

UPPER SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

March 6, 2025

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

March 3-7 - FBCA Eagle Week (Student attendance is mandatory)
March 9 - Daylight savings time begins
March 10-14 - FBCA Spring Break (No school)
March 27 - Senior Privilege lunch - outside Gym walkway

SENIORS!

*Reminder: ORDER YOUR CAP, GOWN AND TASSEL!! (see more info below)

NOTE FROM: Nathan Barber, Head of Upper School

The Upper School Admissions Committee recently completed its first round of applicant file reviews. As we had far more applications than we have space available, the Committee had its hands full reviewing applications and selecting students to receive invitations to join the FBCA community for the Fall of 2025. While I suspect we could easily enroll over 400 students next year if we wanted, we are choosing to stay roughly the same size as we are this year, which is just over 370 students. Because we are restricted by available physical space and facilities, more students would mean class sizes higher than we want. Additionally, without adding more and more staff, more and more students would mean that we would begin to lose the small-school sense of community we've worked so hard to build. Finally, by maintaining our size, we can afford to be more selective than ever in the admissions process. On behalf of the Admissions Committee, thank you for the record-setting number of families you referred to us; once again many of our applicant families learned about FBCA through word of mouth. As with everything else we do in the Upper School, we simply couldn't do what we do without your partnership.

NOTE FROM: Jocelyn Muckelroy, Assistant Head of Upper School

As you may have noticed, parking has become a little more challenging this semester. We have construction going on and many new drivers. Seniors have dedicated parking if they painted a spot at the beginning of the school year. Everyone else must have a parking permit registered in my office. Juniors and sophomores may park where they can find a spot this year. This DOES NOT include STAFF PARKING, VISITOR PARKING, THE AUBERGE, or THE LIBRARY. Students may park at the Field House and walk across using the crosswalk. We are working on solutions moving forward, but we need your help and patience at this time.

Also, as a reminder, FBCA is a closed campus. Students are not allowed to leave and pick up lunch and come back. We really try to limit the goings and comings of all students unless they are leaving for absolutely necessary reasons. Please do not email and ask for your student to be allowed to leave campus to get lunch. Thank you for working with us to keep students safe.

Additionally, please remember that you need to submit all absence excuses within 48 hours. We will not be going back to adjust absences when exemptions roll around.

UPPER SCHOOL BULLETIN BOARD:

Away for the Day: How You Can Help

We continue to get positive feedback from both parents and students about the positive effects of Away for the Day. If you are starting to see positive effects at home (less cell phone use from your teen, or your teen choosing other activities over scrolling), we would love to hear from you.

Save the Date: Class of 2026 Senior Retreat

The Senior Retreat for the class of 2026 will be August 8-10, 2025 in Roundtop. All seniors should plan to be in attendance.

Prom:

Senior Prom 2025 will be FRIDAY, APRIL 11 - look for more detailed emails soon.

SENIORS!

*Reminder: ORDER YOUR CAP, GOWN AND TASSEL!!

Go to highschool.herffjones.com to place your order / \$52 for the unit

*Enter School Name / Grad Year

*Shop Grad Products

*Grad Gear & Apparel -scroll to the bottom of the page; click on Cap, Gown & Tassel Unit *Place order

For Questions, please contact: <u>office@hjgradcenter.com</u> Order Your Custom 2025 Graduation Announcements



Yearbook SENIOR ADs COLOR AD \$400.00- Full Page / \$250.00-1/2 Page

Upper School Attendance and Absences

usattendance@fortbendchristian.org

Be sure to send emails or doctor's notes excusing absences to Mrs. Daigle within 48 hours of an absence. Parents are not required to come inside the school to check their child in/out, instead you are asked to report all attendance changes through Schoolpass found on the FBCA website, under Parent Zone https://www.fortbendchristian.org/parent-zone

Food Deliveries

Food deliveries by Doordash, UberEats, or any other food delivery service are **NOT allowed**. This is for the security protection of our students and faculty. Your cooperation is appreciated in helping us to maintain security on campus. **FBCA is a closed campus**. **Students are not allowed to leave campus to pick up lunch or run errands**. **Parents please partner with us in keeping our students in school and in class**. **Breakfast:** Chef Benito will be offering breakfast for purchase in the Eagle Cafe from 7:30 a.m. - 8:15 a.m every school day, beginning on the first day of school.

Updated Student Default Password Instructions

Updated Student Default Passwords: 9th grade students have a new default password. The default password for students will be Fb+Student ID # (for example, Samantha has a student ID # of 12502099 and therefore her default password is Fb12502099).

Instructions on how to obtain your child's student ID:

- 1. Sign in to **MyFBCA** as a parent with your email address
- 2. Under Children select the student's name
- 3. Click on the Contact Card tab
- 4. Under General Information notate the Student ID #

Student ID numbers are only visible to faculty, staff, the student, and the student's parent/guardian. A student ID # should never be shared with other students at any time. Please take a moment to review this with your child to keep their account and information secure.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER:

Graham Traylor, Director of College Counseling <u>GTraylor@fortbendchristian.org</u>

Elliot Savoie, College Counselor & Testing Coordinator <u>ESavoie@fortbendchristian.org</u>

> Morgan Carter, Upper School Counselor <u>MCarter@fortbendchristian.org</u>

Seniors - College Counseling Notes

Please keep us updated on decisions! We have started our pennant wall in the cafe with several final decisions starting to roll in from students, and we will be giving out yard signs in chapel as the semester progresses, but we know several students will take longer to come to a final decision. Let us know how we can help you process your options.

Important Upper School Contact Information

Nathan Barber, Head of Upper School: nbarber@fortbendchristian.org

Jocelyn Muckelroy, Assistant Head of Upper School: jmuckelroy@fortbendchristian.org

Beth Grover, Upper School Nurse: <u>bgrover@fortbendchristian.org</u>, 281-263-9183

Morgan Carter, Upper School Counselor: mcarter@fortbendchristian.org

Brittney Ford, Director of Student Life: bford@fortbendchristian.org

Graham Traylor, Director of College Counseling: gtraylor@fortbendchristian.org

Michelle Walker, Upper School Registrar: <u>mwalker@fortbendchristian.org</u>

Marti Biles, Admin Assistant to the Head of US: mbiles@fortbendchristian.org

Allyson Daigle, Upper School Front Desk Receptionist/Student Attendance: usattendance@fortbendchristian.org *Be sure to send emails or doctor's notes excusing absences to Mrs. Daigle within 48 hours of an absence. Parents are not required to come inside the school to check their child in/out, instead you are asked to report all attendance changes through Schoolpass found on the FBCA website, under Parent Zone https://www.fortbendchristian.org/parent-zone