



*Byron Nelson High School*  
**Bobcat Camp**

*Welcome Bobcat Families  
and Friends!*

*We are glad you're here.*





# STRATEGIC GOALS



**Northwest**  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

**STRATEGIC GOALS**  
2023-2028

**Our Core Beliefs**

- 1 Kids come first.
- 2 Continuous learning is essential to prepare for college and career opportunities.
- 3 Each student's success is the shared responsibility of students, families, schools, and communities.
- 4 Learning is influenced by environment.

**Our Vision**  
Northwest ISD empowers learners and leaders to positively impact the world.

**Our Mission**  
Northwest ISD, in collaboration with students, families, communities, and global partners, will engage in a culture of learning that prepares all students to confidently navigate their future.

Strategic Goal 1	Strategic Goal 2	Strategic Goal 3
<p>Northwest ISD will provide personalized learning experiences and cultivate the growth and achievement of every student.</p> <p><b>NISD PRIORITIES:</b></p> <p><b>Literacy</b></p> <p>1.1 Our students will annually increase literacy proficiency to reach or exceed grade-level standards.</p> <p><b>Academic Progress</b></p> <p>1.2 Our students will achieve individualized academic goals to reach a year's growth or more in all content areas.</p> <p><b>College, Career, Military &amp; Life Readiness</b></p> <p>1.3 Our students will graduate life ready and prepared for success in career, college, or military service.</p>	<p>Northwest ISD will recruit, value, and retain highly effective staff prepared to meet the individual needs of our students and learning community.</p> <p><b>NISD PRIORITIES:</b></p> <p><b>Recruit</b></p> <p>2.1 Northwest ISD will have an unwavering commitment to attract and welcome high-quality staff.</p> <p><b>Value</b></p> <p>2.2 Northwest ISD will invest in all staff through a culture of support, development, and empowerment to make a positive impact on the learning community.</p> <p><b>Retain</b></p> <p>2.3 Northwest ISD will retain highly effective staff through meaningful relationships, ongoing support, and professional growth opportunities.</p>	<p>Northwest ISD will foster a safe environment and a culture of engagement that values the voices of all students, staff, families, and community members.</p> <p><b>NISD PRIORITIES:</b></p> <p><b>Engagement</b></p> <p>3.1 Northwest ISD will foster an environment of engagement with every member of our community through collaborative dialogue and partnership opportunities.</p> <p><b>Culture</b></p> <p>3.2 Northwest ISD will model and instill a culture of belonging where all students, staff, families, and community voices are heard and valued.</p> <p><b>Safety</b></p> <p>3.3 Northwest ISD will continuously improve, maintain and communicate systems of support to strengthen the physical and emotional well-being of our students, staff, and community.</p>

## STRATEGIC GOAL 1

Northwest ISD will provide **personalized learning experiences** and cultivate the **growth** and achievement of every student.

### NISD PRIORITIES:

## Literacy

1.1 Our students will annually increase literacy proficiency to reach or exceed grade-level standards.

## Academic Progress

1.2 Our students will achieve individualized academic goals to reach a year's growth or more in all content areas.

## College, Career, Military & Life Readiness

1.3 Our students will graduate life ready and prepared for success in career, college, or military service.

## STRATEGIC GOAL 2

Northwest ISD will **recruit, value, and retain** highly effective staff prepared to meet the individual needs of our students and learning community.

### NISD PRIORITIES:

## Recruit

2.1 Northwest ISD will have an unwavering commitment to attract and welcome high-quality staff.

## Value

2.2 Northwest ISD will invest in all staff through a culture of support, development, and empowerment to make a positive impact on the learning community.

## Retain

2.3 Northwest ISD will retain highly effective staff through meaningful relationships, ongoing support, and professional growth opportunities.

## STRATEGIC GOAL 3

Northwest ISD will foster a **safe environment** and a **culture of engagement** that values the voices of all students, staff, families, and community members.

### NISD PRIORITIES:

## Engagement

3.1 Northwest ISD will foster an environment of engagement with every member of our community through collaborative dialogue and partnership opportunities.

## Culture

3.2 Northwest ISD will model and instill a culture of belonging where all students, staff, families, and community voices are heard and valued.

## Safety

3.3 Northwest ISD will continuously improve, maintain and communicate systems of support to strengthen the physical and emotional well-being of our students, staff, and community.

# *BNHS Vision & Mission Statement*



## *Vision*

*The vision of BNHS is to be an exemplary community empowering learners with the knowledge, skills and resources necessary for lifelong success in an ever-changing society.*



## *Mission Statement*

*BNHS, in partnership with students, parents and the community, will ensure a premier education for all learners. Through innovative educational opportunities, students will be challenged, engaged, and offered leadership experiences, thereby, creating the Byron Nelson culture.*



# Byron Nelson Stadium Expansion In Progress



# Byron Nelson Stadium Expansion In Progress



# Byron Nelson Stadium Expansion In Progress



# Byron Nelson Performing Art Center Expansion - In Progress



# Byron Nelson Gymnasium Expansion Starts March 2026



# Byron Nelson Gymnasium Expansion Starts March 2026

# Learn-Serve-Lead



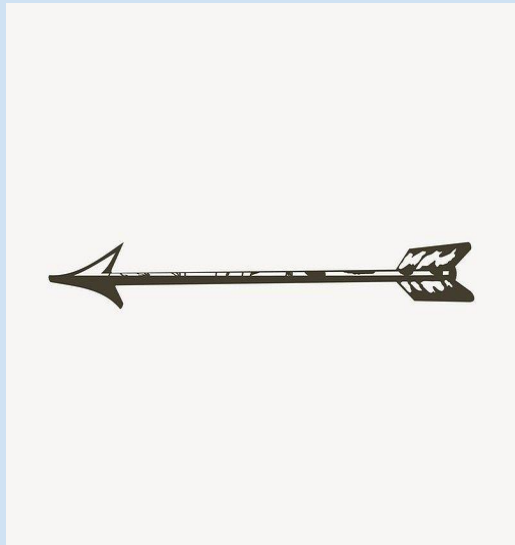
***September***

Golden Key of Responsibility



***January***

Noble Hand of Respect



***October***

Silver Arrow of Honesty



***February***

Royal Shield of Courage



***November***

Regal Heart of Compassion

# Byron Character Traits

## **Golden Key of Responsibility**

It is given to students who accept and take the necessary action to bring an assigned task to a successful completion.

*September*

## **Silver Arrow of Honesty**

It is given to students who are found to be trustworthy and upright through a sincere and straightforward way of life.

*October*

## **Regal Heart of Compassion**

It is given to students who take into account the distress of others and attempt to alleviate their suffering through acts of kindness. They seek to benefit others by bringing joy to life.

*November*

# Byron Character Traits

## **Noble Hand of Respect**

Is given to students who take others' feelings, needs, thoughts, ideas and wishes into consideration and gives them worth and value.

*January*

## **Royal Shield of Courage**

It is awarded to students who show a steadfast adherence to a moral or ethical code and are capable of facing danger and fear with confidence and resolution.

*February*



***Mrs. Kara Lea Deardorff***  
***Principal***



***Dr. Maggie Norris***  
***Associate Principal***

# Assistant Principals

Kerry Knisley A-Bram



Bobbie Taylor Ele-Huf



Ronald Mendoza Bran-Eld



Jacob Chastain HyHug-Mar



Branden Richardson Mas-Por



Brandon Thomas Pos-Sta



Carol McDaniel-White Stb-2



# BNHS Bell Schedule

1st	8:25-9:15
2nd	9:20-10:05
BNTV	10:05-10:15
Adv.	10:20-10:50
3rd	10:55-11:40
4th	11:45-12:30
5th	12:35-1:20
6th	1:25-2:10
7th	2:15-3:00
8th	3:05-3:50

MONDAY: Advisory

TUESDAY: Study Hall/Tutorials

WEDNESDAY: Tutorials

THURSDAY: Study Hall/ Tutorials

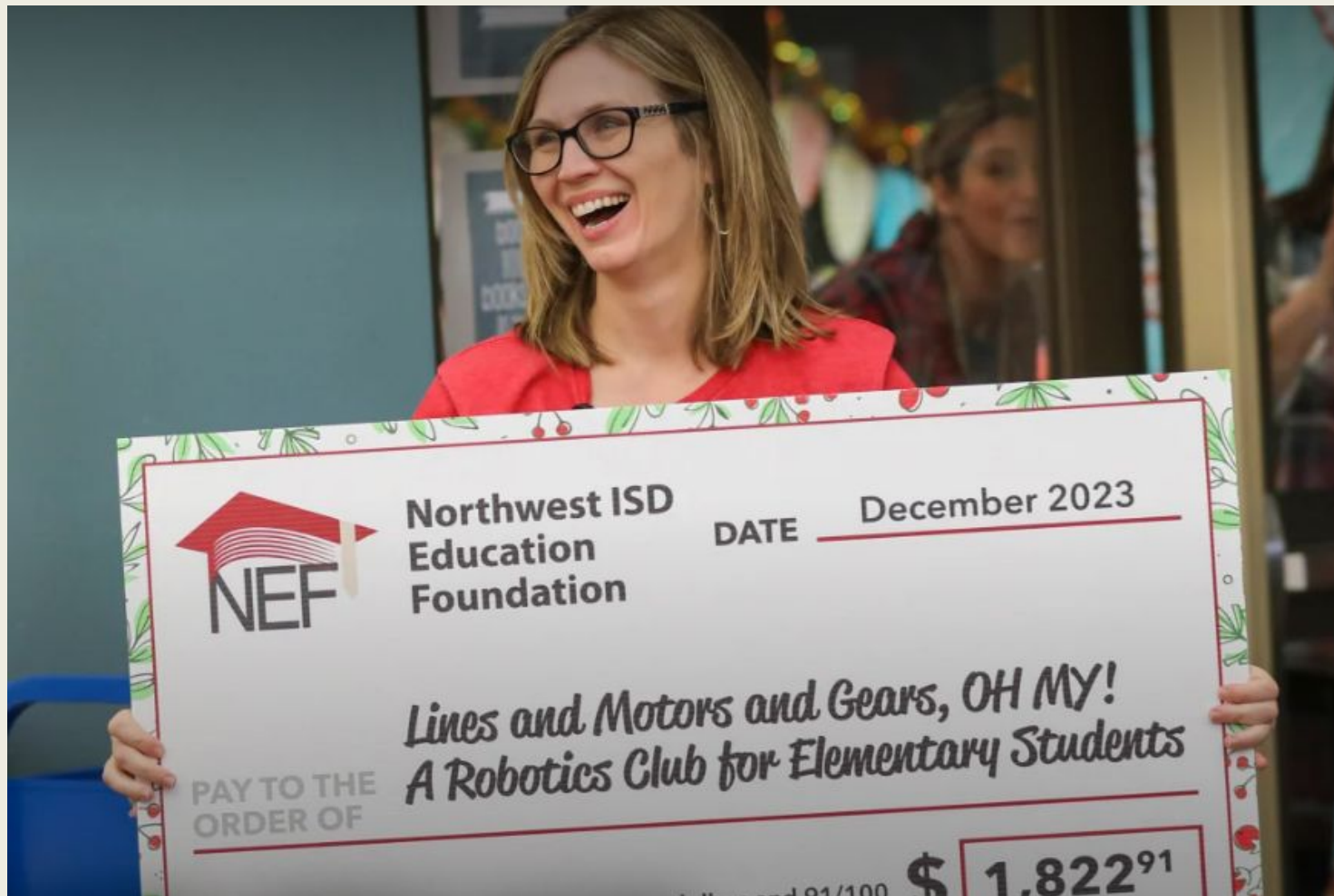
FRIDAY: Study Hall/Tutorials



Northwest ISD Education Found... · 5/17/24 ...  
 With support from our family endowments and community partners, NEF is proud to award 49 scholarships totaling \$63,000 to @ByronNelsonHigh seniors! The Bobcat's own...

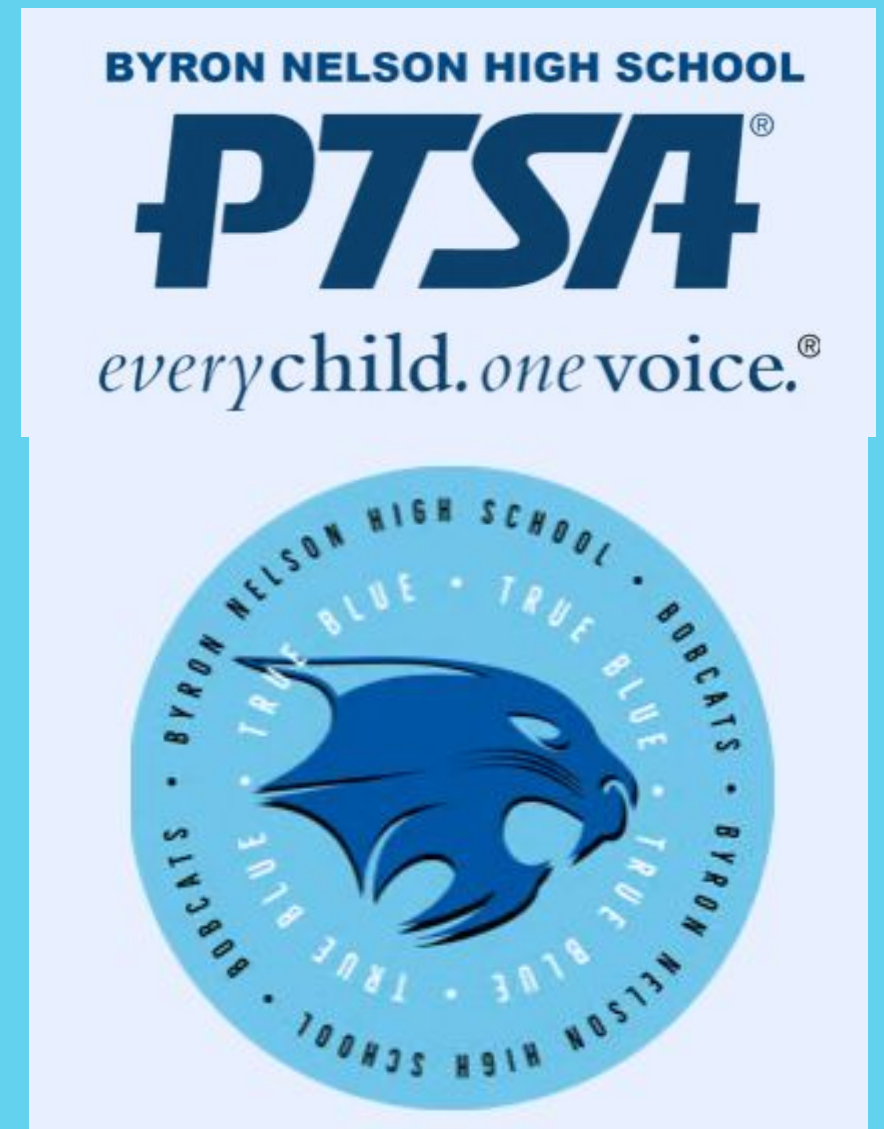
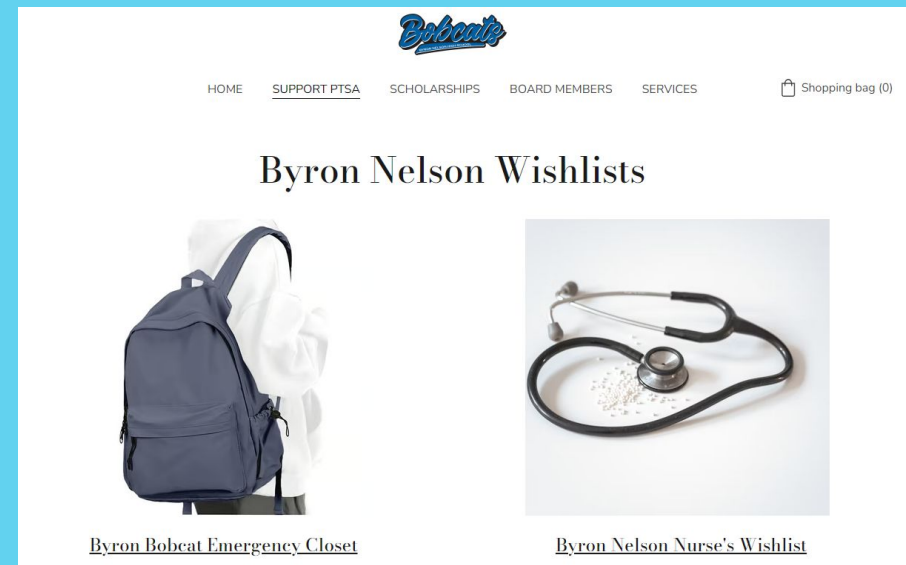


The Northwest Education Foundation (NEF) sponsored the Bobcat Camp shirts that students are receiving tonight!



# 2025-2026 BNHS PTSA Highlights

- National PTA Schools of Excellence
- Support BNHS Student Organizations
- Collaborate with Student Council
- Parent Programs
- Teacher Appreciation
- Reflections Art Contest
- Scholarships for Seniors
- Campus Needs



[www.BNHSPTSA.org](http://www.BNHSPTSA.org)



Annual membership is \$12.25

Join at [www.JOINPTA.org](http://www.JOINPTA.org)

# JOIN US!

Membership is \$12.25 @ JOINPTA.ORG

- Support for Our Kids & Our School - We are the Student Booster Club!
- Advocate for Issues that Matter
  - No Required Meetings
  - Volunteerism is Appreciated
  - Show Teacher Appreciation
  - Support Senior Scholarships

Your level of engagement is up to you, but we love having everyone's support!

[BNHSPTSA.ORG](http://BNHSPTSA.ORG)



# Counseling Department



Jennifer Martinez  
Lead Counselor  
A-Bram



Leah Berry  
Bran-Eld



Page Hanna  
Ele-Huf



Becki White  
Hug-Mar



Christina Salcido  
Mas-Por



Emily Shipman  
Pos-Sta



Monique Chavez  
Stb-Z



Ryan Laney  
Intervention  
Counselor



# How does a student request to meet with their counselor?

- *Parental Consent*
- *Students can go to the Byron Nelson Counseling page:*
  - *Click on BNHS Counseling Team to email their counselor.*
- *They are also welcome to stop by before school, at lunch, or after school to make a request.*
- *Counselors are also available for emergencies.*

# High School Credits

Credits determine a student's grade level



9th grade - Freshman  
0-5.5 credits



10th grade - Sophomore  
6-12.5 credits



11th grade - Junior  
13-18.5 credits



12th grade - Seniors  
19+ credits

# Grade Point Average (GPA)



## Weighted GPA



is used to determine class rank (includes courses in English, math, science, social studies, world languages, and any elective course that falls into these categories)

AP/OnRamps/Dual Credit = 7.0 point scale

Honors = 6.0 point scale

On Level = 5.0 point scale

## Unweighted GPA

is on a 4.0 scale and is calculated on ALL courses taken



# Schedules!

*Available on HAC Friday, Aug 8th at 8am*

- Semester 1 may look different from semester 2. This is normal.
- There are 4 lunch periods (3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th).
- All lunch periods include students from all grade levels.
- We do not accept requests for lunch period changes.





# Schedule Change Requests



- Seniors not enrolled in a course **REQUIRED** for graduation.
- Student scheduled in a course for which they already have credit.
- Student is enrolled in a course for which the student does not have the prerequisite.
- Student has an incomplete schedule.
- Student enrolled/not enrolled in an application/audition course for which they were approved.
- Student has failed a course and needs to repeat the course.
- Change is needed as a result of a credit earned in summer school.
- **REQUESTS WILL BE APPROVED ONLY FOR THE REASONS LISTED ABOVE.**



# Tips for Student Success

- Focus on organization and creating a routine.
- Encourage student involvement in school clubs and organizations.
- Be prepared. Attend school daily. Bring a charged laptop.
- Set academic goals with your student and enroll as a parent to monitor progress in HAC.
- Encourage students to think about their future, dreams, and goals for after graduation.
- Encourage your student to use Advisory and tutorials for academic support.
- Encourage your student to self-advocate and communicate with teachers, counselors and assistant principals.

# Advisory

- *Advisory is Period 9 on your student's schedule*
- *30 minutes in between 2nd and 3rd periods*
- *Time for support from teachers, student collaboration, or independent study time*
- *We encourage students to use this critical time to stay organized and on track in all of their classes.*



# Drop Guideline for Advanced Courses

- Request forms will be electronic, and parents will have to reach out to the counselor for the link - students must talk with teacher prior to completing and submitting the form for the drop request to be considered. Please note that we cannot guarantee that request will be approved.
- Time frame - request for change may occur:
  - Exit Window will be open from September 1st - 19th.
  - The last five days of the first semester and the first five days of the second semester.
- Support systems are in place. Students should utilize all supports. Communication between students, teachers, and parents is very important!

# Required STAAR exams



## **Algebra I**

*Taken either in 8th grade or Freshmen year*



## **Biology**

*Taken Freshman year*



## **English I**

*Taken Freshman year*



## **English II**

*Taken Sophomore year*



## **U.S. History**

*Taken Junior year*

# COMMUNICATION IS KEY!

*So, what is the process for that?*

- *STEP 1: Encourage your student to be his/her own advocate and communicate with the teacher.*
- *STEP 2: Attend tutorials before school, after school, or during Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday advisory tutorials.*
- *STEP 3: Parent and teacher communication via email.*
- *STEP 4: If needed, parent, teacher, and student may schedule a conference.*

# How Can You Help?

- 9th grade can be a difficult transition due to greater freedom and greater expectations.
- Please “check in” with your student. Students will have homework and should stay on top of this from day 1.
- Monitor missing assignments/failing assignments in HAC and encourage them to communicate with teachers. In HAC, you can set up parent notifications/alerts for grades and attendance.
- Use [BNHS.NISDTX.org](http://BNHS.NISDTX.org) to find teachers’ Canvas pages for course information.
- Go to [BNHS.NISDTX.org](http://BNHS.NISDTX.org) for school activities, testing dates, news, and upcoming events at Byron Nelson High School

# Nurse/Medication Info

- Please communicate directly with the Nurse about any health concerns.
- Students cannot carry medication on their person at school. This even includes Tylenol or other OTC meds. Exceptions will be made for insulin, asthma inhalers, and EpiPens with a doctor note (form required).
- Any student caught with medicine that is not checked in will be subject to the NISD Code of Conduct. Prescriptions are of particular concern.
- All medicine MUST be checked in with the nurse and brought by a parent in its original container (no baggies).

Rachel Rivera [rachael.rivera@nisdtx.org](mailto:rachael.rivera@nisdtx.org) Anna Barnes [anna.barnes@nisdtx.org](mailto:anna.barnes@nisdtx.org)



*Reminders from the Registrars:*

1. Please make sure you have completed returning student registration for the 25-26 school year.

*Home Access Center (HAC)*

2. Upload proof of residency with the link below to complete your student's registration.

*Returning Student Enrollment Documents 25-26*

## Acceptable Proof of Residency Documentation

- A copy of a current (current or previous month) utility bill (electric, gas, water) which shows the current usage, service address, name, and date.
- A current lease (for 30 days until a utility bill is available).
- If you have recently purchased your home, a copy of the closing papers will suffice until a utility bill is available to reproduce (within 30 days); or
- If you are living with a friend or a relative within Northwest ISD, an affidavit must be completed, notarized, and provided to the school's front office along with a current utility bill. A notary at our NISD schools can notarize this affidavit.
- If you are living in Northwest ISD attendance boundaries but cannot provide one of the above forms of documentation, please contact 817-698-1099 or [DistrictRegistrar@nisdtx.org](mailto:DistrictRegistrar@nisdtx.org) for individualized assistance.

**For help with parent home access center (HAC) information please contact the Registrar's office.**

Byron Nelson High School Registrars

Heather Beasley **A-K** [Heather.Beasley@nisdtx.org](mailto:Heather.Beasley@nisdtx.org)

Jill Pavlicek **L-Z** [Jill.Pavlicek@nisdtx.org](mailto:Jill.Pavlicek@nisdtx.org)

# Attendance Info

We want your student to be successful!

Being in class everyday is a necessary part of that success.

- *NISD requires a note OR email from a parent reporting an absence. Please include student's LEGAL first and last name, reason for absence, ID number (if known) and phone number.*
- *OR go to the BNHS website and click on "report absence" icon.*
- *If your child went to the doctor, please bring a medical note.*
- *Absence notes must be turned in to the attendance office by the end of the third (3rd) day after your student's return to campus.*
- *A student may have up to 6 parent excused absences per year.*

*You can click  
this image to go  
directly to the  
attendance page*



# Attendance for Credit

- Unexcused and excused absences are the same when earning credit.
- If a student misses more than 9 days in the first semester, he or she will lose credit.
- If your student misses 20 minutes or more of a class, he or she is counted **ABSENT**.
- Every class takes attendance. If a student is at school and leaves early, he or she is counted absent for those classes missed.
- If a student's attendance falls below 90%, the absences are considered excessive and students will be contacted about making up time to receive credit.

# Attendance Info

- If a student loses credit due to excessive absences, he or she will not be able to get a VOE (Verification of Enrollment) form for a driver's license. The student will have to wait until they are in good standing to get a VOE.
- A VOE form is required to get their permit and driver's license. Students can request a VOE using an online link and pick it up in the front office 48 hours later.
- Please allow 24 hours for coding extracurricular absences. If after 24 hours the absence is still showing as unexcused, please contact us.
- If you receive an automated attendance phone call in the evening and you have a question, please contact attendance. We recommend having the automated system call your cell phone number.

# Tardies

*Students need to be in class ON TIME!*

- *1-8 tardies result in warnings.*
- *Any subsequent tardies will result in an office referral for ISS, a parent meeting, and tardy contract.*



# Safety and Security

## STUDENT SAFETY AND SECURITY

*Student safety, attendance and accountability during the school day are paramount at BNHS.*

- We are a closed campus. Students may not leave for lunch.*
- No deliveries of food/lunches are permitted, including from parents, Uber Eats, Doordash, etc.*

## EARLY DISMISSAL

- Please email [byronnelsonHS@nisdtx.org](mailto:byronnelsonHS@nisdtx.org) to request an early release pass for your student.*
- Students may pick up their early release pass from the attendance office and check out in the front office.*
- Go to the BNHS website for instructions on requesting an early release for your students.*
- Checkout procedures can be found under "Our School", then "Arrival/Dismissal Procedures"*

# ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY

## TEXAS HOUSE BILL 1481

In line with Texas Education Code §37.083, as amended by HB 1481, all district campuses will implement a policy that prohibits students from using personal communication devices during the school day. Students are required to have their cell phones and other personal communications devices "off and away" in their backpack during the school day. This includes classroom instruction, passing periods and lunch. District-issued chromebooks and devices are unaffected by the law.

*Medical exemptions exist for some students supported by special education or 504 services. Activities before and after the school day, such as riding the bus or extracurricular activities, are unaffected by the new law.*

### STUDENTS:

- Use NISD-issued chromebook for academics.
- Keep all other electronic communication devices at home or "off and away" in backpack during the school day.

### FAMILIES:

- Support a focused instructional environment.
- Adjust family communications to before and after school, contacting the front office for vital or emergency needs.

### CAMPUS:

- Maintain a focused instructional environment.
- Support families and students in need of access to real-time communication through the front office.

### PROHIBITED DEVICES:



*Or any other personal electronic device capable of telecommunication or digital communication.*

## DISCIPLINARY CONSEQUENCES

1

- Device confiscated and returned to student at the end of day
- Student conference / warning
- Parent contact

2

- Device confiscated and returned to student at the end of day
- Detention/ECO
- Parent contact

3

- Device confiscated and released only to parent
- 1 day ISS
- Behavior contract

4

- Device confiscated and released only to parent
- 3 days ISS

## Offense

## Consequence

### 1st Offense

- Device confiscated and returned to student at the end of day
- Student conference/warning
- Parent contact

### 2nd Offense

- Device confiscated and returned to student at the end of day
- Detention/ECO
- Parent contact

### 3rd Offense

- Device confiscated and released only to parent
- 1 day ISS
- Behavior contract

### 4th Offense

- Device confiscated and released only to parent
- 3 days ISS

### 5th Offense

- Device confiscated and released only to parent
- 5 days ISS

### 6th Offense & Beyond

- Device confiscated and released only to parent
- Discretionary DAEP placement

# IDs

ID and Yearbook photos will be taken for underclassmen (9-11th graders) the first week of school on Friday, August 15th during English classes.

- Students must have their ID during school at all times.
- If a student does not have one, they must purchase a new ID, and a fine of \$4 will be assessed on his or her account.
- Students are only allowed to “charge” up to 10 IDs.
- You can also access fees in Home Access Center (HAC).



# Dress Code

## Basic Principles to Consider:

- Clothing must fully cover undergarments.
  - Undergarments should not be visible.
- All private parts must be fully covered by fabric.
  - Stomach and back must also be fully covered.
- Clothing with obscene or violent language or images are prohibited.
  - Images or language depicting drugs or alcohol are prohibited.
  - Hate speech, profanity, pornography are prohibited.

PLEASE REVIEW THE ENTIRE DRESS CODE POLICY WITH YOUR STUDENT THE NISD STUDENT HANDBOOK AT [NISDTX.ORG](http://NISDTX.ORG). ANY STUDENT VIOLATING THE DRESS CODE WILL BE REFERRED TO THEIR ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL.



# Extracurriculars & Clubs

**BNHS WANTS EVERY STUDENT TO MAKE A CONNECTION.**

- *Clubs/Organizations/Community Service allow students to feel more connected to BNHS, their peers, the community, and provides opportunities for enrichment and personal growth.*
- *Clubs can meet before school and after school.*
- *For a complete list, go to the BNHS website, click on “Programs and Activities” and then select “Extra/Co-Curricular.”*

**Can't find a club your student  
wants to join?**

**Have them see Asst. Principal,  
Carol McDaniel-White  
to START their own club!**

# Upcoming Events

- **Meet the Bobcats** – Friday, Aug 8th, at BNHS Gym 7:00 p.m. (Vendors & Food Trucks begin at 5:00)
- **ID and Yearbook Pics** grades 9-11 – August 15th (through English classes)
- **Homecoming Week** – Sept 29th -Oct. 3rd
  - **Parade & Pep Rally** – Wednesday, Oct. 1st
  - **Football Game** – Friday, Oct. 3rd
  - **Dance** – Saturday, Oct. 4th



# Expectations of Bobcats!

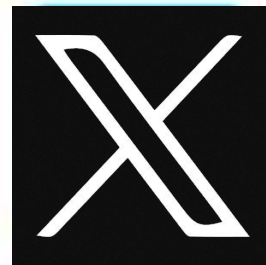
- *Be a person of character!*
  - *Learn, Serve, Lead*
- *LEARN what it means to be a Byron Nelson Bobcat.*
- *SERVE your school and your community.*
- *LEAD through respect for yourself, others, family, and our school community.*



**Integrity**

# Follow us on Social Media

## **Byron Nelson HS Social Media**



**@ByronNelsonHigh**



**@ByronNelsonHS**



**Byron Nelson High School  
Official School Page**

# Thank you for coming!

*Please exit the building quickly so we can begin student rotations. Thank you!*

*Please pick up your student in front of the building or bus loop at 8:30 pm, or 9:30 pm if they are attending the mixer.*

*We are thrilled to have you as part of Bobcat Nation!*

