

# TELETYPE



## TOGETHER WE SUCCEED

*LMHS theatre program triumphs,  
advances to regionals*

*TCISD's career & technical education  
prepares students for success*

*Homegrown talent brings passion back  
to district that produced them*

2021

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# SUPERINTENDENT

DR. MELISSA DUARTE



The 2020-2021 school year was one like we had never experienced before. I am really proud of how everyone adapted. Despite every obstacle in our way...pandemic, hurricane, tornado, winter freeze... we had many successes. While it is easy to get hung up on improvements we need to make, we need to make sure that we celebrate our accomplishments. You can read about some of those on pages 15-16.

Texas City ISD wants all students to have an educational experience that prepares them to become lifelong learners and contributors. Now more than ever, that experience must not only provide for challenging academic content, but it must also be more intentional about helping students develop critical thinking, communication, collaboration, creativity and other skills and habits that our students need to be successful in this complex, rapidly changing world.

The district launched a focus group in January that developed a Portrait of a Graduate for Texas City ISD. The committee was made up of current students, teachers, administrators, parents, recent alumni, business leaders, industry leaders and college leaders. Our key discussion was "What skills do Texas City ISD graduates need to have in order to be successful in their chosen path immediately after high school graduation?" In addition, we sent a survey to all TCISD parents asking them the same question. From all of the feedback, we gathered more than 161 varying characteristics of success. The Focus group, which met five times, worked hard to narrow it down to these 8 key traits: critical thinker, effective communicator, integrity, self-motivated, goal setter, leadership, team work and perseverance.

## PORTRAIT of a GRADUATE

TEXAS CITY  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
TOGETHER WE SUCCEED



**READY FOR COLLEGE. CAREER. LIFE.**

Our goal is to keep this Portrait of a Graduate in the forefront of all that we do so that we can prepare our graduates for college, career and life. The preparation for us has already begun.

We look forward to school getting more back to normal for the 2021-2022 school year. As always, we cannot accomplish what we do without your support, effort and work.

## TELETYPE 2021



### COVER AND ABOVE

The cast of La Marque High School's UIL One Act play *Ruined* perform during a dress rehearsal prior to region competition in April.

### LEFT

The cast and crew of LMHS's 2021 UIL One Act play with their district and area awards. The students involved in the production included Shone Moore, Keanan Gatson, Jada Stance, Zoey Preston, Dorian Mathews, Alaysia Roy, DeVontay Sowell, Kyndall Archibald, KaMari Armstrong, Deshawna Grimes Hogue, Peja Bishop Dixon, Tiana Hosea, Cesar Delvra, Tierra Smith, Cymone Swain, Gabrielle Spadafore and Melody Rivera.



# TOGETHER WE TRIUMPH

## *La Marque High School's theatre program continues legacy of excellence, advances to regionals*

La Marque High School theatre arts director Dana Joseph was looking forward to a return to some normalcy this spring. After having their UIL One Act Play competition season cut short two days before their district contest in 2020 due to COVID-19, Joseph and her students were eagerly preparing for the 2021 season when life threw them yet another curve ball.

Three weeks before district contest, the state UIL office called and informed Joseph that the playwright of the play she had selected had pulled the piece from competition. It could not be performed and the LMHS cast and crew would have to find a new production. A challenge, to say the least.

It's a challenge the students met and exceeded with their new production, "Ruined" by Lynn Nottage, advancing not just from district competition, but all the way to region for the third time in the last four competitive years.

"Theatre arts is extremely important in our educational system because it focuses on team-building, working together as a unit and being creative thinkers," Joseph says. "One of the things I say when we start a production is that it's an empty slate and as we move through the process to be proud of what you've created."

Sophomore KaMari Armstrong fell in love with the LMHS theatre program when she was in middle school after attending a performance. She says it was one of the most amazing things she'd ever seen.

"I knew that when I got to high school, I wanted to be a part of theatre because I wanted to be a part of something that was greater and bigger than myself," Armstrong says.

For junior Alaysia Roy, theatre has been a confidence booster.

"I was never someone who was that outgoing, so being in theatre has helped me to be more outgoing and be able to speak my mind on things that other people don't want to talk about," she says.

Senior Keanan Gatson believes the hard work that everyone on the cast and crew contributes to their productions has helped the program make it far.

"That's what made me join theatre," he says. "The success we've had has been perfect because Ms. Joseph has done a good job with us, not only on the stage, but also in the classroom."

"She's always on us, pushing us to success and keeping us striving to just become better young men and women."

Armstrong says she's proud of the success the LMHS theatre program has had this year, especially because she and her fellow students have oftentimes been underestimated.

"People like to count us out because of where we come from or what we look like," she says. "But at the end of the day, it's not about how you start, it about how you finish and the process of getting to the finish line is always the reward."

Joseph says she tells her students that the production is never about advancing – it's about telling a story and coming together as a team.

"Together we can do more, together we can achieve more and definitely a production is more valuable when you have everybody on stage working together as one."

# TOGETHER WE PREPARE

## *Texas City ISD's career and technical education program prepares students for the real world*

Texas City High School senior Dravin Rose has earned four certifications during his time in the career and technical education program at Texas City ISD.

"The maritime program has given me CPR certified, NCEER, OSHA 10, and I'm about to get my TWIC," he says. "It gives you all kinds of things to help you later in life."

Richard Chapa, director of career and technical education, says that's what TCISD's CTE program is intended to do – prepare students for the real world, whether they're going to a trade school, a two-year college, a four-year college or straight into the workforce.

"We want to make sure they're prepared for everything that they need for the next level," he says. "We want them to have employable skills for the students to start whichever endeavor they want."

Blocker Middle School robotics teacher Stacey Richardson says the skills her students learn in the robotics program give that leg up as the progress through school and prepare for their future.

"Right now, in society, if you know how to program anything on the computer then you already have a step ahead of everybody else," she says.

For eighth-grader Mariah Costilla, coding isn't the only benefit of the program. She's also learned communication and patience.

"I think it's important to have communication and teamwork," she says. "And the patience is important because whenever we do codes, it takes forever and there's a lot of trial and error."

TCHS health sciences teacher Jackie Thompson says the purpose of her classes is to give students a strong

foundation, something anyone needs if they're going to enter a healthcare program.

"The health science classes give the students a jumpstart," she says.

TCHS senior Claudia Cantu says her participation in the health science classes has given her a better understanding of healthcare process such as temperature taking, pulses and blood pressure.

"It gives me more of a hands-on experience to learn and understand," she says. "I really like that it gives me an easier way to engage more into what I want to do as a professional in the future."

When La Marque High School culinary arts teacher Tuan Nguyen switched careers to teacher from professional chef, he says his main goal was to transfer his knowledge to his students.

LMHS sophomore Heidi Strait says she's much more comfortable cooking after spending time in Nguyen's class.

"We've learned a lot about cooking and different strategies, like temperatures and how to know your meats are cooked properly," she says. "It's easier and I know more now."

For Capt. Nathan Swerdlin, the maritime instructor at TCISD's Industrial Trades Center, teaching CTE is all about what he can offer the students as they prepare for their futures.

"CTE promotes CCMR, which is college, career and military readiness," he says. "So, as long as I can offer these kids the options and the availability, whether they get a job immediately out of high school or go to a college or university, as long as I'm giving these options of what is available, I'm doing my job."

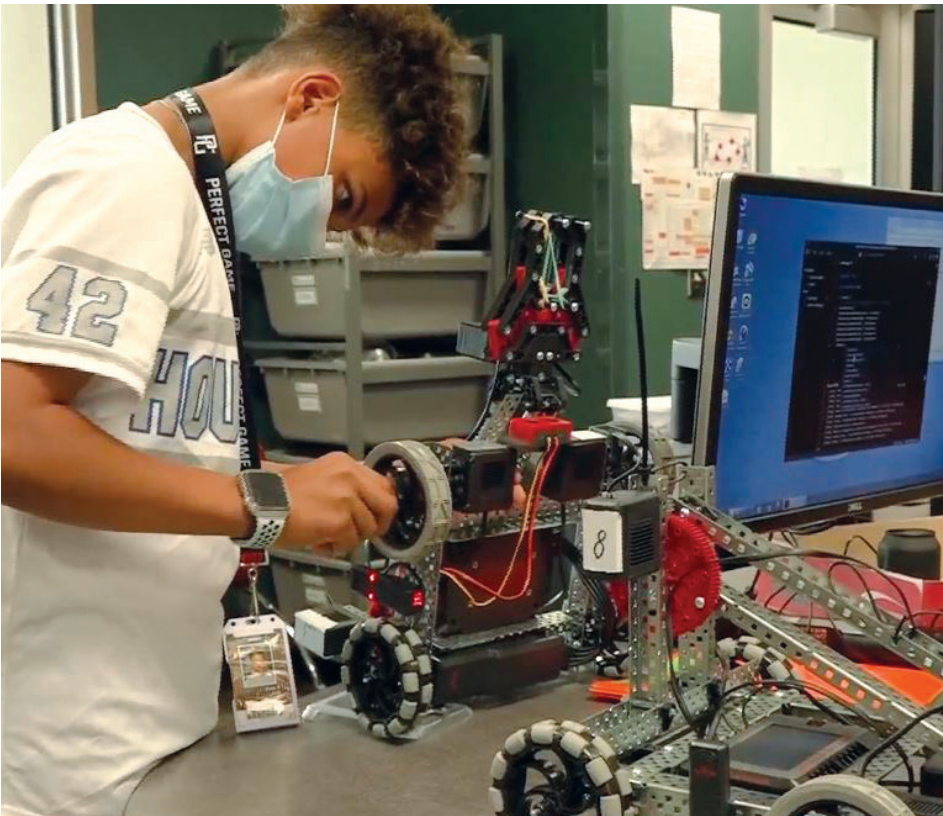


**ABOVE**

Alexandra Reyes and Hope Anderson practice taking blood pressures in their health sciences class at Texas City High School.

**LEFT**

Joseph Grant works on fixing a robot during robotics class at Blocker Middle School.





# BACK TO SCHOOL

*What you need to know to  
start the 2021-2022 school year*

*From the district calendar to school supplies  
and emergency information, here you'll find the information  
to get your school year started.*

# TELETYPE 2021



## TEXAS CITY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 2021-22 SCHOOL CALENDAR

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



JULY 2021							AUGUST 2021							SEPTEMBER 2021							OCTOBER 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	SH	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4							1	2
4	5	6	7	8	SH	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
11	12	13	14	15	SH	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
18	19	20	21	22	SH	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
25	26	27	28	29	SH	31	29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30		24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30	

NOVEMBER 2021							DECEMBER 2021							JANUARY 2022							FEBRUARY 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6		1	2	3	4					1						1	2	3	4	5	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31		23/30	24/31	25	26	27	28	29	27	28					

MARCH 2022							APRIL 2022							MAY 2022							JUNE 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5							1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	SH	4	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	SH	11
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	SH	18
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30		

### IMPORTANT DATES

Aug. 6-17	Teacher Inservice
Aug. 18	First Day of School
Sept. 6	Student/Staff Holiday (Labor Day)
Oct. 11	Student/Staff Holiday
Oct. 29	Parent Conferences (No Classes)
Nov. 22-26	Student/Staff Holiday (Thanksgiving Break)
Dec. 7-10	STAAR Testing
Dec. 20-31	Student/Staff Holiday (Christmas Break)
Jan. 3-4	Staff Development (No Classes)
Jan. 17	Student/Staff Holiday (MLK Day)
Feb. 18	Staff Development (No Classes)
March 14-18	Student/Staff Holiday (Spring Break)
April 5-8	STAAR Testing
April 15	Student/Staff Holiday (Good Friday)
May 3-6, 10-13	STAAR/EOC Testing
May 25	Last Day of School
May 26-27	Teacher Inservice



LA MARQUE  
HIGH SCHOOL

TEXAS CITY  
HIGH SCHOOL

Dates and times to be determined.

### GRADING PERIODS

#### First Semester:

1st 9 Weeks.....Aug. 18-Oct. 18  
2nd 9 Weeks.....Oct. 19-Dec. 17

#### Second Semester:

3rd 9 Weeks.....Jan. 5-Mar. 21  
4th 9 Weeks.....Mar. 22-May 25

### LEGEND

▲ New Teacher/ Staff Development	☀ Early Release Day
○ Teacher Inservice	★ STAAR Testing
■ Student/Staff Holiday	[ Beginning of Nine Weeks
■ Staff Development Day (Student Holiday)	] End of Nine Weeks
● Parent Conferences (No Classes)	SH Summer Hours (Offices Closed)

Revised 6/28/21

## 2021-2022 SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST

### PRE-KINDERGARTEN

- ☐ 1 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. 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)

### 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)

### 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

### 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)

### 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

### 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)

### 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

### 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.

*\* 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.*

## EMERGENCY INFORMATION

### SCHOOL CLOSINGS

When severe weather conditions or other factors pose a threat to normal school operations, the superintendent will evaluate the hazards and, prior to the school day, determine if school will be held.

If school is canceled, area radio and television stations will receive updated information concerning school closings or altered schedules from TCISD school officials.

### INFORMATION

Monitor the following media sources for emergency information about TCISD schools:

- Radio: KTRH (740 AM)
- TV: All major Houston networks
- Web: [www.tcisd.org](http://www.tcisd.org)
- E-News: Sign up for the district's weekly e-newsletter.
- Social Media: Like Texas City ISD on Facebook or follow us on Twitter, @TexasCityISD

### WHEN THERE IS A CHEMICAL EMERGENCY

The decision to shelter-in-place or evacuate will depend on whether the chemical is toxic, producing toxic fumes or flammable, as well as the direction and strength of the wind. Following the decision of the emergency coordinator to shelter-in-place or evacuate, bus transportation will be mobilized as needed.

There is the possibility of legal ramifications if an individual violates the shelter-in-place procedure (Criminal Trespassing, Texas Penal Code, Section 30.05; Disruption, Texas Education Code, Section 31.123; and Class C misdemeanors).

### WHEN WEATHER WORSENS DURING THE DAY

If schools do open and weather conditions worsen during the day, schools will not be closed early since the vast majority of Texas City ISD's students come from households where both parents work. If school were dismissed early, those children would go home to empty households during a dangerous weather situation. They are much safer at school where they will be supervised until dismissal.

Whenever road conditions allow buses to run safely, drivers will deliver students to the established bus stops. If buses cannot enter a subdivision because of road conditions, parents may meet the bus at the main road and escort their children home.

If weather conditions make all roads impassable,

## IN AN EMERGENCY WHEN YOU HEAR IT. DO IT.



### SECURE! (LOCKOUT)

Everyone come indoors and all exterior doors are locked. Business inside the building carries on as usual.



### LOCKDOWN

Everyone moves out of sight, remains silent, and does not open any doors. All interior and exterior doors are locked.



### EVACUATE

Teachers will lead students to the evacuation location. Students can bring their phones but leave all other belongings behind.



### SHELTER

During a weather or industrial hazard, students and teachers will seek shelter inside the buildings and follow proper procedures for the event. If the event is related to an industrial scenario, parents may not be able to come inside the building once it is ordered on shelter-in-place.



### HOLD

Everyone will remain in their classrooms until an "all clear" is given. Teachers will close and lock classroom doors. It will be business as usual within the classroom.

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students will remain at the schools and will be well supervised, warm, dry and fed until they can be transported home or until their parents come for them. Parents may, of course, pick up their children at any time during a bad weather situation in accordance with district procedures.

## NUTRITION BITES

### FREE BREAKFAST AND LUNCH

All TCISD schools operate the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) and provide breakfast and lunch to all children at no charge. As part of the registration process, parents must fill out the Socio-Economic Form, however this will not alter the student's eligibility to receive meals at no cost. Parents are encouraged to deposit funds in the students accounts for a la carte items only.

### ONLINE MEAL PAYMENTS

Online payments are a simple, safe and secure way to deposit funds to your student's account 24 hours a day. Use Lunch Money Now to deposit funds with a credit/debit card. Parents can check the balance of their child's account and receive low balance updates. Please sign-up by visiting [texascity.healtheliving.net](http://texascity.healtheliving.net).

# SUPERINTENDENT'S ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

*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

Reann Arnold, 4  
Kawika Burnett, 5  
Jovany De La Garza, 4  
Kyla Earl, 3  
Samantha Eguia, 6  
Noah Fox, 2  
Sebastian Fuentes, 6  
Madelynn Gallagher, 3  
Emily Hudnall, 8  
Joshua Ivy, 4  
Juliana Leiva Aguilar, 1  
Baylie Leyva, 2  
Kadrien Lockett-Pettiett, 2  
Isabella Logan, 1  
Breanna Ministerio, 2  
Amy Nichols, 8  
Sundos Nofal, 5  
Leonardo Rabago, 5  
Makayla Reyes, 1  
Kaitlyn Rodriguez, 1  
Paris Rodriguez, 2  
Amanda Valdez, 8  
Samantha Vaughn, 1  
Adam Wadding, 6  
Leah Walker, 4  
Camren Williams, 3  
Emily Woods, 3  
Amauri Wyatt, 7  
Hunter Yancey, 3  
David Zelaya Morales, 6

## 11TH GRADE

Elijah Ancira, 3  
Regino Briones, 1  
Henesis Covarrubias, 4  
Jamie Fernandez, 1  
Juan Gonzalez Diaz, 1  
Jamal Gray, 2  
Madison Howell, 5  
Bethany Lagunas, 2

Christopher Lopez, 4  
Brooklynn Peek, 4  
Fatima Perez-Barron, 2  
Elijah Ramirez, 7  
Harold Recarte, 7  
Jose Salas, 3  
Azriel Torres, 1  
Maribel Valdez, 6  
Amaya Walker, 1  
Dina Wyatt, 3

## 10TH GRADE

Julia Alaniz, 6  
Anaya Celestine, 1  
Shelby Deromie, 1  
Melony Hutchinson, 2  
Leah Lillie, 6  
Alexis Pate, 4  
Rudy Rojas, 1  
Yesenia Villatoro-Rivera, 2

## 9TH GRADE

Marian Ashcraft, 5  
Natalia De La Garza, 1  
Karla Fabela, 5  
Pete Hipp, 5  
Nathan Hudnall, 5  
Anson Johnson, 2  
Marcus Khaleeli, 1  
Legend Kuate, 5  
Azalea Longoria, 5  
Shelby McCarty, 1  
Lily Melchor, 5  
Mya Miranda, 4  
Max Pickett, 2  
Emma Prolic, 1  
Ambre Richards, 2  
Alexandra Rodriguez, 3  
Nicole Spriggs, 5  
Avery Torres, 3  
Madison Tucker, 5

## 8TH GRADE

Isabella Allred, 4  
Dane Bergvall, 2  
Vanessa Cidrian, 2  
David Fuentes III, 4  
Cade Hatfield-Robinson, 4  
Jamal Hurt, 1  
Devin Kincaid, 4  
Lane Marburger, 3  
Abigail Owens, 3  
Madison Owens, 3  
Derek Rodriguez, 4  
Jayda Rodriguez, 4  
Drake Slowey, 1  
Melanie Surovik, 4  
Kailey Thompson, 3

## 7TH GRADE

Angeles Cabrera, 2  
Jordan Cortez-Squier, 3  
Debanny Cruz Arellano, 3  
Peightan Downey, 1  
Nathaniel Fox, 3  
Andrew Hipp, 2  
Waren Maris, 2  
Alesandro Martinez, 3  
Jenna Mayor, 3  
Adan Morales, 3  
Diana Ochoa, 3  
Logan Pedraza, 3  
Julia Selvera, 1  
Abby Stokes, 3  
Vanessa Vy, 2

## 6TH GRADE

Drayden Allgood, 1  
Kamden Barton, 1  
Mica Chapman, 1  
Silvo Fabela, 1  
Katherine Salazer, 1  
Joseph Salenger, 1  
Natalie Tran, 1



## TELETYPE 2021



LMHS VALEDICTORIAN  
Rylie McCarty



TCHS VALEDICTORIAN  
Joshua Ivy



LMHS SALUTATORIAN  
NaKavia McDaniel



TCHS SALUTATORIAN  
Cara Piazza



# A FRESH START

*Ground breaks on new middle school, elementary  
schools set to open in fall*

Texas City ISD broke ground on the new La Marque Middle School on Feb. 25. The facility was part of the approved 2018 Bond election. The architects are IBI Group and the construction company is DivisionOne Construction. The new school will be located at 7451 Monticello Dr. and is expected to open in August 2022.

Final work continues on Guajardo, Hayley and Simms elementary schools. All three schools are in their final stages and will be ready for staff and students for the opening of the 2021-2022 school year.



## TOP AND ABOVE

Interior architectural renderings of the new La Marque Middle School.

# HOMEGROWN TALENT



**Keneshe Butler**

LA MARQUE HIGH SCHOOL - CLASS OF 2001

Keneshe Butler distinctly remembers Ms. Jefferson, her third grade teacher at Simms Elementary. She remembers that Jefferson wouldn't let her do what she wanted to so, but what she was supposed to do, and always kept her students in line. She meant business.

"But she was very nice about the way she did it," Butler says. "She really had a genuine, caring spirit and had a connection with her kids. She made her lessons fun and engaging and was just that teacher that if I can remember her from way back in third grade, you know she made an impact."



Jefferson is the kind of teacher Butler tried to model when she started teaching journalism and English at La Marque High School in 2007. She says she wants her kids to remember her the same way she remembers her third grade teacher. She wants to build that connection. It's the same goal she has now as a counselor.

"I'm trying to fully prepare them for what's on the other side of that stage; I want them to know what's outside of La Marque," she says. "You have to go out and explore and be prepared for everything that's going to come your way and I want our kids to know that once they cross that stage there are so many things out there that they can do."



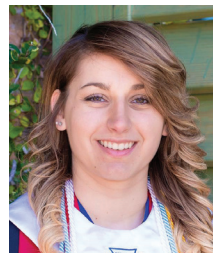
**Lexie Alaniz Stahl**

TEXAS CITY HIGH SCHOOL - CLASS OF 2015

Lexie Alaniz Stahl always knew she wanted to be a teacher. As a junior and senior in Texas City High School's Ready, Set, Teach program, that desire was solidified as she worked with students at Kohfeldt Elementary and Levi Fry Intermediate.

So she knew when it was time to start teaching full-time that she wanted to come back to Texas City ISD.

"I've always said that I want to teach where I went to school, that I want to teach the same kids I went to school with," Stahl says. "I have kids in my classroom that I know their parents, I know their families, and I think that helps me to relate to these kids a lot better because I went here and I did everything that they're doing."



Stahl says she loves being part of a district that helps in any way to do what it can for those students in need. It wasn't something she could see when she was a student, but something she sees now that she's a teacher.

"I thought everyone grew up like me and had a great and easy life ... and coming back and being a teacher here, you just realize that that's not the case for everyone," she says. "(TCISD) does a really good job of reaching out and helping them, and I think teachers are a big part in that."

# *Texas City ISD announces administrative changes for the 2021-22 school year.*



## **ANDERSON PROMOTED TO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM**

Anne Anderson has been promoted from Director of Elementary Education to Executive Director of Curriculum & Instruction. She has served Texas City ISD for the past 24 years in multiple roles but was a campus administrator for six years and central office administrator for the past five years.



## **ZEPEDA JOINS TCISD AS ELEMENTARY DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM**

Andrea Zepeda was hired as the new Elementary Director of Curriculum & Instruction. She has 27 years of educational experience and was most recently a campus principal in Goose Creek CISD.



## **KOPP PROMOTED TO DIRECTOR OF CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

Alexis Kopp has been promoted from Coordinator of Texas City ISD's Career & Technical Education (CTE) program to Director of CTE. She has six years administrative experience.



## **FURMAN PROMOTED TO PRINCIPAL OF HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY**

Sarah Furman has been promoted from Assistant Principal at Guajardo Elementary to Principal at Heights Elementary. She has five years of campus administrative experience.



## **COVINGTON PROMOTED TO CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER**

Gina Covington has been promoted from District Instructional Technologist to Chief Technology Officer. Covington was hired in Texas City ISD in 2019. She has a total of 24 years in public education with most of those years serving as a teacher.



## **FURMAN PROMOTED TO DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL PROGRAMS**

Tony Furman has been promoted from Blocker Middle School principal to Director of Special Programs. Furman has been a campus administrator in Texas City ISD for the past 12 years.



## **MCADAM JOINS TCISD AS HAYLEY ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL**

Rachel Spector-McAdam was selected as the new Principal of Hayley Elementary. She has 16 years of educational experience and was most recently an elementary principal in Goose Creek CISD.



## **TOWELS JOINS TCISD AS BLOCKER MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL**

Tanji Towels will be the new Blocker Middle School Principal. She comes from Clear Creek ISD. She has 16 years of campus and district level administrative leadership.

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

#### **TCISD HONORED WITH BEST COMMUNITIES FOR MUSIC EDUCATION DESIGNATION**

Texas City ISD was honored with the Best Communities for Music Education designation from the NAMM Foundation for the second year for its outstanding commitment to music education. The designation is awarded to districts that demonstrate outstanding achievement in efforts to provide music access and education to all students. TCISD provides music programs from the elementary level to high school. Band and choir are introduced at the intermediate level with additional options beginning in middle school and continuing through high school such as show choir, jazz band, vocal jazz and mariachi.

#### **▼ HOWELL PLACES THIRD IN STATE IN EDITORIAL WRITING**

Texas City High School junior Madison Howell competed in three events on May 1, 2021, in UIL State Academics at Barbers Hill High School. Howell advanced to State by winning first place in 3 journalism events

at Regionals and bringing home the team trophy. She single-handedly won the team trophy because of placing first in all of her events: News Writing, Headline Writing and Editorial Writing. At State, she placed third in Editorial Writing.

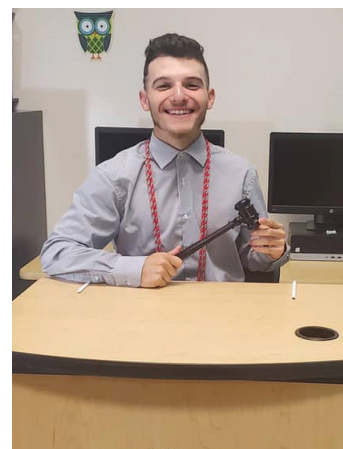
#### **THREE TRACK ATHLETES HAVE CHAMPIONSHIP SEASONS**

Three TCISD track athletes had championship seasons this year. Texas City High School sophomore Kenyon Parker qualified to compete at the State Track Meet in the 300 hurdles setting personal records along the way. He was the District Champion, Area Champion and Regional Runner-Up. La Marque High School has two District and Area Champions in the Long Jump and High Jump. Senior Javion Edwards is the District and Area Long Jump Champion and senior Jauron Reid, Jr. is the District and Area High Jump Champion.

#### **TCISD CHOIRS EARN SWEEPSTAKES HONORS AT UIL COMPETITION**

Several Texas City ISD choirs

competing in UIL Concert and Sightreading brought home sweepstakes trophies this year. The Texas City High School Master Chorale and Varsity Women's choir both earned sweepstakes trophies with straight superior ratings at their competition in Dickinson. The Blocker Middle School Bella Voce choir also earned a sweepstakes trophy for superior performance in both concert and sightreading, and for the first time in recent history, the La Marque High School choir earned superior ratings from all judges and a sweepstakes trophy, beginning a new legacy of excellence.



#### **▲ TCHS SENIOR QUALIFIES FOR NATIONAL SPEECH & DEBATE CONTEST**

Texas City High School senior Adrian Sendejas qualified for the National Speech and Debate tournament. Adrian placed 20th out of 336 competitors in Varsity Lincoln Douglas Debate.



#### **▲ TCHS FRESHMAN WINS GRAND CHAMPION AT FAIR AND RODEO**

Texas City FFA placed in 29 events at April's Galveston County Fair and Rodeo. Students can spend up to 10 months caring for animals twice a day, every day, plus practicing with them to show. Texas City High School freshman Kaylie Guzman won Grand Champion in the Market Steer Show. Her steer was bought by Texas First Bank for \$25,000.

#### **FOUR LMHS SOCCER PLAYERS NAMED TO ALL-STATE TEAM**

Four La Marque High School Boys Soccer players were named to the Texas Association of Soccer Coaches Academic All-State team for 2020-2021. Congratulations to Jose Espinosa Rios, Dre'Shaun Jones, Dorian Mathews and Leonel Rubio! Rubio was also selected for the Texas High School Coaches Association's Boys Soccer Academic All-State second team.

#### **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 second 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.

## TWO LMHS BASKETBALL PLAYERS EARN ALL-STATE HONORS

La Marque High School's Terrance Cooper was named to the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches Boys Academic All-State Team. Kevin Boone was named to the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches All State Team.

## ▼ THREE BLOCKER STUDENTS EARN SPOTS IN ALL-STATE CHOIR

Blocker Choir Students Elise Johnson (Soprano 2), Myla Crable (Soprano 1), and Miah Torres (Soprano 1) earned spots in the Texas Choral Directors Association's MS/JH All-State Honor Choir! They submitted recordings for a virtual choir performance that will premiere at the TCDA Convention in San Antonio this summer.



## THREE TCHS STUDENTS ADVANCE TO NATIONAL TAFE COMPETITION

For the first time in Texas City High School's history, we have two projects (3 students) who advanced to compete at Nationals through the Texas Association of Future Educators! Due to success at both the region and state level, Adrian Sendejas competed in impromptu speaking and Anastasia Vela and Daniela Aguirre competed in Teacher Created Materials – Elementary at Nationals. Adrian placed third.



## ▲ WHITE WINS DISTRICT SWIM CHAMPIONSHIP

Texas City High School senior Mason White won the District Championship in the 100 meter freestyle at the 2021 District Swim Meet at Friendswood



High School on January 30. In addition, he placed 3rd in the 50 meter freestyle. Because of his placement in those events, he qualified to compete at the Region Swim Meet on February 7.

## ▲ THREE STUDENTS EARN TMEA ALL-STATE HONORS

Texas City ISD had three students who earned the Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA) All-State honors for 2021. Beginning each fall, over 70,000 high school students across the state audition in their TMEA Region. Individuals perform selected music for a panel of judges who rank each instrument or voice part. A select group of musicians advances to compete against musicians from other Regions in their TMEA Area. The highest-ranking musicians judged at the TMEA Area competitions qualify to perform in one of 18 Texas All-State ensembles sponsored by the Band, Orchestra, and Vocal Divisions. Texas City High School senior Angelica Moran made it into the Texas All-State Mixed Choir as an Alto 2. Her head choir director is Matthew Taylor and her private voice coach is Marcy Talley. TCHS senior Fernando De Los Santos made 2nd Chair Trumpet in the All-State Band and TCHS senior Leonardo Rabago made 1st Chair Euphonium in the All-

State Band.

## LMHS ART TEACHER NAMED OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR

La Marque High School art teacher Joan Finn was named the Texas Art Education Association Outstanding Educator in the High School Division for 2020! Ms. Finn has been teaching art for 25 years at La Marque High School.

## MCKENZIE EARNS MULTIPLE ALL-STATE HONORS

Texas City High School basketball player Caden McKenzie was named to the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches Academic All-State team and to the TABC Class 5A All-Region Team. He was the Galveston County Player of the Year and reached the 1,500 point total in his career. McKenzie was also selected to play in the Houston Area Basketball Coaches Association's All-Star Game.

## FURMAN NAMED ASST. PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

Guajardo Elementary Assistant Principal Sarah Furman was selected as the Region IV Texas Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association Assistant Principal of the Year.

# OUR BOARD



**DISTRICT 1**  
Melba Anderson



**DISTRICT 2**  
Mable Pratt



**DISTRICT 3**  
Nakisha Paul



**DISTRICT 4**  
Bryan Thompson



**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.

1700 NINTH AVENUE N.  
TEXAS CITY, TX 77590  
409-916-0100 | [www.tcisid.org](http://www.tcisid.org)

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 Marion Godeaux, executive director of maintenance and operations, at 409-916-0141.



#### HOMEGROWN TALENT

Alumni staff from La Marque High School and Texas City High School bring their passion back to the district.

**READ STORIES, PAGE 13**