

a look back at December 2019

ombal talk

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



Tomball Talk

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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 to submit ideas or to nominate an individual for a feature in next month's Tomball Talk by January 15.



SCHOOLMESSENGER IN TOMBALL ISD



LEARN MORE

WHAT IS SCHOOLMESSENGER?

SchoolMessenger allows you to personalize communications from your school or district. After logging in, you will be able to:

- See your related SchoolMessenger Contacts across schools and districts.
- View the last 30 days of SchoolMessenger messages.
- Change your SchoolMessenger communication preferences.
- Opt-into Push notifications (mobile only).

@TomballISD

#DestinationExcellence







tomballisd.net

KNOW TOMBALL ISD



Dr. Martha Salazar-Zamora Superintendent of Schools 3rd Year / 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 Petrzelka 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 John E. McStravick Trustee Position 4



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





18,000+ STUDENT ENROLLMENT



20 CAMPUSES



TAX RATE: \$1.29



CTE PATHWAYS



RANKED #1 FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY



6.4% GROWTH IN STUDENT POPULATION





HIGHLY RATED

OUTSTANDING STUDENT ACHIEV SMALLER SCHOOL COMMUNITY **ENGAGED FAMILIES**

A DESTINATION

STRICT OF INNOVATION

STATE-OF-THE-ART STADIUM COMING SOON



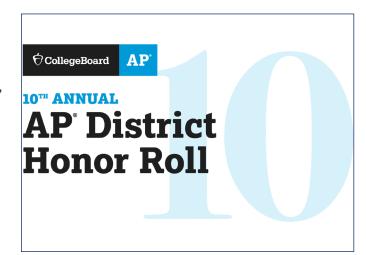


DESTINATION EXCELLENCE

TOMBALL ISD PLACED ON COLLEGE BOARD'S 10TH ANNUAL AP® DISTRICT HONOR ROLL

For its significant gains in student access and success, Tomball ISD has been placed on the College Board's 10th Annual AP® District Honor Roll.

READ MORE





DR. Z NAMES FALL 2019 SUPERINTENDENT'S SHINING STARS

Congratulations to our Fall 2019 Superintendent's Shining Stars from across the district.

Chris King - TMHS - Band Connie Johnson - WWJH - Dance Patti Brownfield - TIS - Music Michelle Bisig - CFES - Art

This initiative was designed to celebrate educators who approach teaching and learning creatively.

READ MORE

TISD TEACHERS NAMED GREATER TOMBALL AREA CHAMBER TEACHERS OF THE MONTH

Tomball High School's Markaela van Putten and Willow Wood Junior High's Amy Edmondson were recognized at the Greater Tomball Area Chamber of Commerce First Friday luncheon as December Teachers of the Month - presented by Leo Corley of Element Payment Services.



SOCIAL EMOTIONAL

Tomball ISD Featured in Bragging Rights Issue of Texas School Business Magazine

Multi-tiered System of Support Addresses Student Mental Health

Tomball ISD was among just 12 Texas school districts to have been recognized for their outstanding programs with the release of Texas School Business magazine's 13th Annual Bragging Rights 2019-20 special issue.

Bragging Rights, which calls for nominations and is published every December, recognizes school districts that have implemented programs that are bettering the lives of Texas' students, schools and communities.

"Nearly 200 nominations for school district programs across Texas poured in this year, and each one deserves to be noticed," says Texas School Business Editorial Director Dacia Rivers. "It's our hope that the 12 districts we chose inspire others to follow in their footsteps. The mission of



Texas School Business is to share the good news happening in Texas public schools, and there's never a shortage of news-worthy school programs for us to cover."

For 45 years, Texas School Business has served as the news magazine for public education in Texas. Since 2014, it has been produced by the Texas Association of School Administrators (www.tasanet.org).

CLICK HERE TO READ STORY
PUBLISHED IN TEXAS SCHOOL BUSINESS

TOP TEACHER TWEETS



Amy Rauscher @MrsRauscherCES · Nov 19

Fourth grade's banner for Inclusive Schools Week is up! We chose to highlight a favorite quote from "When Charley Met Emma." We put our thumbprints on it to symbolize our commitment to this idea! #inclusion #cesbeyondGREATness @TISDCES @TStudentsupport







Leslie Meek @leslmeek · Dec 4

Great job Mrs. Smith! I love how our Kinder kids had to find multiple ways to represent a number. #cesbeyondGREATness @TISDCES @TomballMath





MGCalderon @calderongmyrna · 18h

Thank you to the @TISDTMHS Sign Language Club for visiting us today! @TISDCPFS @TISDMulti





Kelly Moore @Mrs_Moore_TCES · 44m

Found this sweet surprise tucked in my notebook on my desk.

Made my day





Helen Wilt @HelenWilt · 13h

Our kids loved The Nutcracker today! Thank you @TomballHS for hosting & the Houston Repertoire Ballet for including our students in the performance! @TISDDPES. @jdjanda #teamtomball #destinationexcellence



TOP TEACHER TWEETS













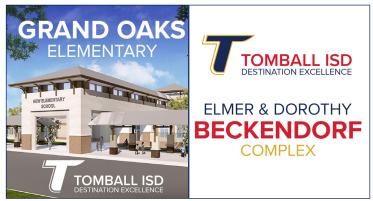
DESTINATION EXCELLENCE

TOMBALL ISD BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE NEW ELEMENTARY, COMPLEX NAMES

New Elementary Name: Grand Oaks Elementary

Overall District Complex:Elmer and Dorothy Beckendorf Complex

READ MORE





FFA STUDENTS CAPTURE 2ND IN NATION

Congratulations to Tomball High School FFA students Brennan Baskin and Travis Lubbe for finishing 2nd in the nation in the Agriscience Fair Power, Structure, & Technical Systems category at the National convention!

TIS STUDENT HONORED BY HOUSTON TEXANS

Congratulations to Tomball Intermediate School sixth grader Karlee Harris on being named a winner of the Houston Texans Stats Challenge!

Karlee & teacher Kristi Prejean were honored on the video board at the Dec. 8 Texans game.

READ MORE



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

ROBERT DUGGER | THS, '13 Current MLB Pitcher

From a young boy, baseball was his passion.

And for Robert Dugger, the dream of one day pitching in the Major Leagues became a reality in 2019.

Raised as a Tomball, Texas kid, Dugger attended Rosehill Elementary, Tomball Intermediate, Tomball Junior High and Tomball High School (13). He made the most of his experience in this community and still to this day, returns home in the offseason.

"I love this community and its small-town atmosphere. Everybody knows everybody and it's like a big family," Dugger said.



Photo by Michael Reaves/Getty Images

Baseball played a huge role in Dugger's high school experience. He wrapped up his THS baseball career in 2013 by leading his team to the Texas UIL 4A State Championship and an impressive 35-4 overall record. That season also marked the first state championship for any team sport in Tomball history. In that outing, he threw a complete game in which he allowed only one run while striking out six, along with going 3-for-4 at the plate, including a three-run inside-the-park home run.

"That was a great moment in my life and I'm sure for everyone who was a part of that time," he said. "It meant a lot to me not only overcoming adversity but to bring home a State Championship to Tomball was awesome. Everyone was ecstatic and knew who we were. It was a great experience."

Needless to say, Dugger's future was bright in baseball. He was awarded an opportunity to continue playing at Cisco College for two years before transferring to Texas Tech for one year.

In 2016 for the Red Raiders, he put together a 6-1 record with three saves over 30 appearances, while recording a 2.67 ERA, landing him a spot on the All-Big 12 Honorable Mention Team as a relief pitcher.

His efforts were noticed by MLB scouts and Dugger eventually was drafted in the 18th round of the 2016 MLB Draft by the Seattle Mariners. In 2017, he was traded to the Miami Marlins organization.

By 2019, Dugger had worked his way into a non-roster invitee to Marlins' Spring Training. A strong first-half led him to be named a Southern League Midseason All-Star and Dugger's dream of playing for a Major League team was starting to come true.

By August 2019, the Miami Marlins selected Dugger's contract and he made his MLB debut on August 5 against the New York Mets.

"I was stunned when I got the call. I definitely shed some tears. It was an unreal experience," he remembered.

For Dugger now, his journey is just beginning, but his memories of Tomball keep him grounded and appreciative of his upbringing.

"Tomball was a great place to grow up. I enjoyed my time in high school and still return home as much as I can today," Dugger said. "I like to make up for lost time with my family and girlfriend during the offseason so it is nice to spend as much time with them as I can. I also train at two facilities in the area (DST and Texas Baseball Ranch) so everything I want and need is here in my hometown. It's truly a blessing."

NEW ACADEMY



Tomball ISD

Academy of Energy and International Business

The Tomball ISD Academy of Energy and International Business will become the first on-site learning opportunity of its kind implemented in the State of Texas and just the second in the nation. It will serve as a small learning community that will provide rigorous job-embedded programs of study coupled with an on-site corporate partnership that enhances the learning outcomes for students.



The goal of the Tomball ISD Academy of Energy and International Business is to provide rigorous, job-embedded programs of study coupled with an on-site corporate partnership that enhances the learning outcomes for students.

CLICK: PODCAST
BY TAMU'S MAYS MASTERCAST

CLICK: MORE INFO FAQ / APPLICATION

VISION

Tomball ISD will serve as a premier district of choice, expanding student access to future-ready skill development within a unique on-site industry partnership.

MISSION

The mission of the Tomball ISD Academy of Energy and International Business is for students to explore their talents within a global career path and apply newly acquired skills alongside our industry partners at BJ Services.

NEW ACADEMY





AVAILABLE TO?

This program is available to incoming ninth-grade students at THS and TMHS during the 2020-2021 school year.

ACADEMY OVERVIEW

Opens Fall of 2020 Two Programs of Study:

- Energy
- International Business

3 courses each day during 9th-grade

- Academy Class
 - English I
 - Biology

OPPORTUNITIES

- On site professional collaboration with leaders in the energy sector
- State-of-the-art labs and facilities
- Innovative & integrated instruction
- Exposure to top 3 business languages: English, Spanish, Mandarin Chinese
 - Industry Certifications
 - Job shadowing, mentorships and internships



January 14-15, 2020:

Parent information sessions TMHS Jan. 14 @ 6:30 PM THS Jan. 15 @ 6:30 PM **January 17 - February 2, 2020:**

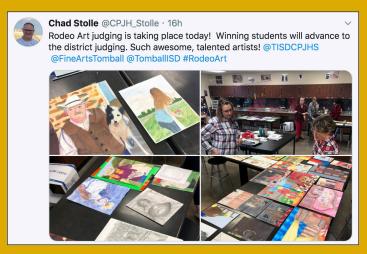
Application window

February 8, 2020:

Admissions interviews

SOCIAL #SHOUTOUT







Whitney Johnson @TISD_NUTRITION · 2h

Check out our new look! @TomballISD think of us for your next district







Tomball Memorial High School @TISDTMHS \cdot 4h

Join us in celebrating our US History teacher, Laura Higley! She was selected as the Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher winner for grades 9-12! She will be recognized as the Teacher of the Year at the annual Tomball VFW awards banquet in May. #WeBelieveTMHS





Creekside Park Junior High @TISDCPJHS · 1m

That's our SRO!! Congratulations Officer Brock - City of Tomball Employee of the Year!!



SOCIAL #SHOUTOUT









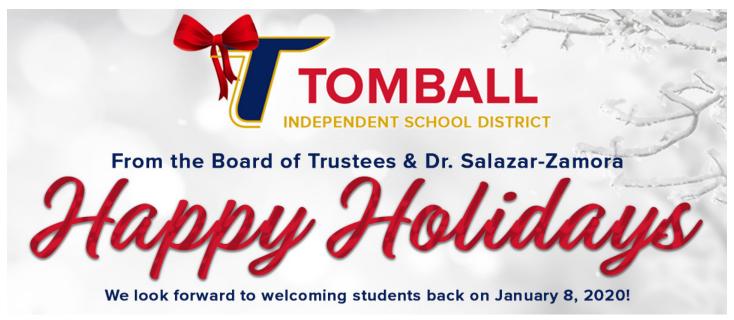








HAPPY HOLIDAYS



Dear Tomball ISD Staff, Families and Community Members,

The holiday season always reminds us of how much there is to celebrate with family and friends. As we wrap up the first half of this school year I would like to share with all of you some of the outstanding accomplishments this year has already brought to our Tomball ISD family.

The construction of the new elementary school is fully underway with walls going up every day. The area around the new school is also being prepared for the new junior high school and stadium. It is so exciting to see the fruits of this bond which our community overwhelmingly supported in 2017. I am happy to share with you that the following names have been selected for the new elementary school and the facility - Grand Oaks Elementary, which will be located on the newly-named Elmer and Dorothy Beckendorf Complex. Opening along with the new elementary school next fall will be the newly approved and first of its kind in Texas, Academy for Energy and International Business. The new academy in an innovative program in partnership with BJ Services through which participating high school students will take specialized courses in the fields of energy or business which are scheduled at the BJ Services facility on 2920. This will allow the Tomball ISD students and teachers to have access to industry professionals as the class completes coursework leading to industry certifications. The program will open with the ninth grade class of 2020-2021 and students from both Tomball High School and Tomball Memorial High School are welcomed to apply. They will complete most of their coursework at their regular high school campus and will be transported to and from the BJ Services facility for particular specialty and core courses.

Along with new facilities, the district is putting the final touches on a new five-year Strategic Plan which will see us through 2025. The Strategic Plan which was structured by a large committee of community stakeholders such as parents, teachers, students, community members, and local business owners embodies the aspirations of this amazing district as we move towards our vision of Tomball ISD students leading in the creation of the future......

READ FULL LETTER FROM DR. Z

Wishing you a very happy holiday season, Dr. Martha Salazar-Zamora

BEHIND THE SCENES HERO

DORIS GAGE

TOMBALL ISD CUSTODIAN ROSEHILL ELEMENTARY

Doris Gage has served Tomball ISD for 28 years on the custodial team and will be retiring in December 2019. She currently works at Rosehill Elementary. Over the years, Doris has spent time at Lakewood Elementary, Beckendorf Intermediate, Tomball Junior High and Tomball High School.

Following retirement, Doris plans to spend time with her mother and take time to enjoy being a new grandma. When she isn't working, Doris enjoys reading and spending time with her daughter.



When asked why she loves working for Tomball ISD ...

"Working in Tomball ISD is very special because of the people I've come to meet over the years. Getting to know the children and people from around the world who have made their way to Tomball has made my job wonderful."

HEATHER STRICKLAND TOMBALL ISD HUMAN TALENT CERTIFICATION SPECIALIST

Heather Strickland has played an instrumental role on the Tomball ISD Human Talent team for the past seven years. She currently serves as the Certification Specialist and also assists with position control with staffing for the district.

Outside of work, Heather enjoys watching her daughter dance at competitions, traveling and spending time with her family.



When asked why she loves working for Tomball ISD ...

"Definitely the staff. We have lived in Tomball for 16 years and have raised one child through the TISD schools and our youngest is still attending with nothing but great experiences. My co-workers are the best thing about my job and I could not be successful without them."

CONNECTED PODCAST



ConnectED Podcast with Dr. Z

features special guests in a monthly episode that provides valuable insight into Tomball ISD and how it's defining excellence in education and connecting with the community.

CLICK TO LISTEN TO EPISODE 4

Tomball through Time highlights the past and present and with great and valuable insight, Dr. Z was joined by former Tomball ISD Superintendents John Neubauer and Huey Kinchen as they reminisce on what makes this district and community a Destination.





LISTEN TO **EPISODE 1 HUMAN TALENT**

LISTEN TO **EPISODE 2 SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING**

LISTEN TO **EPISODE 3 TOMBALL ED FOUNDATION**

ATHLETICS & FINE ARTS

Tomball ISD basketball season is well underway. National Early Signing Day for Football occured and several TMHS and THS student-athletes signed to play at the next level.



Tomball High School Results + More

Tomball Memorial High School Results + More

THS and TMHS student-athletes in several sports (FB, VB, XC, TNS) competed at the State level and represented TISD in the playoffs this year.

For a complete schedule of athletics events, <u>CLICK HERE</u>.

Holiday cheer has been spread all across the district by **Tomball ISD Fine Arts** departments. From holiday concerts to competitions and art displays, students have been busy.





And as we wrap up 2019, here are a few top moments among Fine Arts:

- Tomball High School Marching Band received all one's at UIL Region Marching Contest, placed first at the UIL Area Marching Contest and made a third consecutive appearance at the UIL State Marching Band Contest.
- Willow Wood Junior High Honors Band was recognized as a National Winner in the Mark of Excellence competition by the National Foundation for Music Education.
- Tomball Memorial High School Wildcat Theatre was selected as one of a handful of schools to perform a full length play, "A Piece of My Heart", on the mainstage at the Texas Thespian Convention.
- The Tomball Community Arts Showcase continued its display at the LSC-Tomball Library, showcasing student artwork from across Tomball ISD.

For a complete schedule of fine arts events, **CLICK HERE**.



UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY

23-Jan.3

Winter Break

6

Tomball Star Academy Application Window Closes

6-7

Student Holiday / Staff Development Days

17

Tomball ISD Academy of Energy and International Business
Application Window Opens

23

District Zone Committee Meeting #1

Junior High #4

12:30 - 2:30 pm

30

District Zone Open Public Forum 5:30 - 7 pm

For the full events calendar, including fine arts and athletics, CLICK HERE.

		JUL									ARY			
S	M 1	T 2	W 3	T 4	F 5	S 6	TOMBALL	S	M	Τ	W 1	T 2	F 3	S 4
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	2019-2020 Calendar	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25	26	27		19	20	21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31				First Day of School August 20, 2019	26	27	28	29	30	31	
	A	AUGUST 2019					Last Day of School		FEBRUARY 2020					
S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S	May 28, 2020	S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S
				1	2	3	Staff & Student Holidays							1
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Independence Day - July 4	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	Labor Day - September 2	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
18 25	19 26	20 27	21 28	22 29	23 30	24 31	Thanksgiving - November 25-29	16 23	17 24	18 25	19 26	20 27	21 28	22 29
25	20	21	20	29	30	21	Winter Break - Dec. 23-Jan. 3 Spring Break - March 9-13	23	24	25	20	21	20	29
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			•••)	Staff Development/Workdays	ľ			•••			٥
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Student Holidays	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21	August 12-16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19	May 29	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
20	21			24	25	26	Forth Boloop Boro	19	20		22		24	25
27		29			040		Early Release Days	26	27		29	30		
					019		All Schools: Oct. 11, Dec. 20, May 28				Y 20			
S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S	High Schools Only: Dec. 19, May 27	S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S
3	4	_	6	7	1 8	2 9	Make Up Days (if needed)	3	4	5	6	7	1 8	2 9
10	4 11	5 12	ь 13	7 14	8 15	9 16	February 17	3 10	4 11	5 12	ь 13	/ 14	8 15	9 16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	March 16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
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