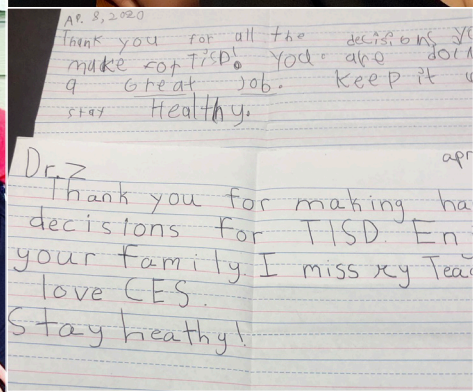
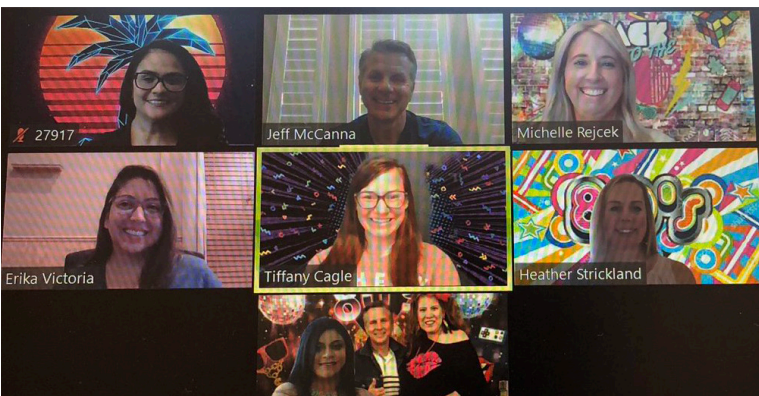


a look back at April 2020

# Tomball *talk*

Tomball ISD ... not just a district, a destination.





# Tomball Talk

## CONTENTS

- |                              |                              |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 • Table of Contents        | 9 • #TISDWeGotThis           |
| 2 • Executive Team / Board   | 10 • #TISDWeGotThis          |
| 3 • About Us                 | 11 • #TISDWeGotThis          |
| 4 • Why Tomball?             | 12 • #TISDWeGotThis          |
| 5 • Superintendent's Message | 13 • Virtual Teacher of Week |
| 6 • Remote Learning          | 14 • News Headlines          |
| 7 • Park-n-Learn             | 15 • Ed Foundation Grants    |
| 8 • News Headlines           | 16 • Ed Foundation Grants    |

### SCHOOLMESSENGER

SchoolMessenger allows you to personalize communications from your school or district.

#### LEARN MORE ABOUT SCHOOLMESSENGER

Unsure whether you are opted-in or opted-out for text alerts from Tomball ISD?

**Text HELP to 67587.**



#### **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.

#### **SUBMIT IDEAS / NOMINATE**

Email

[communications@tomballisd.net](mailto:communications@tomballisd.net)  
to submit ideas or to nominate an individual for a feature in next month's  
*Tomball Talk* by May 16..



**@TomballISD**

**#DestinationExcellence**



**tomballisd.net**

# GET TO ..... KNOW **TOMBALL ISD**

NOT JUST A DISTRICT, A DESTINATION



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

3rd Year as Superintendent  
6th Year Overall in TISD

## OUR LEADER + EXECUTIVE TEAM

**Dr. Amy Schindewolf**  
Chief Academic Officer

**Jim Ross**  
Chief Financial Officer

**Jeff McCanna**  
Chief of Human Talent

**Dr. Steven Gutierrez**  
Chief Operating Officer

**Dr. Valerie Petrzalka**  
Assistant Superintendent  
Elementary Schools

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

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

**Nefertari Mundy**  
Assistant Superintendent  
Strategic Initiatives

**Mark White**  
Assistant Superintendent  
Accountability & Governmental Relations

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Tomball ISD** is governed by an elected seven-member board. School Board members are guardians of the public trust and, through the policies they make, are ultimately responsible for the success or failure of local public education. The board serves as the advocate for educational excellence for the community's youth and puts those interests first. The policies school boards make dictate the standards and philosophy by which schools are run and the criteria used to judge whether they are being run well.



**Michael Pratt**  
President  
Position 2



**Matt Schiel**  
Vice President  
Position 5



**Kathy Handler**  
Secretary  
Position 1



**Lee McLeod**  
Assistant Secretary  
Position 7



**Mark Lewandowski**  
Trustee  
Position 4



**John E. McStravick**  
Trustee  
Position 3



**Justin Unser**  
Trustee  
Position 6



## ABOUT US

Tomball Independent School District is a highly regarded public school system with a reputation for excellence. It serves over 18,000 students in grades pre-kindergarten through 12 across 20 campuses.

Tomball ISD takes pride in its progressive instructional programs and maintains a strong foundation of guiding principles, beliefs, and a visionary mission of the future.

Tomball ISD encompasses 83 square miles in northwest Harris County and southwest Montgomery County, and is located 30 miles from downtown Houston.

Tomball and its school district are unique because of their heritage, traditions, and hometown appeal. Parents choose Tomball ISD because of the district's unwavering commitment to high student achievement characterized by quality instruction, equality of opportunities and resources, demonstrated results, strong parental involvement and community support. In Tomball ISD, we believe our students are leading in "Creating the Future!"

## VISION

Tomball ISD students will lead in creating the future.

## MISSION

Tomball ISD educates students to become responsible, productive citizens by providing innovative, individually rigorous, and personally valuable educational experiences.

## GOALS

1. Tomball ISD will develop, continuously enhance and utilize rigorous college, career, and life ready curriculum that is responsive to the needs of individual learners.
2. Tomball ISD will provide multiple sources of high quality academic content that infuses technology in learning experiences and instruction.
3. Tomball ISD will attract, develop and retain high quality staff through a well –defined, personally valuable professional development plan and support structure.
4. Tomball ISD will foster a culture of caring and compassionate educators to provide a supportive learning environment.
5. Tomball ISD will promote academic success by engaging students through real world experiences while cultivating independent thinking and creative problem solving.
6. Tomball ISD will prepare our graduates to succeed in the college/career path of their choice.
7. Tomball ISD will promote an emotionally and physically safe and secure learning environment.
8. Tomball ISD will be fiscally responsible while meeting the educational and facility needs of the students.
9. Tomball ISD will inspire students to develop and exhibit character traits that are reflective of community standards.
10. Tomball ISD will actively engage and involve parents and the community.



# WHY TOMBALL?



**BACK-TO-BACK  
HIGHEST  
RATED  
SCHOOL  
DISTRICT**  
*in NW Harris County*



**18,000+**  
STUDENT ENROLLMENT



**20**  
CAMPUSES



**TAX RATE: \$1.29**



**25**  
CTE PATHWAYS



**RANKED #1**  
FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY  
BY TXSMARTSCHOOLS



**6.4% GROWTH**  
IN STUDENT POPULATION



## REPUTATION OF EXCELLENCE

INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATIONS

HIGHLY RATED

OUTSTANDING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

SMALLER SCHOOL COMMUNITY

ENGAGED FAMILIES

A DESTINATION

DISTRICT OF INNOVATION

STATE-OF-THE-ART STADIUM COMING SOON



**TOMBALL ISD**  
DESTINATION EXCELLENCE

   @TOMBALLISD  
[www.tomballisd.net](http://www.tomballisd.net)

# FROM DR. Z



## SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGES

[CLICK FOR MORE](#)

April 17, 2020

In Tomball ISD, every decision we make is in the best interest of our students and staff and with that, I wanted to inform you that a decision has been made to continue with remote learning, while remaining closed the remainder of the school year.

This decision comes in response to the new executive order by Texas Governor Greg Abbott to close all Texas schools for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year.

As a District, we are confident in how our remote learning model has evolved and are pleased with the progress made by our students and staff during this transition. We are fully prepared to finish out the 2019-2020 school year strong with academic instruction.

While we remain closed, our goal as a District is to give our graduates an experience they will cherish even amid these challenging times. Based on feedback from several Class of 2020 surveys, we will forgo the idea of a virtual graduation and look forward to honoring our graduates with an in-person Graduation Ceremony in July.

As much as we are ready to be back together as a school community again, I want to once again extend my gratitude to your family during this time. Thank you for continuing to be patient with us during this time and please know that because of your trust in this process, we will all be back together very soon.

Dr. Martha Salazar-Zamora  
Superintendent of Schools

A graphic for Tomball ISD. On the left is a vertical bar with a red and blue geometric pattern. To its right is the Tomball ISD logo, featuring a large blue 'T' with a yellow outline, followed by the text 'TOMBALL ISD' in red and 'DESTINATION EXCELLENCE' in blue. Below the logo, the text 'Tomball ISD to remain closed while providing remote learning instruction' is written in red. Underneath that, 'THROUGH 2019-20 SCHOOL YEAR' is written in blue. At the bottom, the hashtag '#TISDWeGotThis' is displayed in yellow. To the right of the hashtag are three stylized icons: a yellow cloud with a white square, a blue cloud with a white square, and a red cloud with a white square.

**TOMBALL ISD**  
DESTINATION EXCELLENCE

**Tomball ISD to remain closed while  
providing remote learning instruction**

**THROUGH 2019-20 SCHOOL YEAR**

**#TISDWeGotThis**



# REMOTE LEARNING



## Remote Learning Resources

Resources for Families & Educators during this time of extended remote learning



On occasions when it is necessary to close schools, Tomball ISD is committed to making every effort to ensure that students have the opportunity to remain engaged in their learning.

## [READ MORE ABOUT REMOTE LEARNING](#)



[Parent/ Student Remote Learning Academic Resources](#)



[Remote Learning Resources for Staff](#)



[Social Emotional Learning Resources](#)

# PARK-N-LEARN

**Park-n-Learn**



**\*Free WiFi Spot**



**TOMBALL ISD**  
DESTINATION EXCELLENCE

**\*24/7 Access for  
Students and Staff  
with Tomball ISD  
Login**

Tomball ISD understands there is a need from our students and staff in our community for additional WiFi access to the Internet remotely.

The District is excited to share that 6 campuses are ready to serve our community with FREE Park-n-Learn WiFi with available access 24/7 for students and staff.

The 6 campuses available now:

- Oakcrest Intermediate
- Tomball Junior High
- Creekview Elementary
- Rosehill Elementary
- Decker Prairie Elementary
- Lakewood Elementary

Students and/or staff interested in this service can park in the school parking lot of any of the 6 campuses listed, and access the Internet, free of charge from their device.

As we continue with remote learning the remainder of the school year, Tomball ISD is hopeful these Park-n-Learn spots will provide WiFi access for those families with limited or no Internet access at home.

Again, if questions arise, please contact the Tomball ISD Technology Team at 281-357-3052 ext. 4001.



# DESTINATION EXCELLENCE

## CLASS OF 2020 UPDATES

Tomball ISD will provide updates for the Class of 2020 from Tomball High School and Tomball Memorial High School.

Graduation is tentatively scheduled for Friday, July 24 at the Berry Center.

[CLICK HERE FOR UPDATES](#)



## CURBSIDE MEAL SERVICE CONTINUES

Tomball ISD Child Nutrition is committed to serving our families during this time.

The FREE curbside meal service will continue every Wednesday in May from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Tomball High School.

## SOCIAL EMOTIONAL RESOURCES WHILE WE PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING

Tomball ISD Counselors have come together to identify social emotional resources for families.

These resources range from new routine suggestions, ways to help kids worried about COVID-19 as well as advanced resources for college and career-bound students.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO](#)



# #TISDWE GOT THIS



**Charlene W** @QueenieBear24 · 33m

More work on subtraction, reading and science writing. They tried out some new lap desks and they are pretty awesome. They are working great and are a welcome help in doing school work. #TISDWeGotThis



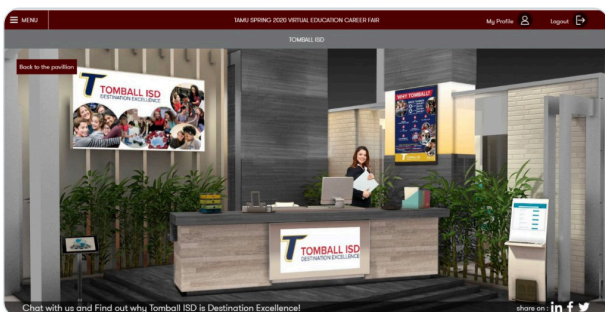
**CPJH Athletics** @CPJHAthletics · 1h

Successful Day passing out meals today! @TomballISD @TISDCPJHS



**Tomball ISD Human Talent** @TISD\_HT · 1h

We are ready to chat with you the @cehdtamu Virtual Job Fair! Stop by our booth and find out why @TomballISD is #DestinationExcellence.



**Jessica Rivera** @CPES\_Rivera · 2h

I am loving my morning walk to the mailbox! One of the biggest things I miss from being in the classroom is our independent writing time. I love watching them develop as writers.



**Whitney Johnson** @TISD\_NUTRITION · 19h

Thank you for the SUNSHINE ☀️ on this gloomy weather day! Another great Wednesday serving our students and community kiddos! @TomballISD #curbsidemenu #teamtomball



**T3 7312** @frc7312 · 16h

This weeks #SeniorSpotlight is RJ Hairrell, our Head of Business! RJ is majoring in Neuroscience with a minor in Spanish at the University of Texas at Austin. He is the graduating salutatorian for the @TISDTHS 2020 class, congratulations! @TomballISD @FIRSTweets #T3Robotics #FIRST





# #TISDWE GOT THIS



**Bethany McDowell** @MsMcDowell2nd · 3h

Superhero Monday! Spiderman and a unicorn. We decided unicorns can be superheroes too! @TISDTCES #virtualtces



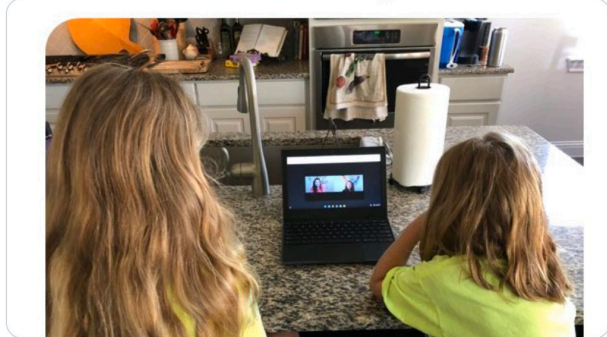
**Whitney Hoffer** @mrshoffer\_math · 47m

Taking our independent reading outside today for @TISDTCES virtual spirit week! "Camp out and read" was perfect in this weather! #virtualtces



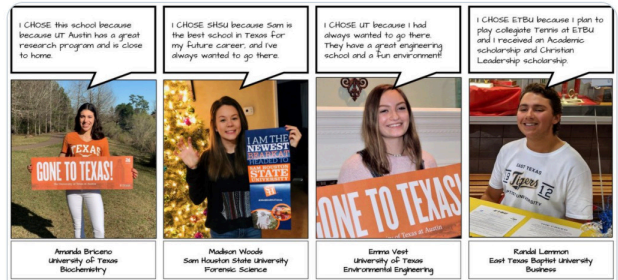
**Creekview Librarian** @MrsFriedrichs · 14m

Mrs. Robinett and I are having so much fun creating lessons for our Social Emotional Library Time. We love seeing students enjoy the SEL messages. @stephferro @TISDCES #lifeprinciples #makingconnections



**Jesse Javillonar** @THS\_libraryyy · 21h

First round of celebrating our Class of 2020! (see my previous tweet to get in on this so we can recognize YOUR new chapter) #SeniorShowcase #ClassOf2020 #ThePrideOfTexas #MyNextChapter #TISDWeGotThis @TISDTHS @TomballISD @THS\_Mrs\_Nichols



**CLASS OF 2020: MY NEXT CHAPTER**



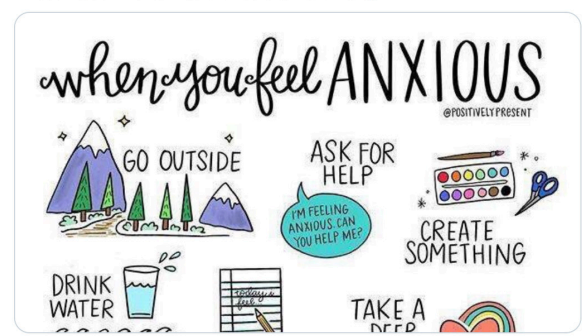
**David Surdovel** @DaveSurdovel · Apr 7

Congrats @SusWhitley of @TISDNIS for the @conocophillips & @astros Math Teacher of the Month Award! This is the 4th year in a row a @TomballISD math teacher has won after @WWJH\_Mr\_Penny, @haley\_galyean, & @ARBearden #TeamTomball #DestinationExcellence #TomballMath #TISDWeGotThis



**Dr. Michelle Howard** @DrMichelleHowa1 · 10h

During this time of high anxiety and restrictions, there are things you can do. I'm texting silly jokes and memes with friends in need because I love laughing. Laughter truly is good for you! Take 5 minutes every hour to invest in your mental health. You are worth it! ❤️



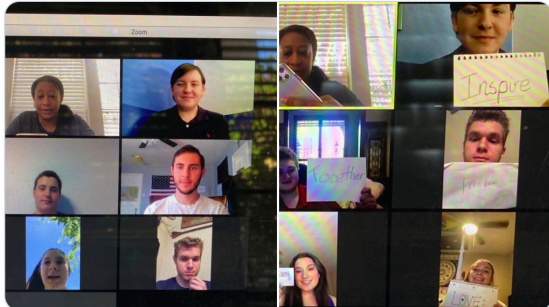


# #TISDWE GOT THIS



**Martha SalazarZamora** @m\_salazarzamora · Apr 24

What a great way to end the day zooming with @TomballISD Superintendent Student Ambassadors. I liked getting their insight about remote learning, spending time with family and what they look forward to after quarantine. Loved sharing our words. #TeamTomball #DestinationExcellence



**Mark Vierkant** @THS\_Mr\_Vierkant · Apr 20

Had to run out this morning. Shout out to @DianaMa14611923 for the face mask so I can represent @BandTep and @TISDTHS



**Coach Almanza** @TMHS\_SWIMMING · Apr 27

There are no words to describe what it's like to see this building taking shape. But if I had to pick, it would be JOY! #TISD still getting it done for our students!



**Whitney Johnson** @TISD\_NUTRITION · Apr 21

Looking forward to seeing you tomorrow. Items will be bagged separately: Entrees, Fruit & Veggies, and Milk. Heating instructions included. Something new to try, Jicama Sticks 🍌🍌 @TomballISD @TISDTHS #teamtomball #TISDWeGotThis



**Stacey Toman** @Fabulous3rdST · Apr 13

Sidewalk chalk appreciation message I created today. Thank you to all of our essential workers. We appreciate you! @TomballISD @abc13houston @KPRC2 @KHOU @Pct4Constable @memorialhermann @HEB @kroger @Walmart @USPS @amazon @UPS @houstonpolice @HoustonFire @HerzogWeather



**Eileen Garza** @eileengarza · Apr 8

Check out all of the options Tomball ISD has to support access to print materials. Teacher trainings posted here! Come join us! [bit.ly/2w6f2OV](https://bit.ly/2w6f2OV) #TeamTomball @TStudentsupport



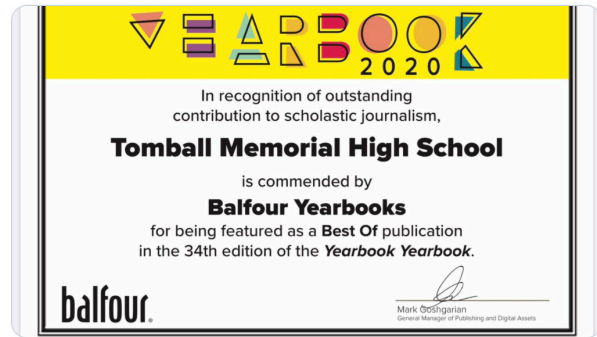
**TOMBALL ISD**



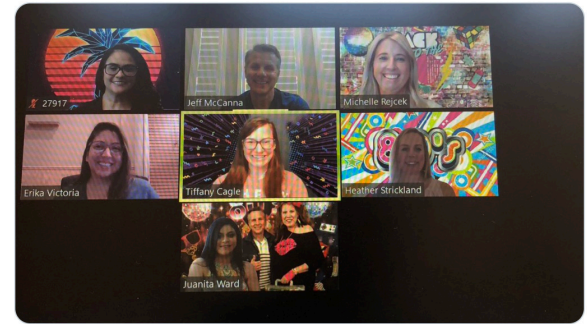
# #TISDWE GOT THIS



**Mrs. Chumley\_TMHS** @jillchumley · Apr 21  
 Congratulations to the 2019 Tomball Memorial yearbook staff! Their book was chosen to be featured in the front of a national yearbook publication. #TMHSTISD #TMHSWeBelieve #SixTenets #GoCatsGo #TMHSJournalism



**Jeff McCanna** @jeff\_mccanna · 37s  
 80's Theme today for our @TISD\_HT Huddle! I'm so blessed to work with this group! They are Relentless, Passionate, & All In! @m\_salazarzamora you made it to the meeting as well 🙌! 🎉



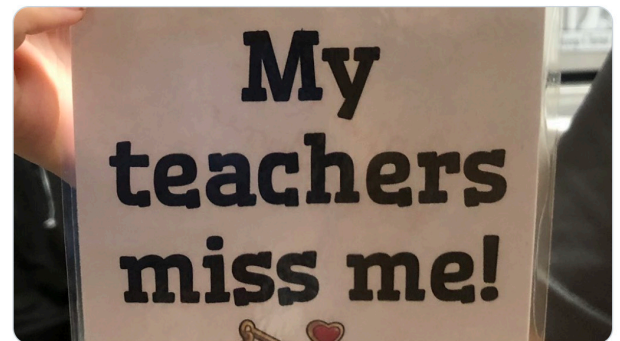
**Marla Sonsel** @MrsSonsel · Apr 17  
 Tomball ISD board approves SMART Tag system expected to improve safety, security for bus ridership



Tomball ISD board approves SMART Tag system expected to improve...  
 The Tomball ISD board of trustees approved a \$342,318 contract April 13 for a SMART Tag system, slated to enhance the safety and secur...



**WHAPTHS** @n\_flies · Apr 18  
 We found this gem on the gate. We love our teachers! @Mrscturner @TISDDPES @TISDTHS



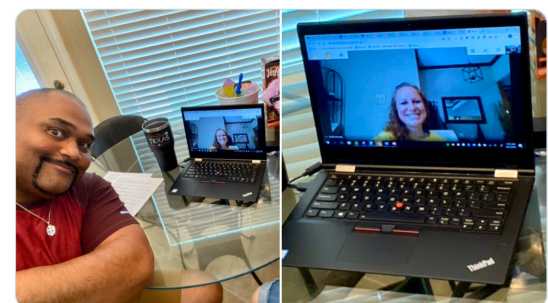
**Jesse Javillonar** @THS\_libraryy · Apr 17  
 Celebrating our #ClassOf2020 and their next chapter!  
 #SeniorShowcase #ThePrideOfTexas #MyNextChapter #TISDWeGotThis @TISDTHS @TomballISD



**CLASS OF 2020: MY NEXT CHAPTER**



**Robert Long III, Ed.D.** @RYHT\_WHouston · Apr 21  
 Thank You Mrs. Brawley! @TISDWCES for the virtual parent conference and check-in on both our child's academic progress, but also being a support to parents for effective remote learning! @TomballISD #COVID-19 @m\_salazarzamora #TeachersCan #thefutureoftxedisere #txlege



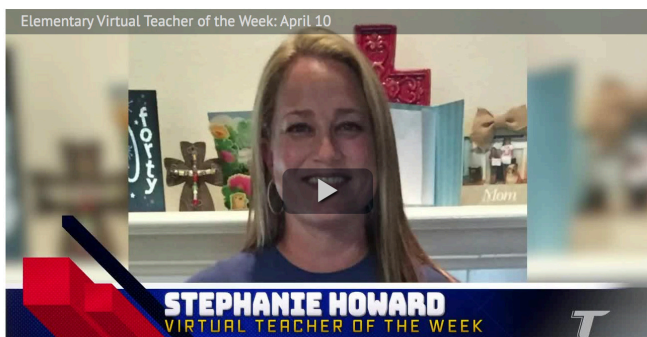


# VIRTUAL TEACHERS

## Tomball ISD Virtual Teachers of the Week

While we engage in remote learning, Tomball ISD is excited to recognize teachers as Virtual Teachers of the Week. These educators continue to go above and beyond for the needs of their students during this time.

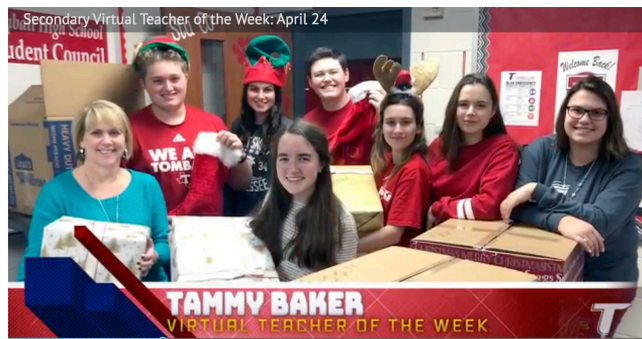
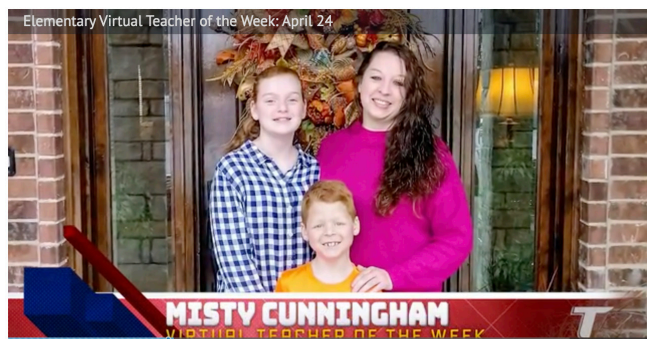
**April 6-10, 2020: Elementary - Stephanie Howard (CPES) & Secondary - Arline Clark (TIS)**



**April 13-17, 2020: Elementary - Wendy Shannon (TCES) & Secondary - Chris Bellicini (CPJHS)**



**April 20-24, 2020: Elementary - Misty Cunningham (RES) & Secondary - Tammy Baker (THS)**



**April 27-May 1, 2020: Elementary - Heather Kearns (WCES) & Secondary - Nicole Canada (TJHS)**





# DESTINATION EXCELLENCE

## LETTY ROMAN NAMED NEW PRINCIPAL AT WILDWOOD ELEMENTARY

Tomball ISD announces Letty Roman as the new Principal at Wildwood Elementary. She brings 21 years of invaluable experience in education, 15 years of which have been in a campus leadership role.

[READ MORE](#)



## NEW MASCOT SELECTED FOR GRAND OAKS ELEMENTARY

Tomball ISD has named its mascot for its newest elementary school, opening August 2020 - Grand Oaks Elementary.

GOES' mascot selected: ***Tigers!***

## SUSANNE WHITLEY NAMED CONOCOPHILLIPS/ASTROS MATH TEACHER OF THE MONTH

Northpointe Intermediate math teacher Susanne Whitley was recently honored as the ConocoPhillips Math Teacher of the Month for April.

ConocoPhillips and the Houston Astros recognize six math teachers during the baseball season.

[READ MORE](#)



# EDUCATION FOUNDATION



2020 Grant Total

# \$19,127.30

*The Tomball Education Foundation, founded in 2017, is an independent, non-profit corporation established by parents, local businesses, civic organizations, alumni and community leaders to make a positive impact on public education. The Foundation is governed by a board of directors who represent a cross-section of the community and have a sincere interest in the Tomball Independent School District's students and their success.*

## Tomball Education Foundation Awards TISD Educators with 2019-2020 Grants

The Tomball Education Foundation awarded Tomball ISD educators at five different campuses grants totaling \$19,127.30 to be used on innovative projects they submitted through the grant 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.

Since 2018, TEF has awarded over \$105,000 in grants to Tomball ISD teachers across 15 of the District's 20 campuses.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2019-2020 GRANT RECIPIENTS:

#### **BONDING WHILE BUILDING | \$3,600.00**

##### **Decker Prairie Elementary | Ashley Black**

The Bonding While Building grant of \$3,600.00 is for the purchase of the Hand2Mind brand STEM MakerSpace Cart, a mobile activity cart that includes building materials, tools, craft supplies, electrical components, and activity cards for STEM-related educational exercises. This project is intended to enhance STEM learning by challenging students with new concepts, tools, and processes incorporated into hands-on activities.

#### **STEAM STATION | \$3,507.91**

##### **Creekview Elementary | Kimberleigh Nagel**

The Steam Station grant of \$3,507.91 is for the creation of a MakerSpace that supplies science, engineering, and math material to every student. This project is meant for the introduction and exploration of interest-specific information in a manner deeper and more creative than that provided within the classroom.



# GRANT AWARDS

## **FLEXIBLE SEATING | \$1,500.00**

**Willow Wood Junior High | Lisa Stoyak**

The Flexible Seating grant of \$1,500.00 is for the funding of unconventional seating options to further productivity in the classroom. This project permits student control over the learning environment, reducing distraction and increasing comfortability due to the availability of seating alternatives. Each student would be allowed to choose their place within the classroom, inspiring communication and collaboration with other students.

## **OSMOS AND IPADS FOR FIRST GRADE | \$3,416.93**

**Tomball Elementary School | Meagan Busby, Nathali Welch, Jessica Hess, Cherri Henry, Jill Handal, Kate Peterson and Lindsey Utt**

The Osmos and Ipad for First Grade grant of \$3,416.93 is for the purchase of the Osmo System that is compatible with the Ipad. The Osmo System includes a word building program, number activity, tangram system, and coding game, making it applicable to reading, mathematical, language arts, and technological instruction. This program seeks to enhance learning in an array of studies and challenges the student with increasing difficulty as they progress in their education.

## **RESTORATIVE PRACTICES - IT'S ALL ABOUT BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS AND COMMUNITY | \$723.46**

**Tomball Connections Academy | Jennifer McCreedy and Bob Thompson**

The Restorative Practices grant of \$723.46 is for the instruction and implementation of positive behavioral practices such as affective statements, restorative dialogue, impromptu conferences, circles, and formal restorative conferencing in order to promote a more inclusive and respectful school climate. This program is meant to stimulate social engagement and a sense of community as well as enhance skills such as active listening within a group setting.

## **PEARDECK FOR STUDENTS 2020 | \$750.00**

**Willow Wood Junior High | Brandon Batchelor**

The Peardeck for Students 2020 grant of \$750.00 is for the continued implementation of Peardeck throughout the eighth-grade social studies department. This program allows for individualized support as well as input and feedback from students on the concepts discussed within the classroom. The continued employment of this program will provide new resources offered in the upcoming year.

## **VIRTUALLY POSSIBLE! WORD NERDS AND LOGOMANIACS CLOSE THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP | \$4,525.00**

**Creekview Elementary | Carrie Ray**

The Virtually Possible grant of \$4,525.00 is for the funding of virtual reality technology within the classroom in order to foster the development of foundational language skills in those who are performing below the expected level. This technology will offer experiences to the student that they would not normally have the opportunity to participate in, providing context for the vocabulary taught within the curriculum and, therefore, increasing retention and incorporation into everyday conversation.

## **SMILE CLUB - STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH STATION | \$1,104.00**

**Willow Wood Junior High | Suzette Reed, Lisa Stoyak, Susie Plummer, and Jenny Fontenot**

The Smile Club grant of \$1,104.00 is for the implementation of a student-led organization meant to motivate students across the campus by providing support for others' mental health problems. A 'mental health station' would be established in an easily accessible area of the school in order for students to engage in strategies to help cope with anxiety, depression, or the general feeling of being overwhelmed throughout the school day.