



Tomball ISD: Not Just a District, a Destination



TOMBALL ISD
DESTINATION EXCELLENCE



#1 Best School District

#1 Best Teachers
#1 Best Places to Teach

IN HARRIS COUNTY

VISION

Tomball ISD students will lead in creating the future.

MISSION

Tomball ISD empowers students to become impactful, contributing citizens by providing innovative, individually rigorous and personally valuable educational experiences while partnering with the community.

Board of Trustees



Pictured: (Back Row, L-R) Coco White, John E. McStravick, Mark Lewandowski, Dr. Michael Pratt
(Front Row, L-R) Jennifer Kratky, Dr. Martha Salazar-Zamora, Amanda Bass, Tina Salem

District Leadership

Superintendent of Schools: Dr. Martha Salazar-Zamora



Tomball ISD Cabinet



Pictured: (L-R) Dr. Steven Gutierrez, Chief Operating Officer; Dr. Michael Webb, Chief Academic Officer; Dr. Martha Salazar-Zamora, Superintendent; Dr. Amy Schindewolf, Chief of Staff & School Leadership; Zack Boles, Chief Financial Officer; Holly Sherman, Legal Counsel

TISD Named H-E-B Excellence in Education Awards Large District Finalist

STATE FINALIST



EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION® — AWARDS —

LARGE SCHOOL DISTRICT



Tomball ISD Celebrates School Board Recognition Month

H-E-B has named Tomball ISD one of five statewide finalists in the large district category for their prestigious Excellence in Education Awards program which honors outstanding achievement in Texas public education.

The H-E-B School District Awards recognize large and small school districts based on the following criteria:

- Commitment to student achievement through innovative programs
- Parent/Community involvement
- Professional development opportunities for teachers and administrators

[Read more about being an H-E-B Finalist.](#)

February is CTE Month!



In Tomball ISD, Career & Technology Education (CTE) students will be productive in leading and serving our society.

Our CTE mission is to prepare students for the real world in a real way. [#CTEMonth](#)

Follow Tomball ISD on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [X](#) (@TomballISD) for a behind-the-scenes look at our CTE pathways all month long.

[Take a look at what Tomball ISD has to offer.](#)

Tomball ISD Recognized as a CTE District of Distinction by CTAT



Tomball ISD is proud to announce its selection as a CTE District of Distinction by the Career and Technical Association of Texas (CTAT). This esteemed recognition celebrates districts across Texas that demonstrate exemplary leadership, innovation, and commitment to student success through high-quality Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs.

[Read more about being a CTE District of Distinction.](#)

49th Annual Tomball ISD FFA Project Show Results



Tomball ISD students from Tomball High School and Tomball Memorial High School, representing both FFA Chapters, recently wrapped up another impressive showing at the 49th Annual Tomball ISD FFA Project Show and Sale at the Tomball Agricultural Center.

[Read more for full results.](https://youtu.be/J9NiTfBO2pk)

<https://youtu.be/J9NiTfBO2pk>



TISD Students Display Artistic Talents at 2025 Rodeo Art Show



Hundreds of impressive works of art were on display at Tomball ISD's 2025 Rodeo Art Show, highlighting student artists who recently competed in the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Art Program. Exemplifying excellence in their artistic specialty, eight students across five campuses earned Best of Show, Gold Medal honors, or a Special Merit recognition.

[Read more about our Rodeo Art Show.](#)



Earning **Best of Show** honors (pictured in order above):

- Elementary: **Kayra Tamaro**, Rosehill Elementary, 4th grade, teacher: Jerri Bieker | "Well, Hello There!"
- Junior High: **Maya Szalai**, Oakcrest Intermediate, 6th grade, teacher: Rachel Grimes | "Mother's Love"
- High School: **Katherine McDonald**, Tomball High School, 11th grade, teacher: Abiodun Ijiyera | "Moo and Mel"



Earning **Gold Medal** honors (pictured in order above):

- Elementary: **Scarlett Tannehill**, Oakcrest Intermediate, 5th grade, teacher: Rachel Grimes | "Coming in for a Kiss"
- Junior High: **Lelani Reyes**, Grand Lakes Junior High, 7th grade, teacher: Michelle Owen | "Tongue Twisted"
- High School: **Luke Owen**, Tomball Memorial High School, 11th grade, teacher: Freddie Holman | "Bonito Gallino"

- High School: **Reece Perez**, Tomball High School, 10th grade, teacher: Audrey Jennings | "Daniel and Odie"

Earning a **Special Merit** honor:

Junior High: **Sophie Barton**, Grand Lakes Junior High, 8th grade, teacher: Samantha Calkins | "Bonnie and Clyde"

TMHS Football Named National Finalist for NFF National Academic Excellence Award

TOMBALL MEMORIAL HS



EXCELLENCE

2024-25

NFF NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARDS PRESENTED BY THE ROSE BOWL LEGACY FOUNDATION



Tomball Memorial High School Football has been named a National Finalist for the National Football Foundation National High School Academic Excellence Award, announced by the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame.

TMHS joined Tomball High School as two of the 15 6A schools recognized as a State Finalist for the NFF National High School Academic Excellence Award, announced by the Texas High School Coaches Association prior to the national recognition.

[Read more about this prestigious honor.](#)

In the News



23 THS Student-Athletes Sign to Play and Study at Next Level

Congratulations to the 23 student-athletes, representing 14 different athletic programs at Tomball High School, for signing National Letters of Intent to further their academic and athletic careers at the next level.

[Read more about Signing Day.](#)



15 TMHS Student-Athletes Honored on National Signing Day

15 student-athletes from six different TMHS programs were honored during a National Signing Day celebration on campus. Congrats to these student-athletes!

[Read more about Signing Day.](#)



TMHS Senior Andrew Nsiah Awarded KPRC 2 Scholarship

TMHS senior student-athlete Andrew Nsiah was recently honored with a KPRC 2 Senior Scholarship, sponsored by American Furniture Warehouse, valued at \$2,500, recognizing his dedication to academics, athletics, and his efforts to inspire the next generation of young students in the STEM field of computer science.

[Read more about Andrew's honor.](#)



OIS Student Antonella Montero Wins Region 4 Spanish Spelling Bee

Oakcrest Intermediate fifth grader Antonella Montero represented Tomball ISD as the winner of Region 4's Spanish Spelling Bee, advancing her to the State competition later this year in El Paso.

[Read more about Antonella's win.](#)



Dr. Caitlin Cain Named West Intermediate Principal

Dr. Caitlin Cain, current Principal of Northpointe Intermediate, has been announced as the new Principal of West Intermediate, the fourth intermediate school and 25th overall campus in Tomball ISD, set to open in August 2025.

[Read more about Dr. Cain's move to WIS.](#)



TISD Students Showcase Knowledge and Talent at District Science Fair

Tomball ISD students recently showcased their scientific talents, knowledge, and hard work at the annual District Science Fair. Campus winners had the opportunity to present their project to judges and compete against others across the district to be awarded the best science project in grades 3-5 division and grades 6-12 division.

[**Congratulations to our Science Fair winners.**](#)



TIS Educator Shatara White Honored with Nation's Highest Award in Science as a PAEMST Recipient

Tomball ISD and Tomball Intermediate School educator Shatara White was recently recognized at the highest level by former President Biden as a Presidential Awards for Excellence in Science, Mathematics Teaching (PAEMST) recipient.

[**Read more about Shatara White's honor.**](#)



Dr. Z Honored by Texas A&M with Trailblazer Award

Superintendent Dr. Martha Salazar-Zamora was recently honored with the inaugural Texas A&M College of Education Gig 'Em Trailblazer Award after being named Texas Superintendent of the Year and a National Finalist as well as for her strength in education as a leader.



Dr. Steven Gutierrez Elected as TALAS President

Congratulations to TISD Chief Operating Officer Dr. Steven Gutierrez on being named the new President of the Texas Association of Latino Administrators & Superintendents (TALAS) organization.



TSA Teacher Named Chamber Teacher of the Month

Congratulations to Cristina Monroe from Tomball Star Academy for being honored as the Greater Tomball Area Chamber of Commerce Teacher of the Month.

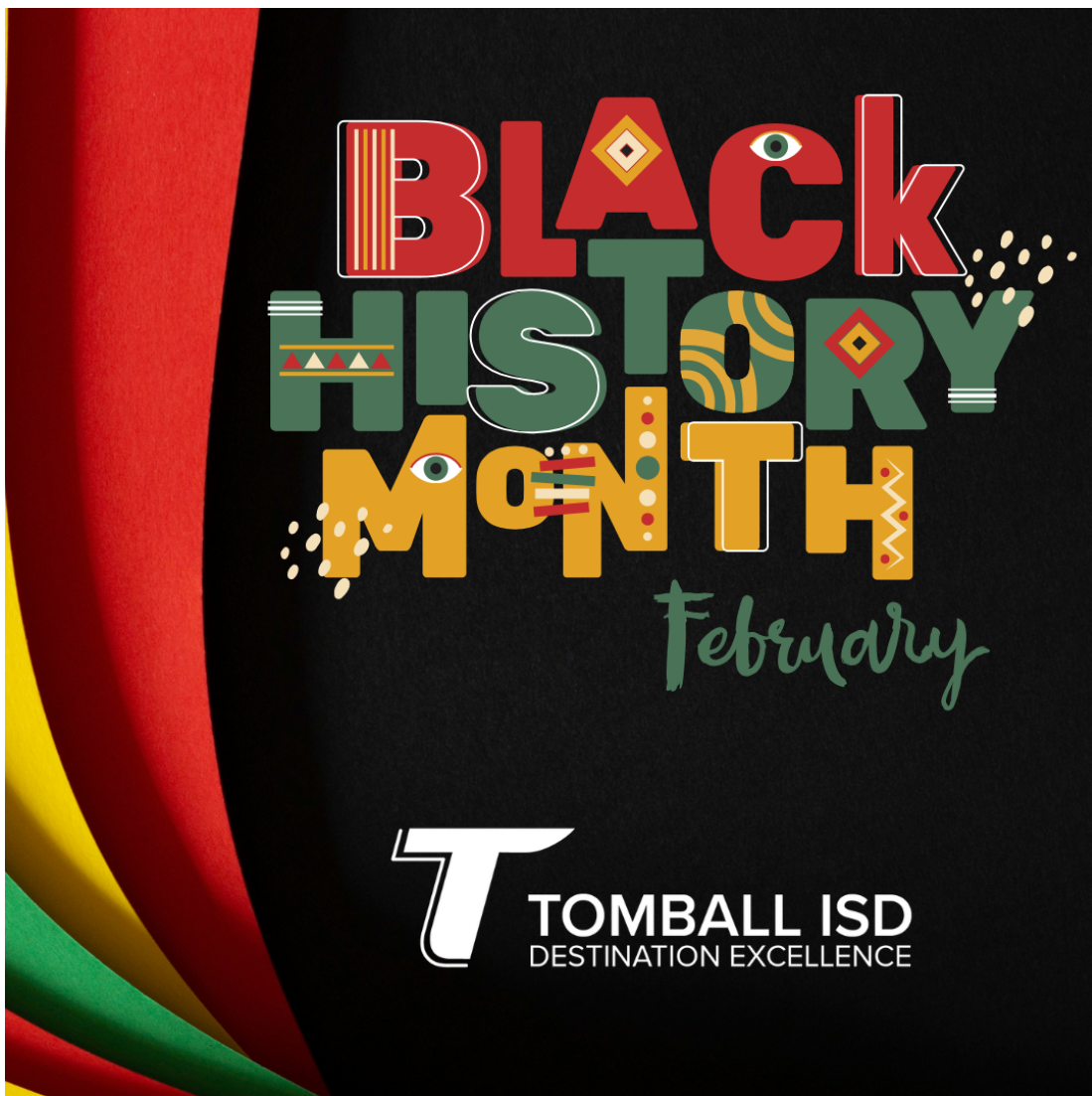


Dr. Z to Serve as President of TCWSE

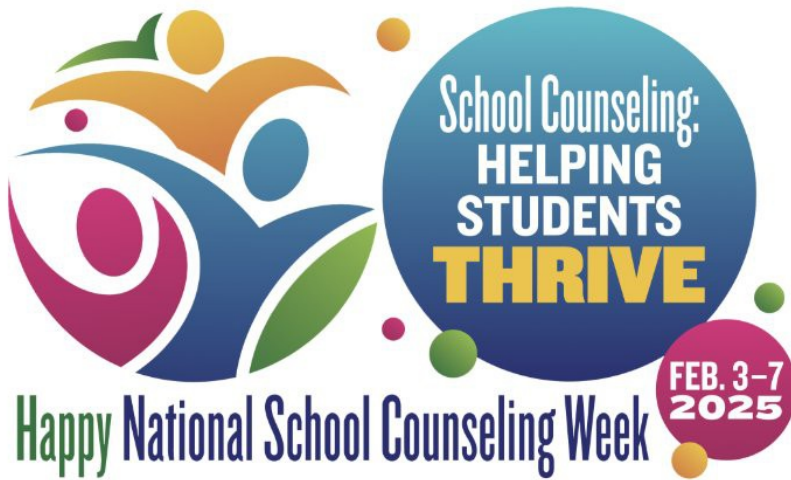
In addition to serving as the President of TASA in its 100th year, TISD Superintendent Dr. Salazar-Zamora has been selected to serve as President of The Council of Women School Executives (TCWSE) during its 40th year.

[**Read more about Dr. Z's role as President of TCWSE.**](#)

Best of Luck to THS and TMHS Cheer at UCA Nationals!



Thank You, **COUNSELORS!**



COMMUNITY *Captures*







**Tomball ISD's
Connections Academy
Honored with CREST
Counseling Award**



**Orbit Visits Tomball
Intermediate for
"Strikeout Bullying Show"**



**Cat Cafe Activity Grows
into Life-Changing
Opportunity for Low
Vision Students**

Tomball Connections Academy has been recognized by the Texas School Counselor Association as a Texas model program for counseling services for the fourth straight year.

[Read more about TCA's recognition.](#)



DPES Librarian Mandy Watson Named to Texas 2x2 Reading Committee

DPES librarian Mandy Watson has been selected as one of eight librarians in Texas to serve on the Texas 2x2 Reading Committee. The Committee is a three-year term for the Texas Association of School Librarians Children's Roundtable in which she helps in the selection of the best 25 picture books for ages 2 years old to 2nd Graders.

[Read more about Mandy Watson.](#)



TES Counselor Brings New High-Level

Thanks to Support from PTO

Tomball Intermediate School students were recently immersed in a powerful anti-bullying presentation designed to educate, inspire, and equip them with the tools to stand up against bullying.

[Read more about the Astros' presentation.](#)



TMHS Baseball Fosters Inclusion Through Annual Unified Kickball Game

TMHS Baseball builds meaningful friendships with PALS students through annual Unified Kickball Game.

[Read more about the TMHS Unified Kickball Game.](#)



TIS Student Celebrates Send-Off with

Through a hands-on educational activity, Tomball ISD students with low vision are gaining life skills as part of the Expanded Core Curriculum. Cat Cafe began back in 2018 by Tomball ISD's Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialist, Debi Long.

[Read more about Cat Cafe.](#)



TISD Schools Brighten the Holiday Season through Community Outreach Projects

Tomball ISD schools came together this holiday season to support its local community through outreach initiative and community-service projects.

[Read more about TISD community projects.](#)



Tomball ISD Implements Hope Squad, a Peer-to-

Approach to Support Student Success

Tomball Elementary school counselor Tiffanie Toohey has brought a new high-level approach to support student success since joining Tomball ISD this year.

[Read more about TES counselor Tiffanie Toohey.](#)

Classmates After Being Granted Wish Through Make-A-Wish Foundation

Tomball Intermediate fifth grader Sabreen has been battling a rare disease for over 6.5 years but her hope and determination have inspired so many that she was recently granted her wish through the Make-A-Wish Foundation and her classmates and teachers were there to celebrate her sendoff to Disney World.

[Read more about Sabreen's journey.](#)

Peer Connection, on High School Campuses

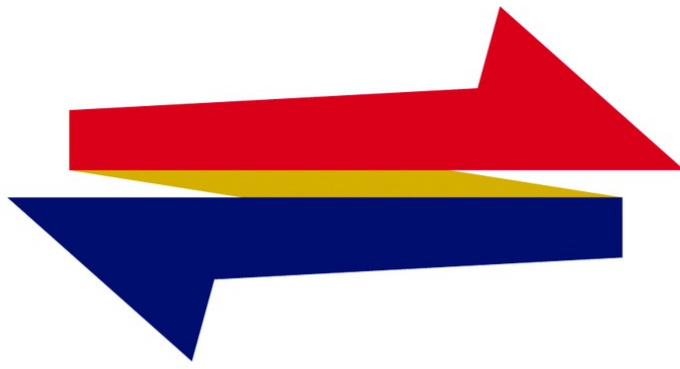
Amidst a growing need to address mental health concerns among today's youth, Tomball ISD took a bold step forward this year in implementing Hope Squad, a proactive approach to mental health support, enabling students to become trained peers supporters, in all three TISD high schools.

[Read more about Hope Squad.](#)

[**Click Here for All Feel Good Friday Stories**](#)



[**Learn More about our Two-Way Dual Language Academy**](#)



Two - Way

Dual Language Academy

REMINDER

STAFF DEVELOPMENT / STUDENT HOLIDAY
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14

STAFF AND STUDENT HOLIDAY (PRESIDENTS DAY)
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17

CLASSES RESUME ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18



[Learn More about Tomball ISD's Parent U](#)

TOMBALL ISD



ENGAGED IN EXCELLENCE

Parent University is designed to empower parents with knowledge and tools to become effective advocates for their children. There are a variety of sessions from Pre-K through High School Senior content delivered through cross-district collaboration.



Have a safe and enjoyable



All schools and facilities closed | March 10 - 14
Classes Resume | March 18, 2025

[Click for More Information about the Job Fair](#)



TOMBALL ISD
DESTINATION EXCELLENCE

Tomball ISD
JOB FAIR

REGISTER: tomballisd.net/jobfair

SATURDAY
MARCH 22, 2025
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Grand Lakes Junior High
20247 Cypress Rosehill Rd.
Tomball, TX 77377

[Fun Run Details + Register Here](#)

FUN RUN + FREE FESTIVAL
SATURDAY APRIL 12, 2025
SUPERINTENDENT'S

Fun Run

**Register Early
& Save \$10!**



TOMBALLISD.NET/FUNRUN

TOMBALL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

ALUMNI

Spotlight

Jake Bates, Tomball High School, 2017



Jake Bates, Tomball High School, 2017

NFL Kicker for the Detroit Lions

From Tomball, Texas to the bright lights and packed stadiums in the National Football League (NFL), Jake Bates' athletics journey is a testament to his perseverance and talent.

Representing Tomball High School as a 2017 graduate, Bates attended Rosehill Elementary, Tomball Intermediate, Tomball Junior High, and THS. A former standout soccer player who also was a member of the Cougar football team, went on to pursue his love for soccer at the collegiate level.

"I played club soccer my whole life, and always dreamt of playing college soccer," Bates said.

Bates earned a soccer scholarship and played collegiately at the University of Central Arkansas.

"My oldest brother played at UCA before me, so I grew up going to games there, and always wanted to go and play there."

After two seasons of playing collegiate soccer at UCA, Bates rediscovered his love for football.

When he rejoined his friends over the holidays, he began thinking more about his future.

"One of my good friends was trying to walk on at TCU to kick, so I started going out there with him and I'd kick every now and then," he recalled. "From there, I started thinking maybe I could play in college too, so I sent film to almost every school I could think of, and Texas State was the only one to really give me a chance."

And despite only limited action as a kicker for Tomball High School, Bates was able to walk-on as a kickoff specialist for Texas State University. He played there two years and notched 32 touchbacks on 60 kickoffs in 2020, and an average of 61.6 yards per kickoff before returns. The following season, in 2021, he averaged 62.8 yards per kickoff in 12 games, with 35 touchbacks on 53 kickoffs.

After earning his Business degree from Texas State in 2021, Bates wanted a chance to compete in his final year of eligibility, so he was fortunate to join the University of Arkansas Football team also as a kickoff specialist. Making the most of his one season, Bates earned first-team All-SEC honors for the Razorbacks, finishing third in the nation with 64 touchbacks.

Although Bates never attempted a field goal in college, he joined the Houston Texans in July 2023 after going undrafted that year. He went 2-for-3 on extra-point kicks in his exhibition debut, but was cut in August, spending less than 15 days with the Texans.

From there, Bates began working as a Sales Representative for Acme Brick in the Houston area but knew in his heart football wasn't quite over.

"I just truly didn't want to be done playing football," he shared. "I felt like I had so much still to give and I wasn't ready to hang up my cleats."

Shortly after, the Michigan Panthers of the United Football League (UFL) called. Bates signed with the Panthers in December 2023.

The UFL season began in March, and in his very first game, in his very first official field goal attempt since high school, Bates nailed a 64-yard game-winner for the Panthers, the longest kick in UFL history. That kick is also tied for the second-longest recorded field goal in professional football history. He later went out and kicked two more field goals of 60 or more yards in 2024 and was named a 2024 All-UFL team in June 2024.

Bates' kicking abilities with the Michigan Panthers caught the attention of the NFL's Lions, and after a season-ending injury to the starting kicker for the Lions, Bates was the guy. On June 18, 2024, Bates signed a two-year contract with the Detroit Lions.

During the Lion's successful 2024 season, Bates kicked a 44-yard game-winning field goal sending the Lions to a win over the Vikings, and was also awarded NFC special teams Player of the Week for this feat. Just a few games later, Bates kicked a 58-yard field goal against the Texans to tie the game before hitting a 52-yard game-winning field goal in a 26-23 victory. Late in the season, he went on to achieve the Lions single-season franchise record for points scored.

Bates' contributions in 2024 helped the Detroit Lions defend their NFC North title, where they finished the season with a 15-2 record, eventually losing in the Divisional Playoffs to the Washington Commanders.

Bates made a name for himself as a rising star in professional football.

"I'm still learning stuff everyday," he said. "Luckily, I am in a situation with great coaches and players around me that are helping me every step of the way. I'm having a lot of fun and am very grateful for the experience I'm able to have."

Now, as an NFL kicker, his story serves as an inspiration to young athletes striving to turn their dreams into reality. With a powerful leg and an unwavering determination, Bates continues to make his hometown of Tomball proud on the biggest stage in football.

Nominate a Tomball ISD Alumni

Click Here for All Alumni Spotlight Stories

Follow @TomballISD



Tomball ISD Fine Arts @FineArtsTomball · Feb 1

The @TISDTHS @BandTomball Indoor Percussion had a solid run at today's contest at Pasadena Memorial! They are making a run for the WGI Indoor Percussion World Championships in April and well on their way. Congratulations, Pride of Texas percussionists! 🎉 see their video here: [Show more](#)



Grant Granquist @Grantquilt · Feb 1

Shoutout to our incredible TMHS welding teachers for equipping students with the skills they need to earn industry certifications and thrive in the workforce after graduation!!! Their dedication to hands-on learning is shaping future welders and career-ready graduates @TISDTHMS .



Dr. Rick Fernandez @edu.DrF · Jan 31

To innovate in a singular instance is extremely difficult to accomplish. To continuously innovate year after year is near impossible.

If there's a district and leader in the U.S. that do this better than @TomballISD and @m_salazarzamora, I have yet to find them.



Tomball Star Academy @TISD TSA · Feb 1

Our Owls are ready to show what they are made of in our first ever UIL Academic competition! #WingsUp 🦉💜



Tomball Education Foundation @TEF.TomballISD · 18h

We welcome back and would like to re-introduce Kristy McCoy as our President!!! And we thank Amanda Bass for the amazing last three years!!! Please enjoy this article about Kristy!



Timber Creek Elementary @TISDTCES · 13h

101 Days Smarter is a notable achievement for our first-grade students. These tiny polka dots symbolize the difference they are making in the world and the impression we are leaving on them as they navigate first grade.

Keep making your mark, 1st Grade!



Jodi Lea @MrsJodiLea · Feb 4

@TISDTHMS Art 2 Drawing and Painting has been studying Hyper Realism. Check out the amazing reflections they captured on their Auto Paintings! @FineArtsTomball #DestinationExcellence



Tomball Memorial High School @TISDTHMS · 16h


Love seeing our INCREDIBLY TALENTED @TomballISD Cheerleaders performing at the 1st Annual Cheer Showcase! WOW, what athleticism and spirit!! #DestinationExcellence #BECATS



TJHS Library @tjhslibrary · Feb 4

Happy Black History Month! Kicking it off with our February reading challenge. Check out a 📖 from our BHM book display and guess the # of Skittles for a chance to win the jar!



JULY 2024 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	 2024-2025 Calendar First Day of School August 13, 2024 Last Day of School May 22, 2025 Staff & Student Holidays Independence Day - July 4 Labor Day - September 2 Thanksgiving - Nov. 25-29 Winter Break - Dec. 23-Jan. 3 Martin Luther King Day - Jan. 20 Presidents Day - February 17 Spring Break - March 10-14 Good Friday - April 18 Memorial Day - May 26 Staff Development/Workdays Student Holidays July 31, August 1-2 (New Teacher) August 5-9 August 12 October 10-11, 14 November 4-5 January 6-7 February 14 March 17 May 23 and 27 Early Release Days All Schools: Dec. 20, May 22 High Schools Only: Dec. 19, May 21 Make Up Days (if needed) February 17 March 17 May 23 Reporting Periods End October 11 December 20 March 7 May 22	JANUARY 2025 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
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TISD Board Approved 02/07/2023



TOMBALL ISD

DESTINATION EXCELLENCE



Not just a district, a destination.



Tomball ISD students will *lead* in creating the *Future.*

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Tomball ISD

#DestinationExcellence



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