DECEMBER 2018

# mbal talk

Not just a district, a destination.



#### WHAT'S INSIDE A LOOK AHEAD

**Board of Trustees / Executive Team** 

**Tomball Education Foundation Grant Awards** 

**Happy Holidays!** 

**Destination Excellence Headlines** 

**Group Spotlight: Child Nutrition** 

**Scholarship Foundation Giving Information** 

Alumni Spotlight: Mark Lewandowski

10

Healthy Wage Challenge / Social Media

**District Calendar** 

**JANUARY** 

Staff Development/Workdays/Student Holidays

**School Board Meetings Board Room** 5:30 PM

31

**District Science Fair** 

For all fine arts & athletics events in January, CLICK HERE.





# What is Tomball Talk?

Tomball Talk is a monthly eNewsletter for Tomball ISD. Each issue will highlight the previous month's top headlines as well as awards, events and accomplishments.

# Who is behind Tomball Talk?

Tomball Talk is edited and published by the Tomball ISD Communications

Department.

# Have materials to submit?

If you have material (calendar events, news stories, numbers of note) you wish to submit, please email: allisonmcclain@tomballisd.net.

# Nominate an Educator or Group for our Spotlights!

Do you have an educator doing amazing things on your campus or a group that has been actively engaged in the community?

Nominate that respective individual or group, accompanied by a few bullet points explaining why they deserve to be spotlighted.

Email nominations to allisonmcclain@tomballisd.net.

## **TOMBALL ISD BOARD OF TRUSTEES**



Mark Lewandowski
President



Michael Pratt Vice President



Matt Schiel Secretary



Kathy Handler
Assistant Secretary



Sam Gregson Trustee



Lee McLeod Trustee



John E. McStravick
Trustee

# TOMBALL ISD EXECUTIVE TEAM



**Dr. Martha Salazar-Zamora** Superintendent of Schools

**Jim Ross**Chief Financial Officer

**Dr. Amy Schindewolf**Chief Academic Officer

**Chris Trotter**Chief Administrative Officer

**Jeff McCanna** Chief of Human Talent

**Dr. Rick Fernandez**Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Schools

**Dr. Valerie Petrzelka**Assistant Superintendent of
Elementary Schools

**Dr. Michael Webb** Assistant Superintendent of Student Support

**Dr. Steven Gutierrez** Assistant Superintendent of Ancillary Services

**Nefertari Mundy** Assistant Superintendent of Strategic Initiatives



Tomball ISD educators at 10 different campuses had their education dreams come true when the Tomball Education Foundation awarded the worthy educators with a combined \$51,043 in grants to be used on innovative projects they submitted through the process.

The Tomball Education Foundation provides funds for educational projects and activities that are beyond traditional funding. Funds are used to facilitate student achievement and skill development, recognize and encourage staff excellence, and expand community involvement from individuals, businesses and civic organizations.



# TIMBER CREEK ELEMENTARY Kristin Shockley | \$4,522 grant

Interactive learning experiences

# CREEKVIEW ELEMENTARY Stephanie Scott | \$4,500 grant

Authors & Architects, an enhancement to GT

#### **TOMBALL HIGH**

Jerry Fordyce | \$1,805 grant

iMac computer for Digital Media program

## **TOMBALL JUNIOR HIGH**

Cynthia Thurnau-Duffy | \$3,080 grant

Tower garden to grow healthy veggies for her PALS class

## **CONNECTIONS ACADEMY**

Jennifer McCready | \$5,000 grant

"One Breath at a Time - Dynamic Mindfulness" training

## TOMBALL MEMORIAL HIGH

David Monroe | \$960 grant

Computer Science UIL and Robotics Initiative

## **WILDWOOD ELEMENTARY**

Ramona Villarreal | \$1,436 grant

Early literacy support

## WILLOWCREEK ELEMENTARY

2nd grade team | \$1,609 grant

Ozobot, a learning robot that helps teach basic coding

## **WILLOW WOOD JUNIOR HIGH**

Brandon Batchelor | \$1,050 grant

Pear Deck to support student-led learning

#### LAKEWOOD ELEMENTARY

A total of \$27,081 was awarded between nine grants at Lakewood Elementary.

Kristi Donald | \$4,959 grant

Smart board table

1st grade team | \$3,560 grant

Support STEAM with Ipads & Osmos program

Jennifer Brough | \$3,211 grant

Elevate math & readers workshop with Osmo program

Elizabeth Castille | \$3,180 grant

Headsets for academic language video stations

Laurie Taylor | \$2,930 grant

Support Project Based Learning

Kelly McNickle | \$3,628 grant

Motion animation in the classroom

Leialoha Van Patter | \$2,188 grant

LED light panel to help students with words

Darra Reynolds | \$1,050 grant

Social Emotional Learning to enhance Restorative Practice

Mary Dawn Lowrey | \$2,375 grant

Scanner reader pens to support "Read Smarter, Not Harder" program

**Photo Gallery** 



# HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM TISD!



# Happy Holidays from the PALS Class at Tomball Memorial High School!

The PALS Special Education students at Tomball Memorial High School made their dream of the Polar Express come to life.

The students designed, created and painted the decorations and used the Smartboard as a projector to trace the more intricate designs you see.











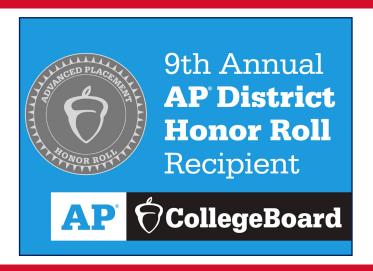
TomballISD.net

# DESTINATION EXCELLENCE

# TISD PLACED ON THE COLLEGE BOARD'S 9TH ANNUAL AP® DISTRICT HONOR ROLL

Tomball ISD was recognized on the College Board's 9th Annual AP® District Honor Roll for Significant Gains in Student Access and Success. Tomball ISD has been honored six times and for five straight years during its nine-vear existence. Reaching these goals shows that this district is successfully identifying motivated, academically prepared students who are ready for AP.

For more information, CLICK HERE.





## YEAR-ROUND LIMITED OPEN ENROLLMENT

Parents of students living outside the Tomball ISD attendance boundaries will have an opportunity to apply to enroll their children in selected Tomball ISD schools for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year through the Year-Round Limited Open Enrollment program.

For more information, CLICK HERE.

## **TISD TRUSTEES ISSUED OATH OF OFFICE**

Tomball ISD Trustees were officially sworn in on Dec. 11, 2018.

Kathy Handler (1), Michael Pratt (2), John E. McStravick (3), Mark Lewandowski (4), and Lee McLeod (7) were all reelected.

Handler, Pratt, McStravick and Lewandowski will serve fouryear terms, expiring in 2022, while McLeod will serve an unexpired two-year term.

Mark Lewandowski was elected as President. Michael Pratt was elected as Vice President. Matt Schiel was elected as Secretary. Kathy Handler was elected as Assistant Secretary.



# **DESTINATION EXCELLENCE**



# BEARDEN NAMED TOMBALL CHAMBER TEACHER OF THE MONTH

Oakcrest Intermediate sixth grade math and science teacher Allison Bearden was named the Greater Tomball Area Chamber of Commerce Teacher of the Month in December.

She was one of just six teachers in the entire State of Texas named a PAEMST Award Finalist.

## **READ MORE**

## **TISD SCHOOLS HONOR GEORGE H.W. BUSH**

Tomball ISD celebrated the life of former President George H.W. Bush and remembered his legacy by hosting "Crazy Sock day" in December.





# TESSA T.E.A.M. TESSA T.E.A.M.

# **TESSA TEAMS UP FOR TOY DRIVE**

TESSA (Tomball Educational Support Staff Association (Paraprofessionals)) partnered with Tomball Emergency Assistance Ministries (T.E.A.M.) for a Toy Drive in early December. The Toy Drive was a community service project sponsored by TESSA right here in Tomball to assist families in need this Christmas season.

TESSA's next meeting is January 17.



# **GROUP SPOTLIGHT**

# **CHILD NUTRITION**



STAFF | FAQ | MENUS | EVENTS | CATERING

## MISSION

It is the mission of the Tomball Independent School District Child Nutrition Department to nutritionally nurture the process of producing lifelong learners who successfully compete in a changing global society. We strive to achieve this mission by providing nutritionally sound meal choices, attractively served in a pleasant environment by professionally trained staff members.

# Do you have an event that needs catering?

Tomball ISD's Child Nutrition Department offers catering services to all schools and departments that host events on campus and district buildings during the instructional calendar year.

Please allow 10 working days for us to plan your event.

Contact Monique Ross, Catering Coordinator catering@tomballisd.net 281-357-3220 ext. 2376

**CLICK HERE** for a full TISD Catering Menu



# SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

# 25TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPUS CHALLENGE

"Thank you again for helping my family with the college expense. That truly has been a blessing and I am so grateful to have your support."

- Alanna Ford, TMHS '17

## The Tomball Scholarship Foundation, a 501(c)(3)

non-profit organization, raises money to award scholarships to our graduating seniors. The scholarship money is used for tuition at any campus within the Lone Star College System. Students who place emphasis on academic achievement and those in need of financial assistance are eligible to apply. One hundred percent of all donations are applied to tuition costs.



- Challenging each campus employee to donate to the TSF
- Two options to donate: One-time donation of \$25 OR Participate in the payroll deduction program and give as little as \$1 per paycheck (this is a recurring payment unless stopped) Form to Participate
- We can only accept checks made out to Tomball Scholarship Foundation if you participate with the one-time donation. Please contact your Principal for more information.
- The payroll deduction program form is attached and must be signed and returned to Juanita Ward in Human Talent via email or in person.

(juanitaward@tomballisd.net)

Deadline to participate is Friday, Feb. 1.



PAYROLL DEDUCTION FORM

## **QUESTIONS?**

- How does your campus win?
   The campus with the highest employee participation based on percentage wins.
- What if I'm already donating through payroll deduction? No worries, you will be accurately accounted for during this challenge.
- What do we win?

A WEEK-LONG JEANS PASS FOR THE ENTIRE CAMPUS at the end of the year!!

Let's help spread the Gift of Giving and we look forward to seeing which campus comes out on top!

Contact Allison McClain at allisonmcclain@tomballisd.net if you have questions.



# **ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT**

# MARK LEWANDOWKSI | Tomball High School '74

## **Tomball ISD Board of Trustees President**

For every successful school district there is a supportive Board of Trustees and Tomball ISD is fortunate to have the backing from seven valued members of this community.

Leading the way and recently re-elected and voted as President of the Tomball ISD School Board is an individual who has lived in Tomball most of his life, Mark Lewandowski.

Lewandowski has lived in Tomball ISD since 1964 and is a 1974 graduate of Tomball High School. He went on to earn a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Houston and is currently employed as the Engineering Manager at the Houston facility of SPX Flow Inc. He also serves as a subcommittee member of API SC6 -Valves and Wellhead Equipment representing SPX Flow Inc.

Lewandowski and his wife Cheryl, who works on the Tomball Intermediate campus, are both graduates of Tomball High and are the proud parents of three children, all graduates of THS.



"It's really fun to be able to share the same school experiences I had growing up with my wife and children. Sometimes, we even talk about some of the same teachers or classes we had. One thing that is evident is that we have the same values some of which were obviously instilled by Tomball ISD and growing up in Tomball."

A familiar face to the School Board, Lewandowski began his tenure as a trustee back in 2003 and has held positions of Assistant Secretary, Secretary, Vice President and President. He is also an officer, past President, and director in the Gulf Coast Area Association of School Boards and a graduate of Leadership TASB.

Along with his commitment to the school district, Lewandowski is a devoted community member and volunteer. His family are members of the St. Anne Catholic Church where he volunteers as an usher and is also a member of the Knights of Columbus, St. Anne Council 11472. Lewandowski has been an assistant coach, coach and league director in Tomball Youth Basketball and was a member of the All Sports Booster Club where he was a men's basketball team representative.

"I have always been brought up to help others and do what is right and that if you don't understand or have questions about something, you get involved and learn about it, you don't complain about it. I was always interested in learning about and understanding school finance and after all of this time on the Board, I am still learning about it. Along with that and wanting to help make Tomball ISD one of the best school districts in the state are some of the reasons why I initially ran for the School Board in 2003," he noted.

His commitment to the community in which raised him is showcased through his passion for education and being a part of something that is bigger than oneself. He truly is an advocate for public education.

"I truly enjoy seeing kids being successful and as a School Board member, we do our best to make that possible," he said. "I'm just happy I have the opportunity to work with such a great group of people and contribute to our students' educational experiences and success.

Lewandowski has served this school district with fortitude and has truly helped elevate Tomball ISD to become a Destination.

"We have a great Board in Tomball. Having the opportunity to be involved in some of the other organizations like Gulf Coast and TASB, we are able to connect with other School Boards and see how they operate, we are truly blessed to have the relationships we do here to be able to work together each and every day," The current trustees truly care about the students, parents and taxpayers, and the staff of Tomball ISD." Lewandowski said.

He credits the achievements earned to the relationships built in this community, board members who work well together and have a common goal, and excellent teachers, staff, and administration.

"I am very proud of some of the accomplishments we have made," Lewandowski said. "As a district, we received all A's in the first year of the new state accountability system and was one of only 153 districts in the state and the only district in Harris County to have accomplished that."

"Our great teachers and staff have developed a strong curriculum that helps our students be prepared for whatever life choices they make whether it be college or career. Over the last several years we have had bonds passed and opened many schools while being able to hold steady and even lower our tax rate.

"We have excellent student programs that provide many choices for our students that includes career and technology, fine arts, athletics, college prep, community and leadership programs, and Tomball Star Academy to name a few. We continue to make changes that help us provide a physically and emotionally safe learning environment and there is so much more that the district is doing to help our students grow and be successful. It is my belief that while we are one of the best school districts in the state we have not yet peaked and that we will only continue

It speaks volumes about the community and about the educational investment made in Tomball ISD to continue to see our alumni giving back to the community in which played a valuable role in their own life.

And for Mark Lewandowski, Tomball is home.

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# HEALTHY WAGE CHALLENGE

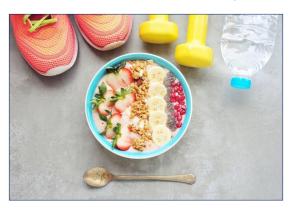
Join Tomball ISD in the \$10,000 School District Wellness Challenge!

# Tomball ISD has partnered with Healthy Wage to make 2019 the best year yet!

Join the \$10,000 School District Wellness Challenge and compete against other school districts across the country to get healthy and win big. This 12-week challenge utilizes friendly competition and cash prizes to provide you with the motivation to make 2019 your healthiest year yet. Your team will have the opportunity to win \$10,000.

#### What to Know:

- Compete team vs. team and district vs. district against school districts across the nation to get healthy and win big.
- Huge cash prizes for the top team from your district and for the top team in the challenge.
- Teams of 5 can be coworkers and/or family members.
- Don't have a team? No problem HealthyWage will match you up with one!
- Enjoy fun and interactive mini-challenges like "Smart Swap" and "Get Active" to collect achievement ribbons and earn cash prizes!
- Registration costs \$75; however, you will earn back your registration fee by achieving an individual weight loss of 10% or more in 9 months!





#### What You Could Win:

- \$10,000 for 1st place
- \$1,500 for the top team from each district (must have at least 50 participants;
   \$10,000 winning district excluded).
- Plus, MORE cash prizes for collecting achievement ribbons!

follow us on social media: @TomballISD







www.TomballSp.net

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# DISTRICT CALENDAR

JULY 2018		JANUARY 2019					
S M T W T F S	S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S
TOMBA	ALL		1	2	3	4	5
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 INDEPENDENT SCHOOL	DL DISTRICT 6	7	8	9	10	11	12
8 9 10 11 12 13 14 <b>2018-2019 Cale</b>	endar 13	14	15	16	17	18	19
15 16 1/ 18 19 20 21	20		22	23	24	25	26
22 23 24 25 26 27 28 First Day of Sch		28	29	30	31		
29 30 31 August 21, 201							
AUGUST 2018 Last Day of Sch			BRU				
S M T W T F S May 30, 2019		M	Т	W	Т	F	S
1 2 3 4 Staff & Student Ho			_	_	_	1	2
5 6 7 8 9 10 11 Independence Day -		4	5	6	7	8	9
12 <b>13 14 15 16 17</b> 18 Labor Day - Septen 19 <b>20 21</b> 22 23 24 25 Thanksgiving - Novem			12	13	14	15	16
		<b>18</b> 25	19 26	20 27	21 28	22	23
26 27 28 29 30 31 Winter Break - Dec. 2 Spring Break - Marcl		25	20	21	28		
SEPTEMBER 2018 Good Friday - Apr		N.	1AR	CII	201	0	
Memorial Day - Ma	av 27						
3 IVI I VV I F 3	3	M	Т	W	Т	F	S
1 Staff Development/W					_	1	2
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 Student Holida		4	5	6	7	8	9
9 10 11 12 13 14 15 August 7-9 (New Te	acher) 10		12	13	14	15	16
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 August 13-17	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
23 24 25 26 27 28 29 August 20	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
October 8							
OCTOBER 2018 January 7-8		APRIL 2019					
S M T W T F S January 21	S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S
1 2 3 4 <u>5</u> 6 February 15, 1		1	2	3	4	5	6
7 8 9 10 11 12 13 March 18	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 <b>May 31</b>	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 22 23 24 25 26 27	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 29 30 31 <b>Early Release D</b>	<b>ays</b> 28	29					
NOVEMBER 2018 All Schools: Oct. 5, Dec. 2	21, May 30		MA	Y 20	019		
S M T W T F S High Schools Only: Dec.	20, May 29 S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S
1 2 3 Make Up Days (if n	eeded)			1	2	3	4
4 5 6 7 8 9 10	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
11 12 13 14 15 16 17 February 18	12		14			17	18
18 19 20 21 22 23 24 March 18		20		22		24	25
25 26 27 28 29 30 May 31	26	27					
DECEMBER 2018			JUN	E 2	019		
S M T W T F S Reporting Periods	End: S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S
1							1
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 October 12	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 10 11 12 13 14 15 December 21	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	9		_				
16 17 18 19 20 <b>21</b> 22 <b>March 8</b>	16	17	18	19		21	22
		17 24	_				22 29

Approved by the Tomball ISD Board of Trustees February 13, 2018

Board Meeting Dates

**Board Materials Due**