivates a safe, caring, and empathetic environment that produces well-rounded, emotionally-confident students who are able to regulate emotions, collaborate with peers, and respect diversity.



ECC "Chains of Kindness" linked each act of kindness performed in one week.



The Pre-K Center's Path to Kindness demonstrated through painted handprints the pledges made by students and staff to act kindly toward others. The West Chambers County Chamber of Commerce was an underwriter for the rock garden.

"The pandemic has taken an emotional toll on young people," said BHISD Deputy Superintendent Sandra Duree. "We want to create an environment for our students where they feel safe both physically and emotionally."

Back to School

August 18th



Online Registration Dates

August 2-13

New Students

July 19-26

Returning Students

<https://www.bhisd.net/departments/student-services/registration>



School Supply Lists

<https://www.bhisd.net/parents-students/school-supply-lists>



LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER



Congratulations Class of 2021 Top 10!

Evelyn Longorio (Valedictorian), Katie Strickland (Salutatorian), Kaylee Myers, Jesse Thomson, Rebecca Wells, Taylor Tomlinson, Kaylon Gilbert, D.J. Mendez, Trevor Bates, and Savannah Brumley.

