

Barbers Hill

Fall 2022



Barbers Hill ISD envisions academic excellence characterized by goal-driven, college/career ready graduates who are responsible, accountable, contributing members of society.



On the Watchtower

Barbers Hill ISD School Board

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Benny May
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George Barrera

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Superintendent

Barbers Hill ISD Administration

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Planning and Operations

Stephanie Martin
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Finance

Barbara Ponder
Human Resources

Chloe Yowell
Curriculum and Instruction

When I first toured the Barbers Hill campuses 17 years ago, I recall thinking the high school had what looked like watchtowers. I was told that the towers were purely ornamental. I then had a brainstorm that perhaps we should light the towers in blue after victories. I changed my mind after someone suggested we would be copying the University of Texas!

The concept of a watchtower is biblical and also the focus of one of Bob Dylan's greatest works performed movingly by Jimi Hendrix and Dave Matthews.

As I pen this, our country is reeling from more high-profile mass shootings, and it is clear our chief task as we begin another successful school year is to keep harm away from our staff and students. We have spent the summer strategically strengthening what was already a safety plan that spent 40% more per student than the state average. Our Board of Trustees and leadership have pledged that no district will do more to keep our students and staff safe.

That vigilance is needed on many fronts as the state has initiated plans of compressing our tax rate and increasing our Robin Hood payments. The irony is we haven't received state funding per se for the last two decades because our Robin Hood payments always surpass any amount of state dollars we get.

Our board and leadership are indeed on the watchtower – always seeking to protect our students' resources and values.

I will conclude with the latest evidence of the culture of excellence at The Hill. Our standardized test scores are in, and we are one of the highest-ranking districts in the state with every campus receiving an A or A+!

Bob Dylan's song concludes ominously with sinister horsemen and a howling wind, and these are indeed troubling times.

Our high school watchtowers may be ornamental, but the concept has stayed with me, and I commit to you – your children and tax money will be vigorously protected.

Former Barbers Hill employee Bruce Taylor said it best:

"Where else would you rather be right now than at this very place!"



Back to School
August 17th!



Online Registration
[bhisd.net/departments/
studentservices](http://bhisd.net/departments/student-services)



School Supplies
[bhisd.net/parents-student/
school-supply-lists](http://bhisd.net/parents-student/school-supply-lists)



Art students participated in Wild Art



Barbers Hill ESN at MB animal shelter



Celebrating Two New Schools!

Thanks to the overwhelming support from our community for the 2020 Bond, BHISD will welcome students through the doors of two new campuses, Intermediate School North and Intermediate School South, on August 17th.

Each new intermediate school is designed to accommodate grades 4-6, with each grade having its own "learning community" that will minimize the need for students of different grades to interact.

Each learning community is centered around a wide corridor that includes tables and seating areas so that small group work can be spread out, and also has its own set of rest rooms.

The schools also have gyms, a cafeteria with a stage, library, space for art and performing arts, and two courtyards.

At the suggestion of teachers, the courtyards contain learning elements such as sidewalks arranged to teach angles and geometric shapes as well as an outdoor teaching area.

The North campus has an industrial look, and a recurring theme is an eagle's nest while the South campus, which is positioned to look out over existing trees, has an eagle's perch theme, and a more nature-themed look.

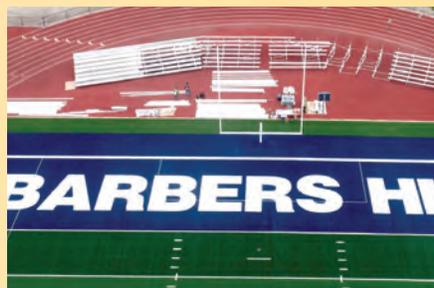


- 1. Library view to exterior courtyard
- 2. Interior wall graphics in all areas
- 3. Interior wall graphics in all areas
- 4. Aerial view of Central Learning Courtyard
- 5. Completed concrete at Central Learning Courtyard

Other Improvements Happening on The Hill!



Baseball/Softball Bleachers



Band Bleachers



Auxiliary Field Construction

Safety First



Barbers Hill ISD has spent and will continue to spend significant monies, far exceeding the norm, to ensure as much as possible that students and staff are protected and safe, which is why an additional \$250,000 was budgeted for security improvements this year.

Last school year, the state of Texas allocated \$62,000 to Barbers Hill for safety related issues. The district actually spent \$1.2 million, which is 40% above the state per pupil average.

Barbers Hill has the resources and commitment by the Board of Trustees to do whatever it takes to ensure that students and staff are as best protected as they possibly can be by continually evaluating and enhancing safety protocols.

New for the coming year:

- **Alarms on all outside doors at each school. If a door is not locked for a period of time, an impossible to ignore alarm will sound to secure the perimeter of all exterior doors.**
- **Two police officers have been added to the force so there will be an officer stationed at every campus.**
- **Bullet-resistant glass is installed in the front office area at the two new intermediate schools as well as student safe rooms for lockdowns and emergency lockdown function for all academic areas and front entrances.**
- **Mental health and awareness will continue to be at the forefront for all BHISD employees as well as fostering even stronger relationships with students.**

In addition to these added safety measures, BHISD is committed to instilling a safety culture throughout the district because school culture, at its root, is about the way students, teachers, and administrators interact with one another. Culture is at the heart of learning and creating a safe, supportive, stimulating environment is the best way for students to thrive.

Helping implement safety procedures, Barbers Hill is introducing Bus Guardians this year.

Bus Safety

This year, Barbers Hill ISD has increased school bus safety by employing more technology and providing students with increased instruction on safety practices and behavior. Furthermore, the district has created a new position to achieve these goals: Coordinator of Bus Safety.

Ami Davis, the district's bus safety coordinator, will train all drivers on the PBIS (Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports) framework to improve student outcomes and assist drivers with bus referrals and student behavior management. The coordinator will also support campus administration to best meet the needs of students to ensure safety on buses.

Barbers Hill is also introducing Bus Guardians, which will provide revolving opportunities for teachers and campus administrators to ride along on buses to help monitor student behavior and implement basic safety procedures. The focus of the Guardians will be to build relationships with students in order to keep a pulse on the mental health and well-being of students.

And with the start of a new school year, Barbers Hill wants to encourage each and every one driving on our roadways to pay attention to school buses that carry our precious cargo.



Meet Buster the Bus

The Transportation Department was awarded a grant by the Barbers Hill Education Foundation to purchase a remote control bus as a support tool for bus education. Buster the Bus squirts water, blinks, drives, pops wheelies, and talks to interact with young students while they learn the Eagle way of bus safety and behavior.





Letter from Chief McBride



Chief S. McBride

I write this not just as our Police Chief, but also as a parent.

In light of the tragic school shooting at Robb Elementary in Uvalde and investigation into law enforcement's response, I want to reassure students, parents, teachers and community members that members of the Barbers Hill ISD Police Department are well-trained, vigilant and take their job seriously every single day.

We are constantly evaluating and implementing measures to minimize the risk associated with these kinds of tragedies.

Barbers Hill has a plan in place at each of our schools to handle any and all emergency situations. The department works with the Mont Belvieu police and fire departments to prepare for any type of emergency and regularly practice our safety procedures with students and staff through discussions and exercises.

Each of our officers, including myself, has a personal stake in making sure Barbers Hill schools are safe. We each have spouses, children, grandchildren, friends and co-workers in our schools.

The Barbers Hill police force has 183 years of combined experience, along with 26,306 hours of specialized training. Each member

brings a wealth of skills and experience from other law enforcement agencies prior to joining Barbers Hill.

I take pride in the fact that Barbers Hill officers not only maintain the required training hours, but also often attend additional, specialized training during the summer.

The mission of Barbers Hill PD is to be prepared in every way for every situation that can arise with a multi-faceted approach that involves a variety of safety protocols, technologies, training and continued education. Our department also prioritizes the building of positive, personal relationships with students – a proven approach that is one of the strongest factors in monitoring what is going on within our student body, with individual students, and in keeping our campuses safe.

As the Barbers Hill Police Chief, I, along with our entire police department, pledge to work tirelessly to maintain a learning environment that is safe and secure and safeguards our students and staff every day they walk through the doors.

In closing, we ask that you talk with your students and remind them that their school is a safe place and that Barbers Hill is united in its commitment to the safety of our schools, staff and students.

Respectfully,

Chief S. McBride

Congrats to our 2022 Teachers and Principals of the Year



Elementary Teacher of the Year (ESN)

Michelle Korenek



Secondary Teacher of the Year (MSN)

Julie Wylie



Elementary Principal of the Year (ECC)

Michele James



Secondary Principal of the Year (MSN)

Matt Barnett



ParentSquare™

School-to-home communication continues to be a top priority for Barbers Hill ISD. In order to unify all district and school communications as well as reach all families, Barbers Hill ISD will be launching a new communication platform, ParentSquare, a multifaceted school-home engagement platform for K-12 which enables teachers and administrators to post updates, newsletters, volunteer sign-ups, announcements, and more for the entire school as well as a specific grade, class or period.

ParentSquare will replace Remind and serve as the primary communication platform for all district and campus communication.

Parents and guardians can receive these notifications in the way that works best for them (via text, phone, email, app or web portal), increasing family engagement and combating message fatigue.



www.bhisd.net/departments/communications/parent-square



Barbers Hill Counselors encouraged the community to join them on the Walk Together for mental health awareness. More than 75 participants attended the first annual event.

Janelle Harvey - Honorary Eagle



Janelle Harvey grew up in Winnie, Texas, graduating as Valedictorian and Most Likely to Succeed in the East Chambers High School Class of 1953. She continued her education at Sam Houston State University,

graduating with a B.S. in Home Economics in 1956. She received her M.Ed. in 1961.

Harvey and her husband, Barry, moved to BH in 1965 when Barry began teaching Industrial Arts at the high school.

"It was the best decision our family ever made!" Harvey said. "Having our two boys grow up and attend Barbers Hill schools was such a positive experience. We all grew Eagle wings!"

In 1966, Harvey was recruited to begin the first Kindergarten program in Barbers Hill ISD, before it was a state-certified curriculum. Local parents had petitioned Superintendent J.O. Horn for the program, and Harvey's high school classroom and Early Childhood experience made her the perfect fit.

Harvey built the BH Kindergarten program and served as teacher and Pod Leader there for 23 years, until her retirement in 1989. She also directed the Model Kindergarten for the Region IV Service Center.

"Our rich, tradition-oriented culture (originating in "Old Barbers Hill," but quickly filtering into the "New Community") which values strong ethics and high standards in classrooms, on athletic fields, and in all areas of student participation, is one of BH's greatest strengths, in addition to excellent leadership throughout our programs," Harvey said.

Harvey's civic service includes many hours of volunteer work as a charter member of the education sorority Delta Kappa Gamma, as member of Baytown Women's Club, Baytown Methodist Hospital volunteer services (15 years), and as Membership Secretary at First United Methodist Church (12 years).

Barry and Janelle's sons, Sean and Jaime, both played on the BH State Championship Football Team of 1976 and attended college on full athletic scholarships. Sean graduated in the BH Class of 1979, and Jaime in the BH Class of 1980. Jaime served on the BH Board of Trustees from 2000-2006, and his wife Gina taught at BHHS for 24 years. Granddaughters Ryley and Rylan are K-12 Eagles.



Elton Forbus - Distinguished Alumnus

Elton Forbus, BH Class of 1964, has loved Barbers Hill as his "earthly home" for nearly his entire life. He and his wife Marsha (BH Class of 1967), had a dream, though, to live in the active retirement community of Hot Springs Village, Arkansas, once he finished his career.

After 44 years of service at ExxonMobil and much thought and prayer, however, the couple decided they were already living their retirement dream, in their hometown of Barbers Hill.

"This is where our lifelong friends and fellow church members reside," said Forbus. "Leaving these people and the City of Mont Belvieu was too difficult to give up. Staying allowed us to continue to contribute to the rapid development occurring here."

Contribution to his community now is simply a continuation of Forbus' lifelong tradition of service to church, city, county, and high school alma mater.

Following graduation from BH, Forbus attended Lee College and Stephen F. Austin University with a major in Secondary Education – Mathematics. He graduated from SFA in 1967 and began his career at ExxonMobil, eventually serving in their Global Services department until his retirement in 2013.

During these years, Forbus was a founding member of the local National Little Dribblers Program (13 years as coach), BH Sports Association, BH Scholarship Association, and BH National Little League (9 years as coach).

He volunteered at Barbers Hill for many years as UIL contest judge, workforce coach, member of four bond committees, and as ExxonMobil liaison to the Texas Scholars Program. He also served as School Board member from 1980-1983.

"One of our community's greatest strengths is the consistency and character of the environment created by BHISD," said Forbus. "A community is best-served by a well-educated populace, whether through college degrees or technical skill."

Forbus also served many years on the Mont Belvieu Planning and Zoning Committee, Chambers County Appraisal District, and as deacon and Sunday School teacher at Old River Baptist Church. Forbus and his wife Marsha have been married 53 years and raised their two children on the Hill: Chad, Class of 1992, and Lori, Class of 1999.

The BHHS Cheerleaders/Mascot swept summer camp this year. The Varsity squad won Cheer CHAMPIONS, Performance CHAMPIONS and GAME DAY CHAMPIONS! Our Eagle Mascot was named Camp Champion and received the Leadership Award. Barbers Hill also brought home Best Camp Jumper Award, 6 Citizenship Pins, and 8 athletes were named as UCA All-Americans. The JV squad also earned 3rd place in Cheer and Performance.





New Faces and New Leadership



High School, Associate Principal
Tina McCorkle



High School, Assistant Principal
Allison Smithwick



Special Services, 504 Facilitator
Lisa Watkins



Middle School North, Academic Dean
Terry Cooper



Middle School South, Academic Dean
Stacey Owens



Inter. School North, Principal
Amy Walla



Inter. School North, Asst. Principal
JoAnn Short



Inter. School South, Principal
Chase Kruger



Inter. School South, Asst. Principal
Sarah Stone



Inter. School South, Asst. Principal
Kody Griffin



Elem. School North, Asst. Principal
Stacey Paine



Elementary School South, Principal
Michele James



Early Childhood Center, Principal
Donna Billeaud



Early Childhood Center, Asst. Principal
Fatima Gonzalez



Curr. & Inst., Elementary ELAR Coord.
Jodie Meredith



Curr. & Inst., Secondary ELAR Coord.
Tamara Meigh



Curr. & Inst., Secondary Math Coord.
Monica Brannan



Fine Arts, Director of Fine Arts
Chris Brannan



Communications, Dir. of Comm.
David Bloom



Special Services, Transition Coord.
Missy Barrington



Special Services, Special Ed.
Curriculum Coord.
Terra Barclay



Transportation
Coord. of Bus Safety
Ami Davis



Maintenance & Oper.
Exec. Dir. of Operations
Rick Kana

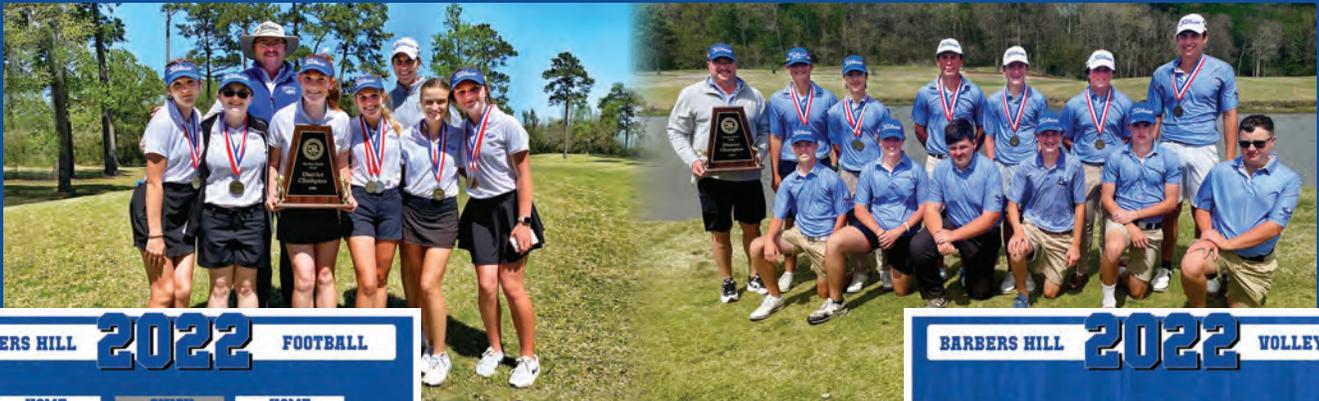


Maintenance & Oper.
Dir. of Planning & Facilities
Patrick Hendricks



High School
Principal
Lance Murphy

LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER



BH Varsity Golf Teams are
both 2022 District Champs!



Event Tickets
www.bhisd.net/district/event-tickets



BARBERS HILL 2022 FOOTBALL		
HOME SHADOW CREEK 8/19	AWAY MAGNOLIA WEST 8/26	HOME MONTGOMERY 9/2
SCRIMMAGE		
AWAY BAYTOWN STERLING 9/9	HOME CROSBY 9/16	AWAY LA PORTE 9/23
HALL OF HONOR		
HOME GCM 9/30	AWAY BAYTOWN LEE 10/7	HOME KINGWOOD PARK 10/21
HOMECOMING		
AWAY PAM 10/28	HOME PORTER 11/4	
SENIOR NIGHT		
#EFH		

BARBERS HILL 2022 VOLLEYBALL				
HOME LA PORTE 8/9	AWAY DEER PARK 8/16	AWAY NEW CANEY 8/19	HOME CLEAR LAKE 8/23	HOME KINGWOOD PARK 8/30
AWAY HUFFMAN 9/2	HOME PASADENA 9/6	AWAY CROSBY 9/9	HOME BAYTOWN LEE 9/13	AWAY PAM 9/16
TEACHER APPRECIATION				
AWAY GCM 9/20	HOME RSS 9/23	AWAY PNG 9/27	HOME WEDERLAND 9/30	HOME CROSBY 10/4
MIDDLE SCHOOL				
AWAY BAYTOWN LEE 10/7	HOME PAM 10/11	HOME GCM 10/14	AWAY RSS 10/18	HOME PNG 10/21
SENIOR NIGHT				
AWAY WEDERLAND 10/25				
#WINGSUP				