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Hello Belton ISD,

Welcome back and Happy New Year! I hope your winter break was filled with rest, joy, and quality time with loved ones. There is something uniquely energizing about the start of a new calendar year—it offers us a collective moment to reflect on our progress and set our sights on the opportunities that lie ahead in the second half of the school year.

As we open our doors for the spring semester, I am reminded of the incredible dedication that defines Belton ISD. Whether in the classroom, on the field, or behind the scenes, our staff and students continue to embody the excellence that makes our district a leader in Central Texas.

January is School Board Recognition Month. I want to take a moment to publicly thank our Board of Trustees for their tireless service. These dedicated volunteers spend countless hours advocating for our students and ensuring our district has the resources necessary to thrive. Their commitment to the "Big Red" vision is the foundation of our success.

As we head into the peak of the winter season, please remember that the safety of our students and staff is our top priority. While we hope for clear skies, we are prepared for Texas's

unpredictable weather.

- **Stay Informed:** In the event of weather-related delays or closures, we will communicate via our district website, social media channels, and direct parent alerts.
- **Update Your Info:** Please ensure your contact information is up to date in the Skyward parent portal to receive these urgent notifications.

The spring semester is always a whirlwind of activity—from UIL competitions and fine arts performances to preparing for graduation. We remain focused on our core mission: providing a high-quality education that challenges every student to reach their full potential.

Thank you for your continued partnership. It is an honor to serve as your superintendent and to witness daily the growth and resilience of our students. Let's make this semester the best one yet!

With sincere gratitude,

Malinda Golden, Ph.D.
Superintendent

Service in Action: Belton ISD Shows Up for Our Community

This season, Belton ISD students, staff, and leaders demonstrated the power of service across our community in countless ways. Among many examples, Sparta Elementary's Hope Squad donated board games to Family Promise and collected more than 200 boxes of cereal for Helping Hands Ministry of Belton, where members of the Belton ISD leadership team also volunteered their time.

Young adults in the Delta Program served through the Belton Police Department's RU OK Program for seniors, Helping Hands Ministry of Belton, and Feed My Sheep. Belton ISD Athletics hosted its 6th Annual Athletics Toy Drive, delivering toys to bring holiday cheer to more than 300 children served by CASA of Bell and Coryell Counties.

South Belton Middle School cheer volunteered at the H-E-B Feast of Sharing, while the Belton Tiger baseball team partnered with the Texas Ramp Project to build a wheelchair ramp for a community member in need. Belton High School students also shared creativity and compassion by designing and painting a "12 Days of Christmas" holiday mural for a local family.

At Lake Belton High School, senior Taylor Rogers raised more than \$1,600 to help erase approximately 54% of student lunch debt, and the Lake Belton High School softball team donated gifts to the Christmas Angel Tree.

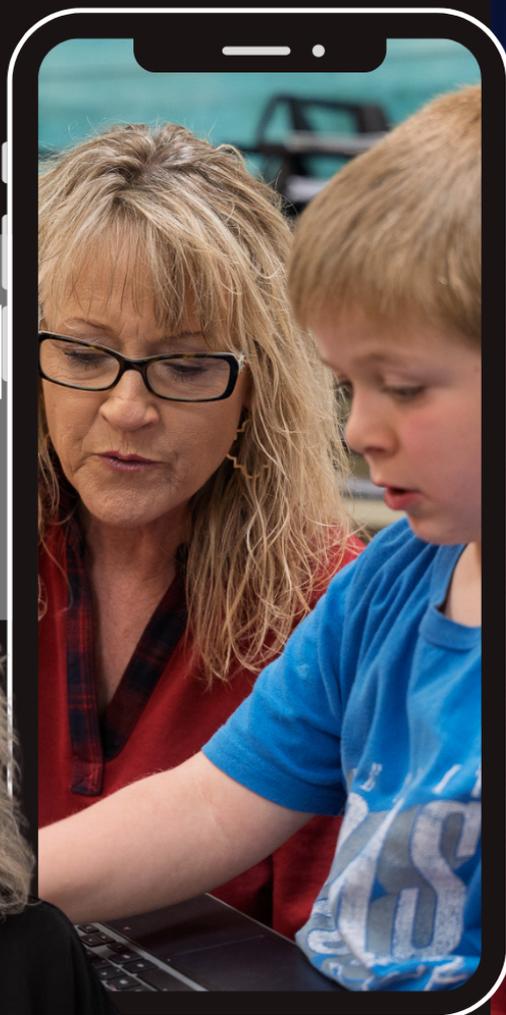
Adding to the spirit of the season, BECS preschoolers shared smiles and songs as they delivered blankets and caroled for residents at Avir Nursing and Rehab. These highlights represent just a snapshot of some of the selfless acts taking place across Belton ISD, as campuses and programs found countless ways, both seen and unseen, to care for others and strengthen our community.



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Belton ISD



BELTON ISD ***BREAKING NEWS***

BEF Grant Patrol Fuels Classroom Innovation

The Belton Education Foundation Grant Patrol surprised educators across the district by awarding 49 classroom grants totaling more than \$118,000. These grants support hands-on learning, creativity and innovation at 20 campuses, directly impacting students from early childhood through high school. We are grateful to the Belton Education Foundation and community donors for investing in our teachers and empowering learning across Belton ISD.



Student Leadership in Action at Lake Belton HS

Lake Belton High School senior Taylor Rogers demonstrated the power of initiative and compassion by raising more than \$1,600 through door-to-door donations to help reduce student lunch debt on his campus by approximately 54%. His efforts reflect the generosity of our community and the leadership skills our students develop when learning extends beyond the classroom.



Art in Action: BHS Students Spread Holiday Cheer

Belton High School Art IV students took creativity beyond the classroom by designing and painting a large-scale "12 Days of Christmas" holiday mural for a local family. The collaborative project challenged students to work together as professional artists while creating a festive, public art experience for the community. This meaningful work reflects the talent, teamwork and pride our students bring to every opportunity.



Holiday Help at Chisholm Trail's Elf Closet

Chisholm Trail Elementary's Elf Closet continued a long-standing tradition of supporting families during the holidays. Through generous community donations and the dedication of staff and volunteers, parents were given a dignified opportunity to select free, new gifts for their children in a festive, private setting. Serving more than 75 students during the season, the Elf Closet reflected the heart of Chisholm Trail and the power of a community coming together to ensure every child experienced the joy of the holidays.



Cheetah Pantry: A Community of Care at Charter Oak Elementary

The Cheetah Pantry at Charter Oak Elementary continued to grow through the compassion of the campus PTO, staff and community partners. From food and shoe drives to weekly meal kits, the effort provided discreet, nutritious support for families experiencing food insecurity. Throughout the holiday season, the pantry served as a powerful reminder of what it means to care for one another and ensure every student had what they needed to thrive.



100 Wins and Counting for Coach Barnes

Lake Belton High School girls basketball coach Tiffney Barnes recently reached an incredible milestone, earning her 100th career win with the Broncos. This achievement reflects years of consistency, dedication and leadership from Coach Barnes and her student-athletes. We are proud of Coach Barnes for the example she sets on and off the court and congratulate the entire Lake Belton girls basketball program on this momentous accomplishment.



BELTON
ISD

GOLDEN moments

Golden MOMENTS

JANUARY '26



S A V E T H E D A T E !



January 5: Student Holiday

January 6: Classes Resume

January 13: Parents as Partners – Course Selection for Middle & High School

January 19: District Closure (Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day)

January 20: Parents as Partners – Special Programs Event

January 26: Regular Board Meeting

January 27: Parents as Partners – GT Event

February 10: Parents as Partners – Understand Assessment Reports

February 10: Parents as Partners – Wellness, Mental Health and Suicide Prevention

February 13: District Closure (President's Day)

February 16: Student Holiday

February 23: Regular Board Meeting

February 24: Parents as Partners – Dual Language/ESL Programs

March 16-20: District Closure (Spring Break)

March 23: Student Holiday

March 30: Regular Board Meeting

2025-2026 Student Calendar

2026-2027 Student Calendar

Take the Journey

Stay Connected

Digital Backpack

We are Hiring

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