



The Pirate Post

Facilities Renamed

On October 14, 2022, La Vega ISD conducted ceremonies to formally rename facilities in the District in memory of two very deserving individuals who made a significant impact in our District and community.



Diane Dietiker Memorial Library & Media Center—The library at La Vega High School will now be known as the Diane Dietiker Memorial Library and Media Center. La Vega ISD is grateful for the 54 years of service Mrs. Dietiker provided to our students, District, and community, and it is befitting that this facility was named in her honor. Mrs. Dietiker will forever be a part of La Vega High School and La Vega ISD. Her children, Danae Pieri and Darin Dietiker are shown here with other family and friends at the dedication.



Wayne Samford Memorial Concession Stand—The concession stand at the Willie Williams Athletic Complex was named the Wayne Samford Memorial Concession Stand. Mr. Samford was a life-long Pirate and had a special love for La Vega ISD and the athletic program. He was a founding member of the La Vega Pirate Crew Booster club and served on the Board of Trustees for five years. Mr. Travis Gibson, Mayor of Bellmead, is shown here presenting Mrs. Pam Samford with a city proclamation, as family and friends watch.

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La Vega Family Engagement

Connect with LVISD

Up-to-date news and information about La Vega ISD can be found on the District's website and Facebook pages.

Follow us on Facebook and bookmark La Vega ISD's website:

www.lavegaisd.org

The La Vega Family Engagement Team provides many opportunities for our community and families. A great time was had celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month with music and an art activity. This was also an opportunity to learn about how we can all work together to support student achievement. For more information about the Family Engagement activities, visit our website or call 254-299-6742.



LA VEGA ISD HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2022



Willie Williams
Dave Campbell Award
For Excellence



Brittany Cleere Martinez
Academic
Achievement



In Memory of
Leroy Coleman
Coach's Award



In Memory of
Diane Dietiker
Educator's Award



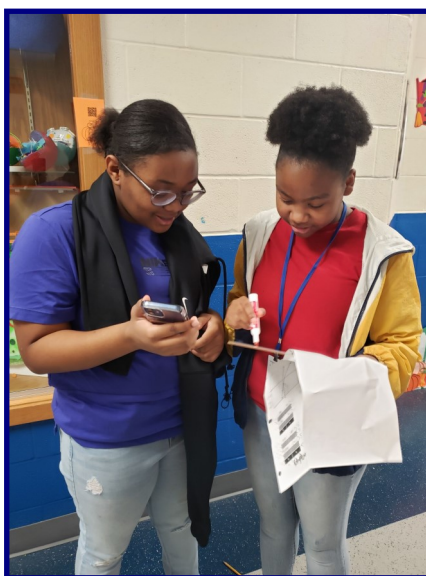
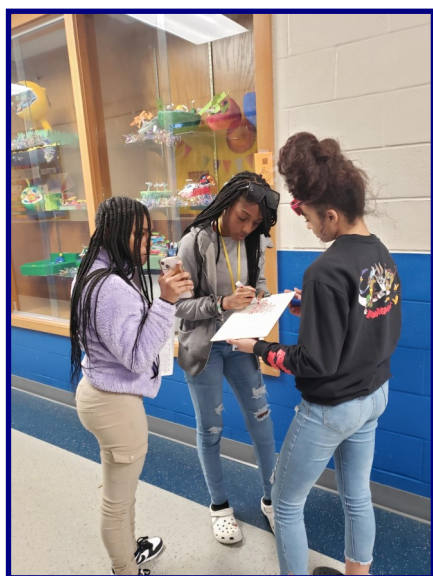
Beasley Reece
Athletic
Achievement



Raymond Koon
Wayne Samford Friend of
La Vega Award

Math Scavenger Hunt

Ms. Shameka Bledsoe, seventh grade math teacher at La Vega Junior High School George Dixon Campus, engaged her students in a fun math activity, a math scavenger hunt solving linear relationship equations. Ms. Bledsoe created QR codes for ten questions and then hid them at various locations on the campus. Students in teams of three used one cellphone, one page of notes and a clipboard to solve the problems. All students got a treat bag, and the winners received a grand prize. This class activity is outstanding because it uses modern technology to solve the problems. Shown in the photos below are (left) Aerionna Gowans, Cherish Humphrey, and Bre’Naya Renfro and (right) A’Niyah Shumaker, Larah Bickems.



Pirate Crew BBQ Team

The La Vega High School Pirate Crew BBQ Team fed 175 people at their first ever tailgate event before the football game on November 3rd. Pitmaster Carlos Gutierrez, instructional aide at LVHS, shared his wealth of knowledge and his personal pit with the students. The BBQ coaches are Trever Freeman and Stephen Redrick. Thanks to the following sponsors that made the tailgate event a success: Slovacek’s of West, RRoofing LLC, and Blue Sky Pools. Shown in the photo below are Ms. Sandra Gibson, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, and Accountability, and LVHS student Tedarrance Brown.



Important Calendar Dates

Jan. 2—Staff and Student Holiday

Jan. 3-4—Staff Development Days / Student Holidays

Jan. 5—Beginning of Fourth Reporting Period

Jan. 16 — MLK Holiday

Jan. 27—Staff Development Day / Student Holiday

Feb. 17—End of Fourth Reporting Period

Feb. 20—Staff Development Day / Student Holiday

Feb. 21—Beginning of Fifth Reporting Period

Mar. 6-10—Spring Break

Mar. 24—Staff Development Day / Student Holiday

Apr. 6—End of Fifth Reporting Period

Apr. 7—Good Friday Holiday

Apr. 10—Staff Development Day / Student Holiday

Apr. 11—Beginning of Sixth Reporting Period

May 24—Early Release and End of Sixth Reporting Period

May 25—Teacher Workday

May 26-27—Bad Weather Makeup Days

May 29—Memorial Day Holiday

June 19—Juneteenth Holiday



La Vega Pirates Education Foundation

Did you know that La Vega ISD has a very successful Education Foundation?

The foundation gives thousands of dollars in grants to teachers every year! Funding for these grants helps to provide innovative programs and experiences for our students.

The foundation also goes above and beyond in honoring and celebrating the successes of our students, teachers, and our District.

Strong communities grow from strong schools – YOUR participation is vital to the continued success of our school district, its teachers and students.

The Executive Director for the La Vega Pirates Education Foundation is Allison Vrana.

For more information about the La Vega Pirates Education Foundation, check out their webpage on the LVISD Website.

To make a donation, you can pay online or send to:

La Vega Pirates Education Foundation
P. O. Box 154897
Waco, Texas 76715

La Vega Pirates Education Foundation Fundraiser News

The La Vega Pirates Education Foundation held its annual fundraiser *Let's Flamingle Tropical Paradise* Fundraiser on Saturday, November 5th at the Lee Lockwood Library & Museum in Waco.

A FLAMAZING time was had by more than 300 guests as they raised funds for grants and programs for students and teachers in La Vega ISD. More than \$60,000 was raised to support the foundation's programs and the foundation will award education grants in May 2023. Jon Lamar (shown at right with wife Kristy), who serves on the Board of Directors for the education foundation, was the emcee for the event.



A special presentation was made to Lisa Seawright, Principal at La Vega Primary School Phil Bancalé Campus. The primary campus was the first campus to have 100% participation by its staff during the foundation's annual staff campaign that kicks off every August. More than \$56,000 has been pledged or received from this year's staff campaign. The primary campus received a special \$1,000 campus site grant to be used on their campus.



The mission of the foundation is to generate and distribute resources to support creative and innovative programs that will enhance the quality of educational programs provided to our students and teachers in La Vega ISD.

Next year's event is already being planned, so save the date for Saturday, November 11, 2023 as we *Sail the Seven Seas!*

For more information on how you can support the foundation or become a volunteer, please visit www.piratesfoundation.org or call 254-299-6729.

Thank You!

A very special thank you to Allison Vrana, Executive Director of the La Vega Pirates Education Foundation, for all of her hard work and dedication in preparing for a very successful fundraiser!



Thank You Sponsors!

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Primary School Hosts Veterans Parade

A Veterans Day Parade was held at La Vega Primary School Phil Bancale Campus on November 10th to honor Veterans in our District and community. The students cheered and the LVHS Drum Line also participated in the parade. Thank you, Veterans!



Veteran Kemar Harris is cheered on by students.



Students Rebecca Ramirez, Takiyah Walker, Dedrick Carr, and Princeton Walker



Veteran Tony Molina and granddaughter Aurora Najar

Congratulations!

Dr. Sharon M. Shields, La Vega ISD Superintendent, received the Educator of the Year Award from the Cen-Tex African American Chamber of Commerce on November 9th.



**Notice for
La Vega ISD Parents,**

**Please opt in to receive
text messages from
SchoolMessenger and LVISD.**

Text the word "Yes" to 67587.



**DID YOU
KNOW?**

ACE Students Participate in Operation Shoebox

La Vega Intermediate School H. P. Miles Campus ACE students in Girl Scout Community Troop 90109 participated in The Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child project this year. The students collected gifts and filled shoeboxes with fun toys, school supplies and hygiene items. The shoeboxes were then delivered to children in need around the world to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way, going as far as Syria, Asia, and Africa. The girls were able to see a video of how the boxes were delivered and they got to pick if they wanted their gift to go to a boy or girl. They have earned a badge for this as well. Ms. Zita Warren, kindergarten dual language aide at the primary school and ACE instructor, helped to coordinate this project, and she said, "I have been doing this project for the last 7 years. This year I included the ACE community troop because I felt the students would truly appreciate and enjoy giving back by participating in this project."



Kudos & Applause

LVHS Varsity Cheer Team
 2022 Large Varsity Camp
 Champions at the Universal
 Cheerleading Association Camp:
 Game Day Champions
 Team Leadership Award
 Team Spirit Banana Award
 Team Traditions Award
 Gatorade Cooler Award
 Spirit Stick
 Three Blue Superior Ribbons
 Two Gold Performance Elite
 Ribbons
 Five All-Americans (Amiya
 Moore, Jayanna Hill, Lonnie
 Sawyer, and Derek McLennan as
 Pete the Pirate)
 Top Mascot Superior Award

Mr. Lorenz Villa
 Region 12 Elementary
 Teacher of the Year

LVHS Varsity Football Team
 Bi-District Playoff Qualifiers
 2022

LVHS Pirate Band
 All Region Band Members:
 Jasmine Vidaurri, Krissa Robert,
 Galilea Villegas Chavez,
 and Jacob Tinajero

Thanksgiving Lunch

All campuses welcomed families for Thanksgiving lunch during the week of November 14-18. Here are some photos from the Thanksgiving Lunch at La Vega Elementary School.



La Vega ISD

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La Vega High School Offering Free Income Tax Preparation Service

La Vega High School will be serving the Bellmead and Waco Communities again this coming year by offering a free income tax preparation service.

The program is supported by the VITA Tax program, giving students the real world opportunity to provide free tax preparation for the community.

The students who are part of the program receive multiple certifications from the federal government that give them the credentials to work in the program. Certified Baylor students will be joining our La Vega High School students in preparing tax returns this upcoming year.

The high school will begin services in the cafeteria starting February 2nd and will work every Tuesday and Thursday through April 13th from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. The tax site will follow all school holidays.

You will need to bring a photo ID, social security cards for all persons on your tax return, and all pertinent tax documents.

This service is completely free to the community. To get more information on the program please call 254-299-6818.