# **MAY 2019** ombal talk

Not just a district, a destination.



#### WHAT'S INSIDE A LOOK AHEAD

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- Alumni Spotlight: Chris Scott
- Graduation Information / Social Media
- 2019-2020 District Calendar

JUNE

**Graduation Day** 

Reed Arena (Texas A&M University)

10 AM - THS

1:30 PM - TMHS

**Board Meetings** 5:30 PM

**AUGUST** 

Staff Development/Workdays

**First Day of School** 

TOMBALL ISD



### 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



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

**Dr. Steven Gutierrez** Chief Operating 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

**Nefertari Mundy**Assistant Superintendent of
Strategic Initiatives

Mark White
Assistant Superintendent of
Accountability & Governmental
Relations

## WHY TOMBALL?



THE ONLY STRAIGHT SCHOOL DISTRICT
IN HARRIS COUNTY



94% OVERALL PERFORMANCE



- (A) SCHOOL PROGRESS
- (A) CLOSING THE GAPS





17,000+
STUDENT ENROLLMENT



20 CAMPUSES

**TAX RATE: \$1.34 UNCHANGED PAST 5 YEARS** 



**CTE PATHWAYS** 



**RANKED #1** FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY



**6.4% GROWTH** IN STUDENT POPULATION



REPUTATION OF EXCELLENCE

**INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATIONS** 

**HIGHLY RATED** 

OUTSTANDING STUDENT ACH SMALLER SCHOOL COMMUNITY

**ENGAGED FAMILIES** 

A DESTINATION

DISTRICT OF INNOVATION

STATE-OF-THE-ART STADIUM IN 2020



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# TOMBALL ISD CELEBRATES GROUNDBREAKING OF NEW DISTRICT COMPLEX



Tomball ISD celebrated a monumental day on May 29 with the official groundbreaking ceremony for the new district complex, featuring a state-of-theart Stadium and Community Center along with two schools, located at the corner of Grand Parkway 99 and Cypress Rosehill.

"Today is a monumental day in Tomball ISD," Superintendent of Schools Dr. Martha Salazar-Zamora said. "It is a day of celebration, a day of thanks and a day to bring our close-knit community together once again to prove we are that Destination District."

The Tomball ISD Board of Trustees, Salazar-Zamora and the district Executive Team joined together with project partners PBK, Gilbane and LAN to celebrate the hard work put forth by all to make this day a reality.

"This is a true partnership. We are so proud that today is finally here," said Salazar-Zamora. "Anyone that has been a part of this knows there have been some extreme challenges but anything that has adversity in the end, means a great deal. This will mean a lot to the students of this great community for many, many years to come."

The passing of Bond 2017 for \$275 million supported this complex and many other district-wide improvements.

The celebratory event commended the community backing of the Bond and applauded the planning efforts by many.

Along with the state-of-the-art stadium that will accommodate over 10,000 spectators and be used by both Tomball High School and Tomball Memorial High School, the project will also feature the largest Community Center in Tomball. This facility will be used for district events, community functions as well as a professional development learning environment for Tomball ISD staff and teachers.

Also among the featured facilities within the complex will be a new elementary school and new junior high school. These schools will become the 21st and 22nd campuses in Tomball ISD, which currently educates over 17,000 students.

Board of Trustees President Mark Lewandowski wrapped up by commending the community and what it means to live in Tomball.

"We are blessed to be in Tomball ISD," Lewandowski said. "We have such great support from our community, we have a great staff and great teachers. What more can you ask for?"

# TISD CELEBRATES SUCCESS AT ACADEMIC AWARDS CEREMONY



Superintendent of Schools Dr. Martha Salazar-Zamora, the Board of Trustees and Executive Team were on hand to present awards to 102 students, 43 teachers, two paraprofessionals

and two principals across Tomball ISD.

Tomball ISD enjoyed a night of celebration at

the 33rd Annual Academic Awards Ceremony.

Highlighting the night was the announcement of the district's Teachers of the Year, Principals of the Year and Paraprofessionals of the Year.



Along with the district's top honors, highachieving students from each campus were selected as A+ students and were honored with medallions and the top teachers from each school were recognized as A+ teachers and awarded a glass apple and a \$100 stipend.

### Teachers of the Year

Stephanie Scott - Elementary Janet Stackhouse - Secondary



### Principals of the Year

Chad Schmidt - Elementary Kim McKinney - Secondary

### Paraprofessionals of the Year

Karen Sue Smith - Timber Creek Elementary Deb Rigg - Connections Academy

For a full list of A+ students & teachers, CLICK HERE.



### TOMBALL EDUCATION FOUNDATION AWARDS MORE GRANTS

The Tomball Education Foundation was at it again when Tomball ISD educators at eight different campuses had their education dreams come true by being awarded nearly \$35,000 in grants to be used on innovative projects they submitted through the application process.

The Tomball Education Foundation provides funds for educational projects and activities that are beyond traditional funding.

Congratulations to our grant recipients.

### **ERIN THAEMLITZ, KATHERINE VAN** SLIGTENHORST, ANGELA HOWELL | CPJH

The celebration began at Creekside Park Junior High when Erin Thaemlitz, Katherine Van Sligtenhorst and Angela Howell were honored with a \$4,700 grant for additional Chromebooks and Kajeets, a mobile-hotspot, that will enable all students to access home Internet for increased student success.

#### FIRST GRADE TEAM | CES

The Education Foundation then headed to Creekview Elementary where they honored the first grade team with a \$5,000 grant for The Gift of Age: Bridging the Generational Gap. This grant will enable first graders to begin fostering a relationship with the elderly in the community while using their life principles and the expectations learned through Great Expectations.

#### **NANCY NEWTON | THS**

Nancy Newton from Tomball High School was surprised on the E-Train with a \$4,986 grant for Virtual Reality Expedition in the Classroom. This enhanced technology will benefit the SPED classrooms and is used to place 3D objects in the classroom for students to observe.

#### STACIA SEAGROVES | OIS

Oakcrest Intermediate's Stacia Seagroves was surprised with a \$3,275 grant for Young Broadcasters Production Studio. a mobile studio that features an iPad Pro, live streaming capability, green screen and padcasters kit. This program will allow for a weekly student production and news program for the school as well as expand and enhance the school's Student News Club.

#### CASSONDRA BULACLAC | TMHS

The train continued to Tomball Memorial High School to honor Cassondra Bulaclac with a \$1,500 grant for PCR For All - Bringing Modern Biotechnology into the Biology Classroom. This technology will enhance and amplify small amounts of DNA into larger amounts to be analyzed. This will immediately benefit the AP and dual-credit Biology students.



### **CONNIE PAGE | TMHS**

Connie Page from Tomball Memorial High School was awarded a \$2,623.95 grant for Real Care Geriatric Simulator which is a program that comes with a 13-hour curriculum that will be used in both Health Science Theory and Certified Nursing Assisting Practicum. The purpose of this project is to help participants learn the many challenges of aging and develop a sense of empathy and sensitivity towards the geriatric population.

### **VALERIE PRICE | CPES**

Valerie Price from Canyon Pointe Elementary was surprised with a \$3,626 grant for the use of additional makerspace materials and Let Off Some STEAM which infuses technology into learning experiences and fosters play and open-ended learning.

### JESSICA TUTTLE & GINA MOLINAR | WCES

From Willow Creek Elementary, Jessica Tuttle and Gina Molinar were awarded a \$5,000 grant for Sprouting Minds, an outdoor garden and greenhouse that will offer a fun place to provide opportunities for hands-on learning, observation and experimentation. It will inspire student growth socially, emotionally and academically.

### **LAURIE TAYLOR | LES**

Laurie Taylor from Lakewood Elementary was awarded a \$4,090 grant from the Education Foundation for Authors and Animators, an interactive learning experience, that will encourage creativity and teach the "how-to's" from a published author.



## **DESTINATION EXCELLENCE**

### **DEDICATED EMPLOYEES HONORED DURING SERVICE PIN CEREMONY**

Tomball ISD celebrated benchmark years for TISD employees at its annual Employee Service Pin Awards Ceremony. 14 dedicated individuals were celebrated for their commitment to Tomball ISD with pins for 5 years, 10 years, 15 years, 20 years, 25 years and 30 years of service to the district.



### **READ MORE**



### **INSIGHT 101 PROVIDES OPPORTUNITY FOR SENIORS, ALUMNI TO CONNECT**

Insight 101 provided an opportunity to welcome home Tomball ISD alumni who wrapped up their first or second years at respective colleges across the nation. It also offered an opportunity for over 100 current seniors to gain insight on what college is all about, expectations, and advice as they prepare to venture into the college world.

### **READ MORE**

### TOMBALL SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION **AWARDS 14 SCHOLARSHIPS TO SENIORS**

The Tomball Scholarship Foundation awarded 14 scholarships to seniors from Tomball High School and Tomball Memorial High School.

These students have been awarded a well-deserved scholarship to any Lone Star College campus of their choice.

### **READ MORE**





### **DESTINATION EXCELLENCE**

### **TOMBALL HIGH SCHOOL** STUDENT-ATHLETES HONORED ON SIGNING DAY

Congratulations to Tomball High School studentathletes who have signed to continue their playing careers at colleges across the United States. These eight student-athletes were recognized for their commitment to their academics and respective sports.



### **READ MORE**



### TOMBALL MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL **CELEBRATES FINE ARTS SIGNING DAY**

Congratulations to Tomball Memorial High School fine arts students who signed to continue their talents at colleges across the United States.

These talented students represented choir, orchestra, band, art, dance and theatre.

### **READ MORE**

### TOMBALL MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETES HONORED ON SIGNING DAY

Congratulations to Tomball Memorial High School student-athletes who signed to continue their playing careers at colleges across the United States. These 11 student-athletes were recognized for their commitment to their academics and respective sports.

#### **READ MORE**

















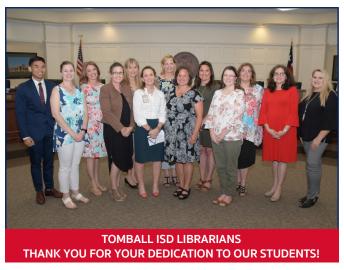










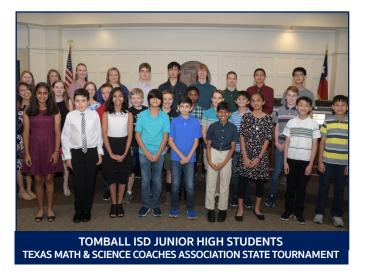






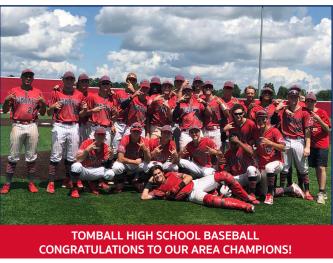


























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### **EDUCATOR SPOTLIGHT**

### 2018-2019 ELEMENTARY TEACHER OF THE YEAR



### STEPHANIE SCOTT

CREEKVIEW ELEMENTARY

GIFTED & TALENTED SPECIALIST

### How long have you been in education?

This is my 20th year in education and all 20 years of service have been dedicated to Tomball ISD.

### What was your progression through Tomball ISD?

I began my teaching career in Tomball ISD as a fifth grade math teacher at Tomball Intermediate. I served Tomball Intermediate as a 5th grade math teacher until the fall of 2014, when I moved into a campus specialist role. I was the GT specialist at Tomball Intermediate and worked with fifth and sixth grade students and teachers in this role until 2018. At the beginning of the 2018 school year, I moved to Creekview Elementary and Creekside Park Junior High, in Tomball ISD, to continue working as the GT specialist. I now have the privilege to work with students and teachers in kindergarten through sixth grade.

### Why do you choose to stay and work in Tomball?

I love working in Tomball ISD. When I moved from out of state, the staff at Tomball Intermediate, my students, and the community became my family. They made me feel like I was wanted and valued... it felt like home. As Tomball grew this feeling never went away. I am beyond blessed that I have had the opportunity to serve in Tomball ISD for my entire teaching career.

What is the best part of your job?

The best part of my job is the kids. They are the reason I come to work every day and they are what inspire me to be the best me.

### What does being named the Tomball ISD Elementary Teacher of the Year mean to you?

Being named the Tomball Teacher of the Year is very humbling. I want everyone that I have ever worked with to know that they are a part of this journey. Every kid that has been in my classroom and every parent that has trusted me to teach their child. There is no possible way I could have ever done this on my own. Collaboration with my colleagues has been key to my longevity and success in this profession and building relationships is what has kept me going in the toughest and most stressful situations. This honor is something that I share with each and every one of the people that has been with me throughout the past 20 years.

"Creekview Elementary has been incredibly blessed by Mrs. Scott's dedication, talent and heart. She is a special teacher who builds strong relationships with students, families and staff members while challenging us all to be the very best teachers and learners. Her passion for designing highly engaging lessons with focused outcomes for student learning is contagious. Mrs.Scott is humble, kind and sensitive to the needs of others, a true servant. She is one of those people who makes you a better person because you know her."

- Niesa Glenewinkel, Principal - Creekview Elementary

### EDUCATOR SPOTLIGHT

### 2018-2019 SECONDARY TEACHER OF THE YEAR



### JANET STACKHOUSE

TOMBALL MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL

**ENGLISH TEACHER** 

### How long have you been in education?

I've been in education for 26 years and all 26 years have been in Tomball ISD.

### What was your progression through Tomball ISD?

I started mid-year at Tomball High School in 1993. I stayed at THS for 18 years and only left to move to Tomball Memorial when it opened in 2011.

#### Why do you choose to stay in Tomball ISD?

TISD is home! I am fully committed to this district. The highest possible education of all students has always been and always will be the central focus of this district. Everyone is truly willing to do whatever it takes and it is evident every day. Plus, the people in Tomball have supported me through all of the ups and downs of my life (marriage, births of my four children, deaths of family members, cancer diagnosis and treatment, birth of grandbaby, etc.), and I can only hope that I have given even a portion of this back to this district as well.

### What is the best part of your job?

I love meeting students at the beginning of high school and helping them navigate their education and other life skills that they will need to be successful throughout high school and their future.

### What does being named the Tomball ISD Secondary Teacher of the Year mean to you?

It is an humbling recognition. I have been able to learn from so many amazing mentors and work with so many amazing educators. I am grateful and stunned by this recognition.

"Janet Stackhouse exemplifies what it means to be a Wildcat. She is a true professional always looking for resources to help and serve her department. She volunteers in organizations all over campus and consistently looks for ways to make TMHS better. Teachers look to her because of her experience and students love her because of all the activities she creates for them. She is an intricate part of TMHS and she is true example of what it means to be a teacher at Tomball Memorial."

- Chad Smith, Principal - Tomball Memorial High School



# UPCOMING: MEET & GREET AT CENTRAL OFFICE WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12 FROM 5:00 - 6:30 PM JOIN THE FACEBOOK GROUP

The cost has been reduced from \$185/week to \$150/week!

Early Excellence Academy will serve:

- 2-year old children who are actively potty-training
- 3-year and 4-year old children
- 5-year old children who are not eligible for Kindergarten

Lunch will be included when Tomball ISD schools are in session

### The Application for the Early Excellence Academy is Open!

Parents or guardians must be a full-time employee of TISD to register and the enrollment process will be on a first come, first serve basis.

You must login to your Tomball ISD Google Account (employeeID@tomballschools.net + your Single Sign On password) to access the website and application link:

### https://www.tomballisd.net/EarlyExcellence/

- Capacity limit at 66 children
- Located in an unattached building on the campus grounds of Tomball High School
- For additional questions, please email brendablackmon@tomballisd.net

@TomballISD > [ ] TomballISD.net

**#TISDMVT** Congratulations to our #MostValuableTeachers and thank you for being an #Irreplaceable teacher in Tomball ISD.







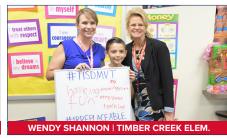


















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**#TISDMVT** Congratulations to our #MostValuableTeachers and thank you for being an #Irreplaceable teacher in Tomball ISD.

























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**#TISDMVT** Congratulations to our #MostValuableTeachers and thank you for being an #Irreplaceable teacher in Tomball ISD.



























## **ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT**

### CHRIS SCOTT | THS, '92 **Tomball High School Principal**

Once a Cougar. Always a Cougar.

It wasn't long before Chris Scott realized that Tomball held a very special place in his heart.

He leads the way as Principal at Tomball High School and everyday walks the halls of where he wrapped up his high school career as a Cougar.

Scott, a 1992 graduate of THS, moved into Tomball ISD when he was a sophomore in high school. As a student-athlete, Scott immediately found his new home. He was a letterman in both baseball and football and to this day, sports his well-earned letterman jacket during Homecoming festivities.

From a Tomball Cougar to a Houston Cougar, Scott continued his love for baseball at the collegiate level, playing for the University of Houston. Along with being a student-athlete, Scott graduated with a degree in biology in 1997.



He spent time abroad after college, specifically in Israel and later obtained his Master of Education at Sam Houston State University.

After experiencing time away from the United States, Scott realized that he could make the most of what he learned by returning to his roots.

His youth experience in Tomball was a memorable one that embodied community involvement and support for those that called this town home.

"Going to Tomball was a little bit similar to where I originally grew up," Scott remembers. "I grew up in a rural city with a lot of the same similar community beliefs, a lot of togetherness and communal living where people know each other and want to connect. I wanted that for my family as well."

Well-traveled, Scott knew education was his calling thanks to a few early mentors.

He has been employed by Tomball ISD since 2008 and has been a part of this growing district in a variety of roles ever since.

Prior to returning to Tomball ISD, Scott was a principal in College Station. He then had the opportunity to return as the TISD's Math & Science Director in Central Office where he spent nearly seven years in that role.

"I really wanted to come back home and invest in the community that gave me so much. My parents still live right behind Tomball High School and for me, our family was growing, and we felt like it was the right time to move back.

After spending some time away from the campus level, Scott wanted an opportunity to return.

"One thing I missed the most on the campus level was being around the kids. They build a sense of spirit on a campus that is unmatched," Scott said.

Scott had the opportunity to open Tomball ISD's newest junior high school, Creekside Park Junior High, as principal in August 2016.

"Opening a brand new school was a fantastic experience," Scott said. "It was hard in a lot of ways, but it was something I will never forget. The experience of creating something that never existed before in terms of the culture, climate and vision is an opportunity you don't always get to do."

Following his stint as principal at CPJH, the opportunity to return to the high school level and to his alma mater opened up and Scott was tasked with the role as principal at Tomball High School in 2017.

He now has the opportunity to see his own kids everyday as students at THS.

"That is a big deal to me," Scott said. "You don't always have that luxury of being in the same school as your own kids, so I definitely took advantage of the opportunity when it was presented to me."

Scott took over at Tomball High School and immediately developed a culture of high expectations, a reputation of being a visionary and a genuine leader and has The Pride of Texas thriving on all levels.

"I take great pride in showcasing our school's accomplishments, accolades and recognitions," Scott said. "My goal is to provide our students with an exceptional learning experience that impacts their lives in a positive way forever and instills in them the Cougar PRIDE that remains in me today."

For Scott, being a Cougar means more than words. It has become who he is and always will be.

## **GRADUATION INFORMATION**



## Tomball High School Graduation Saturday, June 1 • 10 a.m.

Doors Open at 9 a.m. Graduates arrive at 9:15 a.m.

Reed Arena - Texas A&M University 1554 Olsen Blvd. College Station, TX 77840 More Info

## Tomball Memorial High School Graduation Saturday, June 1 • 1:30 p.m.

Doors Open at 12:30 p.m. Graduates arrive at 12:45 p.m.

Congratulations
Reed Arena - Texas A&M University
1554 Olsen Blvd.
College Station, TX 77840
More info

### Follow us on social media: @TomballISD







www.TomballSp.net

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