

# THE INSIDER

2022

Your inside view into Texas City ISD



## The Future of the Industry

As current maritime workers retire, Texas City ISD's Maritime program is working to ensure students are set up for future success.

### Cougar Culture Night

LMHS athletes expand experience with night of theatre, fine dining

### Hayley Commits to School

Wife of Hayley Elementary namesake devotes time and talent to students

### What to Read This Summer

TCISD librarians offer up some of the best reads for summer enrichment



# THE INSIDER

2022

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**On the cover:** TCISD Maritime students Kaiden Helmers, Sean Enriquez, Colin Wise and Candyce Senulis pause during a boat excursion in Galveston Bay.

**Top:** Maritime teacher Capt. Nathan Swerdlin instructs Kaiden Helmers as he maneuvers the TCISD Maritime boat through Galveston Bay.

**Above:** Jane Hayley smiles as she visits with a student at her husband's namesake school, Jimmy Hayley Elementary.

# FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Texas City ISD develops strategic plan to guide district through next five years



It is an honor to lead the Texas City Independent School District. Since my arrival, I have been humbled by our community's support of our schools as well as its insistence upon excellence for all of our students.

This past school year, Texas City ISD developed a Strategic Plan that was created through a thoughtful and collaborative process that included staff, School Board, parents, students and community leaders. The plan provides clear focuses on the strategies that will have the most impact on student success over the next five years.

It is important to know that no strategic plan can encompass every aspect that is important to every person. However, this will be a living plan. Having a strategic plan ensures that we will not lose sight of our purpose while we continue to expand our horizons. In addition to regular progress updates to our Board, families and community, we will also assess the goals and strategies themselves. We will adjust the Texas City ISD Strategic Plan as needed in order to keep moving forward.

We will launch this Strategic Plan confident in our community and families, proud of our schools' commitment and excited for our students' achievement over the next five years.

Here are the goals that we will be focusing on in



Read more about Texas City ISD's Strategic Plan goals and strategies on our website.

our new Strategic Plan.

**Climate:** Texas City ISD will create a supportive educational environment and build positive relationships with all stakeholders.

**Programs:** Texas City ISD will provide diverse academic programs to all students that foster preparedness to meet the needs of a global workforce.

**High Expectations:** Texas City ISD will foster classroom environments that are engaging, motivating, nurturing and hold all stakeholders accountable for learning at high levels.

**Effective Teachers:** Texas City ISD will recruit, develop and retain effective staff who are willing to take risks, build relationships and create a positive learning environment for student success.

**Family Engagement:** Texas City ISD will actively engage parents in their child's learning process through support, training and necessary tools.

We appreciate the Strategic Planning Committee for their time and thoughtfulness in writing this plan. After developing the goals, the committee created strategies to achieve those goals. Now our employees will implement action steps to meet the requirements of the strategies to accomplish the goals.

By coming together and committing to success for all students, stakeholder support and satisfaction, and effective and efficient operations, Texas City ISD will indeed deliver excellent educational opportunities for all.

You can view the goals and all of the strategies on our website at [www.tcisd.org/strategic-plan](http://www.tcisd.org/strategic-plan).

**Dr. Melissa Duarte**

Superintendent of Schools





# THE FUTURE OF THE INDUSTRY

**As current maritime workers retire, Texas City ISD's Maritime program is working to ensure students are set up for future success.**

Ayden Altman is looking for a career. He doesn't just want a job – he wants something that he can make his life's work.

The Texas City High School junior said he's found that in the maritime program at Texas City ISD's Industrial Trades Center.

"It gives us the feeling of what it's like to be a deckhand, or a captain, or in the wheelhouse; you're seeing first-person what it's like when you're on a ship or an oil tanker, or anything like that," he said. "It's not just a job I can work at; it's something that I can turn into a lifetime career and something I can retire from."

Captain Nathan Swerdlin, the maritime instructor, said there are plenty of opportunities for his students to enter the workforce after high school because the maritime industry is in desperate need of employees as current workers who entered the field 40-50 years ago retire.

Maritime, he said, is an industry that everyone relies on, even if they don't realize it. Getting students involved in a maritime program early on paves the way for them to become skilled in everything it encompasses and highlights the jobs that are available all across the country.

"The students learn the aspects of the supply chain, where it starts, the process of where it ends,"



Swerdlin said. “Whether you want to be a deckhand on a boat all the way up to the captain or a harbor pilot, we talk about all those jobs available.”

While the district’s program initially started with a three-year curriculum, positive enrollment numbers from both La Marque High School and Texas City High School will push it to include four years of classes starting in the 2022-23 school year. Freshmen start with the Principles of Maritime Science before moving on to Maritime Science and Introduction to Shipboard Engineering, Maritime Science II and Advanced Shipboard Engineering and ending with Practicum to Distribution and Logistics.

Students also log time in the class’s simulator to learn how to navigate ships through the water before putting their knowledge to practical use discovering how to navigate the TCISD Maritime boat in Galveston Bay.

“I’m able to get my kids out there on the water, in the harbors doing navigation and emergency drills and exercises,” Swerdlin said. “That’s stuff you just can’t teach them from a book.”

He said he plans to expand the simulator next year to include more “brown water” bodies of water so the students can get more experience navigating busy rivers like the Mississippi, Ohio and Kentucky rivers, where boats and tugs transport goods inland.

The curriculum has proven successful, Swerdlin said, as the program has done what it set out to do — provide students with the ability to obtain well-paid jobs immediately upon graduation. This year, seven out of Swerdlin’s 12 seniors received and



Watch the CTE Feature video on TCISD’s Maritime program on our YouTube channel.



accepted job offers from industry companies like G&H Towing, Blessey Marine and Florida Marine Transportation.

One of Swedlin’s other graduates is even taking the skills she’s learned with her to college as she pursues a degree in marine ecology.

“Maritime has a really big thing to do with it, especially because I want to join research vessels and to do that, you have to have credentials,” Candyce Senulis said. “I’ve gotten my NCCER certification, my Texas Boater’s Safety License, my CPR certification and I’m going to get more.”

“The students are starting their career with a stronger knowledge of what the industry can offer and they’re on a fantastic path to (great careers),” Swerdlin said.

**Left:** Kaiden Helmers prepares to throw an anchor overboard during a lesson aboard the TCISD Maritime boat in Galveston Bay.

**Top right:** Colin Wise helps pull the TCISD Maritime boat into dock for refueling during an outing in Galveston Bay.

**Above left:** Maritime teacher Capt. Nathan Swerdlin instructs Sean Enriquez on how to operate the TCISD Maritime boat.



# COUGAR CULTURE NIGHT

La Marque High School athletes expand experience with night of theatre, fine dining

One day in February of this year, then La Marque Athletics Coordinator and Head Football Coach Shone Evans was enjoying the sights of downtown Houston with his brother, fellow coach Anthony Evans. He began to wonder how many of his student athletes had ever had the opportunity to be downtown. So they asked them. Only 15 of the students had actually seen the skyline in Houston and only four had ever walked around downtown.

The Evans brothers knew they needed to do something to open up opportunities for their players.

Besides teaching the game of football, the La Marque coaches are trying to teach them about the game of life. They are reinforcing the importance of making good decisions now so they have more options later.

“My staff and I decided that it is not enough to tell kids to do better. We must show them what is out there when you do better,” Shone Evans said.

In keeping with that mindset, they created the Cougar Culture Night. Thanks to generous donations from a private donor, alumni, staff and community members, the La Marque High School Cougars football team got dressed up and boarded a chartered bus from Galveston Limousine where they went for dinner at Longhorn Steakhouse followed

by the world-renowned musical “Hamilton” at the Hobby Center in downtown Houston. The 56 young men had never seen a professional musical and most had never been to a steak restaurant.

“The Cougar Culture Night was an amazing experience for the football team to visualize the exciting adventures in the world for us to see,” said LMHS football player Salahadin Allah. He was amazed by the production of Hamilton. “The precise detail and flare was the most surprising about the live theater performance,” he said.

Preparation for this special evening started long before the day of the event. Coaches started preparing athletes for the Cougar Culture Night by teaching them to tie a necktie, teaching them about how to order a steak and teaching them proper restaurant and theatre etiquette. Constable Derreck Rose and Board Member Mike Matranga, both LMHS alumni, also worked with the young men on the day before the event on dressing their best. LMHS employees came through to make sure every student had the appropriate garments to wear.

Allah confirmed that the event served as an incentive to strive for more in life.

“The experience is going to benefit me in the future because it’s given me a touch of a different







**“My staff and I decided that it is not enough to tell kids to do better. We must show them what is out there when you do better.” ~ Coach Shone Evans**

lifestyle and it motivates me to live that lifestyle in the future,” he said.

“There’s a whole other world out there...even just 45 minutes away from La Marque,” said Evans. “It was an experience of a lifetime for these young men but I hope that it’s not their last experience; I hope it’s just their first taste of what could be.”

A lyric from the musical said, “...I’m not throwing away my shot.” Texas City ISD expects our students to take every shot they can to set themselves up for success in their future. It’s evident from the coaches, administration, staff, alumni and community that people are willing to commit to helping them every step of the way.

**Left:** A group of La Marque High School student athletes pose in front of Longhorn Steakhouse with coaches and volunteers.

**Above left:** Head football coach Shone Evans, right, adjusts Noah Hunter’s tie during a tie-tying demonstration at LMHS.

**Above right:** LMHS athlete Dylan Thomas, right, focuses on TCISD board member Mike Matranga as Matranga instructs him on how to tie his tie.



# A COMMITMENT OF TIME, TALENT

Hayley volunteers to mentor, support students at husband's namesake campus

When Big Brothers Big Sisters Gulf Coast restarted its school mentor program this year, Jane Hayley jumped at the chance to be involved. She'd volunteered with the program at La Marque Elementary prior to the pandemic and couldn't wait to get back in the schools.

This time, her volunteer efforts would take on a special note as she'd be volunteering at Hayley Elementary — her husband's, Jimmy Hayley, namesake campus.

"It's very special to be at Hayley," Jane Hayley said. "It just means a lot to me to just be able to go into the school and see all the students there and learning."

Hayley visits the school once a week to work with a young

girl in second grade. The Big Brothers Big Sisters volunteers were assigned students in second grade so they could maintain their relationship with them in the coming years as they advance through school.

Hayley Elementary Principal Rachel Spector-McAdam said the goal with their volunteers is to provide the students with a mentor and positive role model that they can rely on to visit them once a week to check in with them, play games with them, read with them and talk to them about what is going on in their life.

"Having Mrs. Hayley come, I think it just means so much to the staff, the students and the community that she is here continuing to build that legacy that

**"To have that time with a child where they have your complete attention to read with them, talk with them and encourage them is such a wonderful thing."**

**~ Jane Hayley**

Mr. Hayley left for La Marque," she said. "I think it's a strong relationship and we are so happy to have her and all the big brothers and big sisters here."

Hayley said she thinks she gets more out of it than her "little" does.

"I have fun with her; she has so much personality," she said. "It's the excitement of a child, and to have that time with a child where they have your complete attention to read with them, talk with them and encourage them is such a wonderful thing."

**Below:** Jane Hayley reads to a student during a visit to her husband's namesake school, Jimmy Hayley Elementary.





# BACK TO SCHOOL



**WELCOME TO SCHOOL**

**WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW  
FOR THE 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR**



**REGISTER ONLINE TODAY!**





# TEXAS CITY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 2022-23 SCHOOL CALENDAR

P.O. BOX 1150, Texas City, TX 77590 | (409) 916-0100 | www.tcisd.org



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**LEGEND** ▲ New Teacher/Staff Dev. ○ Teacher Inservice ■ Student/Staff Holiday ■ Staff Dev. Day (No Students) ● Parent Conf.  
 🌅 Early Release Day ★ STAAR Testing [ Beginning of Nine Weeks ] End of Nine Weeks SH Summer Hours (Offices Closed)

Revised 3/24/2022

\*STAAR testing dates are subject to change per TEA



Download the calendar  
from our website.



# BACK TO SCHOOL

## 2022-2023 SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST

### PRE-KINDERGARTEN

- ☐ 2 box of facial tissues
- ☐ 2 8-oz. bottles school glue
- ☐ 2 glue sticks
- ☐ 1 box Ziploc bags (quart)
- ☐ 1 box Ziploc bags (gallon)
- ☐ 1 pkg. paper plates (no styrofoam)
- ☐ 1 roll paper towels
- ☐ 1 box crayons
- ☐ Dry erase markers
- ☐ Watercolors
- ☐ 1 pkg. of socks in your child's size
- ☐ 1 pkg. of underwear in your child's size
- ☐ 1 clear backpack (non-rolling, not mesh) with child's name on straps only

### KINDERGARTEN

- ☐ 1 pair metal scissors
- ☐ 24 No. 2 pencils
- ☐ 4 large pink erasers
- ☐ 6 boxes 24-count basic color crayons
- ☐ 4 8-oz. bottles school glue
- ☐ 8 glue sticks
- ☐ 2 pkgs. asst. construction paper, 12x18
- ☐ 2 pkgs. manila paper, 12x18
- ☐ 1 plastic school supply box
- ☐ 1 3-ring pencil pouch
- ☐ 1 spiral notebook, wide-ruled (70-count)
- ☐ 2 plastic folders with pockets and brads
- ☐ 2 pkgs. dry erase markers
- ☐ 1 pkg. 8-count washable markers
- ☐ 2 yellow highlighters
- ☐ 1 backpack (non-rolling)
- ☐ 2 large boxes facial tissue
- ☐ 1 8-oz. bottle hand sanitizer
- ☐ 1 pkg. baby wipes
- ☐ Girls: 1 pkg. brown paper lunch bags
- ☐ 1 box Ziploc bags (gallon)
- ☐ Boys: 1 pkg. 9-inch paper plates
- ☐ 1 box Ziploc bags (quart)
- ☐ 1 pair of earbuds

### 1ST GRADE

- ☐ 1 pair metal scissors
- ☐ 24 No. 2 pencils
- ☐ 4 boxes 24-count basic color crayons
- ☐ 2 8-oz. bottles school glue
- ☐ 1 pkg. assorted construction paper, 9x12
- ☐ 1 pkg. manila paper, 12x18
- ☐ 1 plastic school supply box
- ☐ 8 glue sticks
- ☐ 4 spiral notebooks, wide-ruled
- ☐ 2 highlighters
- ☐ 1 backpack (non-rolling)
- ☐ 2 large boxes facial tissue
- ☐ 4 pink erasers
- ☐ 2 8-oz. bottles hand sanitizer
- ☐ 4 vinyl folders with pockets
- ☐ 4 dry erase markers
- ☐ Girls: 2 box Ziploc bags (quart)
- ☐ Boys: 1 box Ziploc bags (gallon)

- ☐ 1 pair of earbuds

### 2ND GRADE

- ☐ 1 pair pointed scissors
- ☐ 6 boxes of No. 2 pencils
- ☐ 3 boxes 24-count basic color crayons
- ☐ 8 glue sticks
- ☐ 1 ruler
- ☐ 4 spiral notebooks, wide-ruled (70-count)
- ☐ 1 pkg. of notebook paper, wide-ruled
- ☐ 6 dry erase markers, black
- ☐ 8 pink erasers
- ☐ 1 zipper pouch
- ☐ 1 binder, 1-inch (white preferred)
- ☐ 1 pkg. 5-count dividers
- ☐ 1 backpack (non-rolling)
- ☐ 4 large boxes facial tissue
- ☐ 2 8-oz. bottles hand sanitizer
- ☐ 2 vinyl folders with pockets and brads
- ☐ Girls: 1 box Ziploc bags (quart)
- ☐ 1 pkg. asst. construction paper, 9x12
- ☐ one-piece swimsuit
- ☐ Boys: 1 box Ziploc bags (gallon)
- ☐ 1 pkg. manila paper (9x12)
- ☐ one pair swim trunks
- ☐ 1 pair of earbuds

### 3RD GRADE

- ☐ 1 pair pointed scissors
- ☐ 6 boxes of No. 2 pencils
- ☐ 1 pencil pouch
- ☐ 4 pink erasers
- ☐ 2 boxes 24-count basic color crayons
- ☐ 4 glue sticks
- ☐ 3 spiral notebooks, wide-ruled
- ☐ 3 pkgs. notebook paper, wide-ruled
- ☐ 1 pkg. asst. construction paper
- ☐ 1 pkg. manila paper
- ☐ 1 pkg. index cards
- ☐ 1 box colored pencils
- ☐ 1 3-ring binder, 1-inch
- ☐ 2 composition books
- ☐ 2 red pens
- ☐ 2 yellow highlighters
- ☐ 2 dry erase markers
- ☐ 5 vinyl folders with pockets and brads
- ☐ 1 backpack (non-rolling)
- ☐ 4 large boxes facial tissue
- ☐ 1 8-oz. bottle hand sanitizer
- ☐ Girls: 1 box Ziploc bags (sandwich)
- ☐ Boys: 1 box Ziploc bags (gallon)
- ☐ 1 pair of earbuds

### 4TH GRADE

- ☐ 1 pair pointed scissors
- ☐ 6 boxes of No. 2 pencils
- ☐ 2 boxes 24-count basic color crayons
- ☐ 6 glue sticks
- ☐ 2 pkgs. of highlighters
- ☐ 1 pkg. red pens
- ☐ 3 composition notebooks
- ☐ 3-ring binder, 1-inch
- ☐ 1 school supply pouch

- ☐ 1 box map pencils
- ☐ 2 pkgs. pencil cap erasers
- ☐ 4 pocket folders with brads
- ☐ 2 pkgs. notebook paper, wide-ruled
- ☐ 1 pkg. dry erase markers
- ☐ 1 backpack (non-rolling)
- ☐ 3 large boxes facial tissue
- ☐ 1 8-oz. bottle hand sanitizer
- ☐ Girls: 1 box Ziploc bags (quart)
- ☐ 1 pkg. large construction paper
- ☐ Boys: 1 box Ziploc bags (gallon)
- ☐ 1 pkg. manila paper
- ☐ 1 pair of earbuds

### 5TH GRADE

- ☐ 1 pkg. construction paper
- ☐ 5 folders with pockets and brads
- ☐ 1 pkg. map pencils
- ☐ 6 pkgs. No. 2 pencils
- ☐ 2 pkgs. blue or black ink pens
- ☐ 1 pencil pouch
- ☐ 2 pkgs. pencil cap erasers
- ☐ 2 pkgs. notebook paper, wide-ruled
- ☐ 5 spiral notebooks
- ☐ 2 composition notebooks
- ☐ 3 large boxes facial tissue
- ☐ 2 dry erase markers, black
- ☐ 1 handheld pencil sharpener
- ☐ 1 bottle of glue
- ☐ 4 pkgs. index cards
- ☐ 1 student scissors
- ☐ 1 3-ring binder, 1-inch
- ☐ Girls: 1 box Ziploc bags (quart)
- ☐ Boys: 1 box Ziploc bags (gallon)
- ☐ 1 pair of earbuds

### 6TH GRADE

- ☐ 5 folders with pockets and brads
- ☐ 2 pkgs. map pencils
- ☐ 1 pkg. blue or black ink pens
- ☐ 6 pkgs. No. 2 pencils
- ☐ 2 pkgs. pencil cap erasers
- ☐ 6 pkgs. notebook paper, wide-ruled
- ☐ 8 spiral notebooks
- ☐ 2 pkgs. index cards
- ☐ 3 large boxes facial tissue
- ☐ 1 handheld pencil sharpener
- ☐ 1 bottle of glue
- ☐ 1 wooden ruler
- ☐ 2 dry erase markers, black
- ☐ Girls: 1 box Ziploc bags (gallon)
- ☐ 1 pkg. 9x12 construction paper
- ☐ Boys: 1 box Ziploc bags (quart)
- ☐ 1 pkg. 12x18 construction paper
- ☐ 1 pair of earbuds

### 7TH-12TH GRADES

- ☐ Students will need notebook paper, pens, pencils, spiral notebooks, folders and binders. Specific teacher supply lists will be provided on the first day of school.
- ☐ 1 pair of earbuds

*\* Additional supplies may be requested by the teacher on the first day of school. Please send all supplies at one time. Put your child's name on all outdoor clothing and backpack straps. Supplies should be replaced throughout the year. Rolling backpacks are not acceptable.*



## P3 CAMPUS

Texas City ISD uses an anonymous tip reporting application called P3 Campus, a vital tool that has proven to keep our schools and students safe. School community members can report about a wide range of concerns, from mental health issues to threats of violence through our P3 Campus mobile app or through any web browser at P3 Campus.com. Download the free app today on your phone and encourage your students to do the same. If you know about a potential threat, please report it immediately.

# KEEPTCISDSAFE

SEE IT? - SAY IT! - DON'T SPREAD IT - REPORT IT

**SEE IT:** We need you to partner with us to report threats.

**SAY IT:** Immediately report suspicious activity.

**DON'T SPREAD IT:** Spreading threats is very dangerous.

**REPORT IT:** We take all threats and reports seriously.



**TEXAS CITY**  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
TOGETHER WE SUCCEED

## SAFETY RESPONSE PROTOCOL

Texas City ISD has adopted the "I Love You Guys" Foundation's Standard Response Protocol. Students and staff will be training, practicing and drilling the protocol throughout the year.

### WHAT IS A SECURE EVENT?

Secure is called when there is something dangerous outside the building. Students and staff are brought into the building and doors are locked.

### SHOULD PARENTS COME TO THE SCHOOL DURING A SECURE EVENT?

No. Every effort is made to conduct classes as normal during a Secure event. Additionally, parents may be asked to stay outside during a secure event.

### WILL PARENTS BE NOTIFIED WHEN A SCHOOL GOES INTO SECURE?

When a Secure event is brief or the hazard is non-violent, like a stray animal on the playground, there may not be a need to notify parents while the Secure is in place. With longer or more dangerous events, the school should notify parents that the school has increased their security. Please note, we will communicate once accurate information is gathered and verified.

## IN AN EMERGENCY TAKE ACTION

	<b>HOLD! In your room or area. Clear the halls.</b> <b>STUDENTS</b> Clear the hallways and remain in room or area until the "All Clear" is announced Do business as usual <b>ADULTS</b> Close and lock the door Account for students and adults Do business as usual										
	<b>SECURE!</b> <b>Get inside. Lock outside doors.</b> <b>STUDENTS</b> Return to inside of building Do business as usual <b>ADULTS</b> Bring everyone indoors Lock outside doors Increase situational awareness Account for students and adults Do business as usual										
	<b>LOCKDOWN! Locks, lights, out of sight.</b> <b>STUDENTS</b> Move away from sight Maintain silence Do not open the door <b>ADULTS</b> Recover students from hallway if possible Lock the classroom door Turn out the lights Move away from sight Maintain silence Do not open the door Prepare to evade or defend										
	<b>EVACUATE! (A location may be specified)</b> <b>STUDENTS</b> Leave stuff behind if required to If possible, bring your phone Follow instructions <b>ADULTS</b> Lead students to Evacuation location Account for students and adults Notify if missing, extra or injured students or adults										
	<b>SHELTER! Hazard and safety strategy.</b> <b>STUDENTS</b> Use appropriate safety strategy for the hazard <b>ADULTS</b> Lead safety strategy Account for students and adults Notify if missing, extra or injured students or adults <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"><b>Hazard</b></td> <td style="width: 50%;"><b>Safety Strategy</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tornado</td> <td>Evacuate to shelter area</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hazmat</td> <td>Seal the room</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Earthquake</td> <td>Drop, cover and hold</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tsunami</td> <td>Get to high ground</td> </tr> </table>	<b>Hazard</b>	<b>Safety Strategy</b>	Tornado	Evacuate to shelter area	Hazmat	Seal the room	Earthquake	Drop, cover and hold	Tsunami	Get to high ground
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### WHAT IS A LOCKDOWN EVENT?

A Lockdown is called when there is something dangerous inside the building. Students and staff are trained to enter or remain in a room that can be locked and maintain silence. A Lockdown is only initiated when there is an active threat inside or very close to the building.

### SHOULD PARENTS COME TO THE SCHOOL DURING A LOCKDOWN?

The natural inclination for parents is to go to the school during a Lockdown. Understandable, but perhaps problematic. If there is a threat inside the building, law enforcement will be responding. It is unlikely that parents will be granted access to the building or even the campus. If parents are already in the school, they will be instructed to Lockdown as well.

### SHOULD PARENTS TEXT THEIR STUDENTS?

The school recognizes the importance of communication between parents and students during a Lockdown event. Parents should be aware, though, during the initial period of a Lockdown, it may not be safe for students to text their parents. As the situation resolves, students may be asked to update their parents on a regular basis. In some cases, students may be evacuated and transported off-site for a student-parent reunification.



# CURL UP WITH A GOOD BOOK

Texas City ISD librarians offer up summer reading recommendations for kids, tweens and teens

With no homework or school to worry about, summer can be the perfect time for kids and teens to crack open a great book. Our Texas City ISD librarians have created a diverse list of summer reading recommendations to help get kids engaged in reading. Whether they're in middle school or high school or just getting started with chapter books, kids, tweens and teens can use this list to get a jump start on the year ahead.

Summer reading helps students retain the knowledge and skills they've learned the previous year and helps keep their brain strong and flexible, just like exercise does for the body, said Texas City High School librarian Heather Althoff.

"Reading helps students gain knowledge in multiple areas, including vocabulary, spelling, comprehension and general knowledge of the world and history," she said. "It also opens doors to the world that they may not otherwise be able to explore."

So wherever you are, head to the porch, the park or your happy place and check these out:

## ELEMENTARY (K-5)

- "Ada Twist, Scientist" by Andrea Beaty
- "Wonder Walkers" by Micha Archer
- "I Survived Series" (in both chapter and graphic novel form) by Lauren Tarshis
- "The Girl with Big, Big Questions" by Britney Winn Lee

Hayley Elementary librarian Kylie Nolan said these are great books for elementary age students because they promote curiosity and create great discussions.

"They really have the students thinking about the importance of why," she said.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL (6-8)

- "You Choose Series" (multiple authors)
- "Science Superstars: 30 Brilliant Women Who Changed the World" by Jennifer Calvert
- "Baba Yaga's Assistant" by Marika McCoola
- "Fever 1793" by Laurie Halse Anderson
- "Steelheart" by Brandon Sanderson

Blocker Middle School librarian Lou Ann Bright said these books are great for middle schoolers because they cover a variety of genres.

"The authors have you hooked from beginning to end with their fast-moving storylines," she said.

## HIGH SCHOOL (9-12)

- "Dry" by Neil Shusterman and Jarod Shusterman
- "Internment" by Samira Ahmed
- "Three Things I Know are True" by Betty Culley
- "In the Shadow of the Fallen Towers" by Don Brown
- "Allegedly" by Tiffany D. Jackson

Althoff said these selections are good for high school students because they deal with topics that are slightly more mature, but remain age appropriate.

"Students in the upper grades are often dealing with a multitude of issues and learning about historically related topics, so these books address those as well," she said. "The topics addressed in these books will grab their attention and hold it throughout the story; I personally found that I had a hard time putting several of them down."

Happy reading!



# SUPERINTENDENT'S ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

*This award promotes academic excellence and recognizes students who demonstrate exemplary academic scholarship in grades 6-12. Students must maintain an A average for every course each semester, meet attendance requirements each semester and maintain an excellent discipline record in order to receive the award. The Academic Achievement Award recipients are listed with the number of years they have received the award.*

## 12TH GRADE

Elijah Ancira, 4  
James Caldera, 2  
Eva Dennis, 1  
Owen Dupree, 1  
Aaliyah Goins, 3  
Jamal Gray, 3  
Daryl Harris, Jr., 1  
Madison Howell, 6  
Kiley Johnson, 2  
De'Ashia Jones, 3  
Christopher Lopez, 5  
Jason Martinez, 1  
Kofi Obu, 1  
Abbey Olson, 3  
Tanner Park, 2  
Harold Recarte, 8  
Alaysia Roy, 4  
Jose Salas, Jr., 4  
Kynneddy Samuels, 1  
Damon Stevens, 1  
Jordyn Vasquez, 1  
Anastasia Vela, 2  
Emily Vicente, 3  
Mareah Vuittonet, 2  
Amaya Walker, 2  
Dina Wyatt, 4

## 11TH GRADE

Manuel Gonzales, 1  
Leah Lillie, 7  
Nathan Lopez, 1  
Alexis Pate, 5  
Libny Paxtor Gomez, 2  
Joleen Sonnier, 2  
Jayanna Wilson, 1  
Corye Winston, 2  
Brayden Zaragoza, 1

## 10TH GRADE

Marian Ashcraft, 6  
Miguel Campos II, 4  
Adrian Castaneda, 2  
Karla Fabela, 6

Morgan Guerra, 5  
Pete Hipp, 6  
Nathan Hudnall, 6  
Erica Ikaria, 1  
Anson Johnson, Jr., 3  
Marcus Khaleeli, 2  
Legend Kuate, 6  
Azalea Longoria, 6  
Lily Melchor, 6  
Michael Piazza, 2  
Max Pickett, 3  
Emma Prolic, 2  
Alexandra Rodriguez, 4  
Kylie Schmidt, 2  
Nicole Spriggs, 6  
Myrna Stevens, 1  
Avery Torres, 4  
Madison Tucker, 6  
Augustine Veliz, 2  
Breeanna Wilson, 4  
Patience Wondrak, 1  
Ethan Zepeda, 5

## 9TH GRADE

Jillian English, 2  
David Fuentes III, 5  
Jamal Hurt, 2  
Daisy Martinez, 2  
Derek Rodriguez, 5  
Jayda Rodriguez, 5  
Melanie Surovik, 5  
Savannah Valdez, 3  
Leawana Williams, 1

## 8TH GRADE

Aidan Compton, 1  
Debanny Cruz Arellano, 4  
Nathaniel Fox, 4  
Braylyn Harris, 2  
Daveon Henderson, 1  
Randi Henderson, 3  
Andrew Hipp, 4  
Regina Huerta, 1  
Alesandro Martinez, 4

Jenna Mayor, 4  
Hayden Milner, 3  
Connor Morgan, 3  
Logan Pedraza, 4  
Patience Salusbury, 3  
Abby Stokes, 4  
Jamelia Wallace, 3

## 7TH GRADE

Kamden Barton, 2  
Mica Chapman, 2  
J'Lynn Davis, 1  
Kali Garcia, 1  
Maximiliano Hernandez, 1  
Cayla Hill, 1  
Anayla Lavergne, 1  
Alyssa Newman, 1  
Emely Posada, 1  
Joseph Salenger, 2  
Natalie Tran, 2  
Forrest Weak, 2

## 6TH GRADE

Kyra Addison, 1  
Isabel Campos, 1  
Luis Cantera III, 1  
Christopher Castano, Jr., 1  
Morgan Castille, 1  
Julia Chapman, 1  
Cecilia Cidrian, 1  
Gabrielle English, 1  
Eric Garza, 1  
Aubrei Hosea, 1  
Bryan Jones, Jr., 1  
Hayden Kellum-Bolton, 1  
Micah Lagunas, 1  
Shayne Loop, 1  
Avery Lozano, 1  
Alexis Mayeux, 1  
Chandler McNeil, 1  
Haydyn Reyes, 1  
Alina Smith, 1  
Jeslie Soliz, 1  
Montzerrat Valle, 1







**LMHS VALEDICTORIAN**  
Alaysia Roy



**TCHS VALEDICTORIAN**  
Harold Recarte



**LMHS SALUTATORIAN**  
De'Ashia Jones



**TCHS SALUTATORIAN**  
Bogdana Semchenko



## *Texas City ISD announces administrative changes for the 2022-23 school year.*



### **PESINA JOINS TCISD AS NEW DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL ED**

Ruben Pesina was hired as the new director of special education. He has 30 years of educational experience and was most recently the director of special education in Pearsall ISD.



### **FULLER NAMED PRINCIPAL AT BLOCKER MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Long-time Texas City ISD educator, Debbie Fuller, has been selected as the new principal at Blocker Middle School for the 2022-2023 school year. For the last five years, Fuller has been the principal at Guajardo Elementary School. She was an assistant principal for two years at Roosevelt-Wilson Elementary, where she also taught 3rd grade for 11 years.



### **EVANS MOVES TO TCHS AS NEW HEAD FOOTBALL COACH**

Shone Evans is returning to Texas City High School as the Stings new head football coach and athletic coordinator. Evans has been the head football coach and athletic coordinator at La Marque High School for the past four years. He previously was an assistant football coach and special education teacher at TCHS for 15 years. Evans has also coached in Pasadena ISD and Pearland ISD.



### **COBB HIRED AS PRINCIPAL AT ROOSEVELT-WILSON**

Barrett Cobb will return to Texas City ISD as the new principal at Roosevelt-Wilson Elementary. Cobb was an assistant principal in TCISD at Levi Fry Intermediate from 1997-2001. He also served as an assistant principal in Dickinson ISD before going to Goose Creek ISD. He's been a campus principal in GGISD for the past 8 years.



### **PATTERSON MOVES TO GUAJARDO AS PRINCIPAL**

Wendy Patterson will make the move from Roosevelt-Wilson Elementary principal to the new principal of Guajardo Elementary. Patterson has been an educator in Texas City ISD for the past 26 years. She taught 1st and 4th grade at Roosevelt-Wilson for 15 years. She spent five years as an assistant principal at Heights Elementary and the last six years as the principal at Roosevelt-Wilson.



### **PALMER HIRED AS NEW TEXAS CITY DIRECTOR OF BANDS**

Lane Palmer has been hired as the new Director of Bands for Texas City schools. Palmer will be beginning his 20th year as a music educator. He has a history of leading successful band programs and was most recently in Comal ISD in the New Braunfels area.



### **OLIPHANT HIRED AS NEW LMHS HEAD FOOTBALL COACH**

Wade Oliphant has been hired to lead the Cougars at the new La Marque High School head football coach and athletic coordinator. Oliphant graduated from La Marque High School in 1998 and won three state football championships with the Cougars. He began his career in education as a business teacher and coach at Dawson High School in Pearland ISD 15 years ago. He also spent four years in Clear Creek ISD before going to Lamar CISD, where he's been teaching business and serving as the offensive coordinator at George Ranch High School for the past four years.



# *Texas City ISD, its students and staff continued a tradition of excellence this school year by earning prestigious awards in many areas.*

## **TCISD ART PROGRAM NAMED DISTRICT OF DISTINCTION**

Texas City ISD was among winners of the Texas Art Education Association's District of Distinction Award. The district received the honor for the third time for providing well-rounded education that advocates and integrates visual arts curriculum to inspire creativity and reach all different learners. The award honors school districts that are leading the way in visual arts with outstanding leadership in promoting the arts in their district and community. The TAEA also looked at participation in competitions, field experiences, community service and community exhibitions to name a view as part of the rigorous rubric.

## **▼ LMHS BOYS SOCCER TEAM EARNS NATIONAL ETHICS AWARD**

The La Marque High School Cougars Varsity Soccer team was one of three boys' teams to receive the Platinum award from the United Soccer Coaches Association for their national annual Ethics & Sportsmanship award. Teams awarded the Platinum award completed the entire soccer season without receiving either a yellow or red penalty card, quite a feat for a sport requiring rigorous movement on the field continuously throughout the

game. Additionally, several of the players received student-athlete recognition awards for maintaining high grade point averages while excelling in soccer. At the end of the soccer season, the GPA of the soccer team was 3.44.

## **TEXAS CITY ISD RECEIVES EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL GRANT**

Texas City ISD is one of six districts statewide to be accepted to receive the 2022-2024 Early College High Schools Planning and Implementation Grant. Texas City ISD will have the next 18 months to plan and implement the design elements and requirements to serve current 7th graders as they enter high school for the 2023-2024 school year. The purpose of the Early College High Schools (ECHS) model is to target students in grades 9 through 12 who are at risk of dropping out of school or who might not otherwise go to college and those who are historically underrepresented in college courses.

## **SIX POWERLIFTERS ADVANCE TO UIL STATE COMPETITION**

Six Texas City ISD students qualified to compete at the State Powerlifting Meets with several achieving personal records. La Marque High School Senior, Do'Majani Jones, competed in the Texas High School Women's

Powerlifting State Competition in Corpus Christi. TCHS's Myla Mosely and Libney Paxtor-Gomez competed in the 5A Div. 2 Girls State Powerlifting Meet. Libney set personal records for her squat, deadlift, and her total. Myla also set new marks for her squat and bench. Zayne Sheppard, Jamal Gray and Tony Teeple competed in Abilene at the THSPA State Meet for the Stings. Jamal finished with a new personal record in bench at 350. Congratulations to each of these strong student athletes for their success this season in powerlifting.



## **▲ TCHS YEARBOOK STAFF WINS DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

Congrats to the 2021 Stingaree Yearbook Staff for receiving an Award of Distinguished Achievement from the Interscholastic League Press Conference/UIL. This is the top of three categories yearbooks can receive from UIL. Pictured are senior Arely Reyes and junior Julia Alaniz, who both were part of the 2021 staff and are currently the editor and assistant editor of the 2022 yearbook.

## **TCISD READY, SET, TEACH STUDENTS SEE SUCCESS AT STATE CONTEST**

Texas City High School Ready, Set, Teach students competed in the Texas Association of

Future Educators (TAFE) State competition in Dallas with 2,500+ other students from across the state. Jordan Davis advanced to Nationals in Washington, DC this summer and Anastasia Vela has been nominated to represent Texas and our district at the Educator Rising National Conference. Also placing in the competition were: Bailly Gaitan, Gold Certificate with her Interactive Bulletin Board Project; Devyn Newman, Bronze Certificate with her Teacher Created Martials Project; Amaya Walker, Bronze Certificate with her Exploring Non-Core Teaching Careers and Anastasia Vela, Gold Certificate with her Exploring Administration Careers. Martha Torres from La Marque High School brought home a Gold Certificate for the Professional Portfolio Contest. Martha is a student intern at Simms Elementary in Mrs. Minter's kindergarten classroom.

## **▼ LMHS SENIOR PLACES AT UIL STATE TRACK MEET**

Congratulations to Kai Johnson from La Marque High School for placing at the State Track and Field Meet in two different events. Kai qualified to compete at state by placing second in both the triple jump and long jump. At the State Meet, Kai placed 4th in the triple jump with a jump of 46 feet, 5.5 inches and 5th in long jump with a





jump of 22 feet and 0.75 inches.

### ► FIVE TCISD CHOIR STUDENTS ADVANCE TO ALL-STATE CONTEST

Texas City ISD had five students from La Marque High School and Texas City High School advance to the TMEA All-State Choir contest. Two LMHS choir students qualified to compete in the final round of the All-State process. Alaysia Roy placed 5th chair Alto (first alternate) and Jauron Butler placed 10th chair Bass. TCHS had three students selected for the All-State Choir. Congratulations to Micah Lozano – Mixed Choir (second year all-state honors); Kent Anderson – Tenor Bass Choir; and River Dickman – Treble Choir.



pride. The second award was for Community Service for 50 service hours. LMHS Stu-Co will also be receiving an award from the State recognizing their accomplishments.

### ▼ WILKENFELD, PURSLEY NAMED 2022 TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

Levi Fry Intermediate's Victoria Wilkenfeld is the district's Elementary Teacher of the Year and Woodrow Wilson DAEP's Courtney Pursley is the district's Secondary Teacher of the Year. Congratulations to these outstanding educators!

### LMHS STUDENT COUNCIL EARNS AWARDS AT STATE CONFERENCE

The La Marque High School Student Council won two awards from the Texas Association of Student Councils at the D7 Spring Convention. The first award was Pride and Patriotism, which is awarded to schools who display outstanding school



## NEW GILES MIDDLE SCHOOL SET TO OPEN IN AUGUST

After five years of being housed at La Marque High School following the loss of their campus from Hurricane Harvey, La Marque sixth through eighth grade students will start the 2022-2023 school year at the new Sarah Giles Middle School, 7451 Monticello Dr. in Texas City. The construction of the new school was made possible by more than 70 percent of voters approving it's construction as part of the May 2018 bond election.



Fernandez, Samantha Guzman, Alana Martinez, Yazmin Martinez, Lily Melchor, Ashley Mena, Myla Mosely, Michael Piazza, Ireland Stowe, Melanie Surovik, and Abe Zapata. Thousands of high school VASE entries are submitted each year.

### LA MARQUE MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND EARNS SUPERIOR IN SIGHT READING

The La Marque Middle School Concert Band attended their Region 13 UIL Concert and Sight-Reading Festival at Brazosport High School. The Band rated a 2, 2, 1 on stage, which equals an excellent and a 1, 1, 2 in sight reading, which is a Superior. A plaque was presented to the band for sight reading, making it the first time in LMMS Band history this award was given.

### BLOCKER CHOIR RECEIVES SWEEPSTAKES AWARD AT CONTEST

Blocker's varsity treble ensemble, Bella Voce, earned Sweepstakes at the UIL Concert and Sight Reading competition. This is the highest ranking possible at the competition.

### TCHS SOUNDATIONS WIN GRAND CHAMPION AT SHOWCASE

Congratulations to the TCHS Soundations for winning Grand Champion in the Capital City Showcase! In addition, this show choir also won Best Vocals in the competition and the trio of Giselle Alcala, Abrial Ramirez and Melanie Torres won Best Female Performer! We are so proud of this talented group, the show choir band and the directors!

### TCISD HAS RECORD NUMBER OF STATE VISUAL ARTS AWARD WINNERS

Texas City ISD had a record number of State Medal winners this year. Five students received this prestigious distinction: Shelby Deromie from Texas City High School, Jamie Fernandez from TCHS, Myla Moseley from TCHS, Cindy Salas from La Marque High School and Bogdana Semchencko from TCHS. VASE Gold Medalists from LMHS and TCHS are Paige Adams, Yoseline Aviles, Janeese Castille, Vanessa Cidrian, Leianni Delgado, Jillian English, Jamie

### HYPOLITE, FURMAN NAMED TCISD PRINCIPALS OF THE YEAR FOR 2022

Congratulations to the TCISD Principals of the Year. Lincoln Hypolite from Texas City High School and Sarah Furman from Heights Elementary School represented TCISD at the Region IV Principal of the Year awards. They were celebrated with a luncheon in Houston.



# OUR BOARD



**DISTRICT 1**  
Melba Anderson



**DISTRICT 2**  
Mable Pratt



**DISTRICT 3**  
Nakisha Paul



**DISTRICT 4**  
Lori Carnes



**DISTRICT 5**  
Dickey Campbell



**DISTRICT 6**  
Hal Biery



**AT-LARGE**  
Mike Matranga

## DUTIES OF THE BOARD

The policies established by the board, acting as a body, are executed by the administration of the schools. Trustees adopt a budget, which is necessary to maintain and operate the schools, levy taxes to support the budget and submit bond issues to the district's community to finance construction projects. The board also appoints the superintendent as its chief executive officer.

## MEETINGS OF THE BOARD

Regular meetings are scheduled

on the second Tuesday of each month and are held in the board room of the Simpson Education Support Center, 1700 Ninth Avenue N., in Texas City.

Board meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. unless otherwise designated. When necessary, the board schedules other public meetings — special meetings, emergency meetings, study sessions and work sessions — to conduct additional business and for in-depth study of programs and issues.

# TEXAS CITY

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

TOGETHER WE SUCCEED

1700 NINTH AVENUE N.  
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The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act of 1986 (AHERA) requires school districts to notify parents, students, faculty and employees annually of the presence of asbestos in the facilities and to inform them of how it is managed. The act also requires that a management plan be written and approved by the Texas Department of Health. Copies of TCISD's approved management plan are available in the TCISD Business Office, the Maintenance Department and individual schools. For more information, contact Don Pursley, executive director of maintenance and operations, at 409-916-0141.



#### COMMITMENT OF TIME, TALENT

Jane Hayley is committing to volunteering and supporting students at her husband's namesake campus.

**READ STORY, PAGE 6**