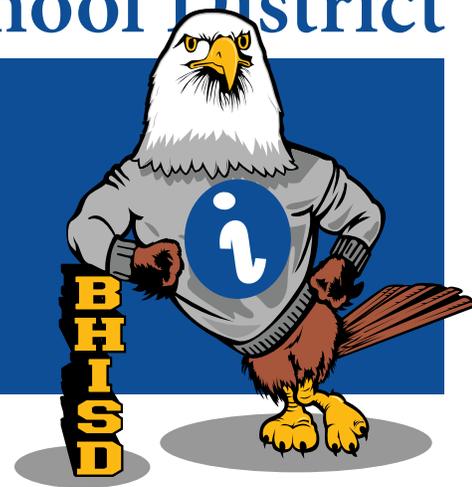


EAGLE



The Official Newsletter of BHISD
Fall 2013

Superintendent

Greg Poole, Ed.D.

Board of Trustees

Becky Tice, President
Fred Skinner, Vice President
Cynthia Erwin, Secretary
George Barrera
Carmena Goss
Benny May
Ron Mayfield

SHAPING THE FUTURE

INSIDE



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Alumni
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Eagle Insider
pp. 8-11



Superintendent's Welcome



Dr. Greg Poole

A prominent jewelry company describes a diamond necklace they sell with three solitary diamonds as past, present and future. Evidently, it is a good marketing ploy. The connection to our district and this advertisement is multifaceted (no pun intended). Many school districts have had success at some point in their existence. But rare, as a diamond, are those who have always maintained a rigorous high standard. Barbers Hill Independent School District has a shiny past and present with phenomenal success at the state and even national level. Our name is synonymous with excellence, and we are indebted to past board members and community leaders who had the foresight to realize the value of a prestigious school system.

It is not difficult to celebrate our past accomplishments or those occurring as this is written. However, if Barbers Hill was represented by a three-diamond necklace, I would venture to say the one representing the future should have the most carats.

A drive through our community and county will indicate unprecedented growth. We have a practical skyscraper being built on Eagle Drive as Enterprise's new headquarters (or at least three stories appear as such when surrounded by prairie). And our school district is continuing our construction program that will maintain our schools in the exemplary way that Barbers Hill patrons have become accustomed to. The future is promising for Chambers County and Barbers Hill ISD. While the shape of the future may not be a diamond, our school district is continuing to position ourselves to mold that future to best assure that we maintain our 10-carat reputation.

BHISD VISION STATEMENT

Barbers Hill ISD envisions academic excellence characterized by goal-driven, college/career ready graduates who are responsible, accountable, contributing members of society.

You are Cordially Invited to
OPEN HOUSE

| CAMPUS | TIME | DATE |
|---------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Kindergarten Center | 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. | October 3, 2013 |
| Primary School | 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. | October 10, 2013 |
| Elementary School | 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. | September 26, 2013 |
| Intermediate School | 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. | September 24, 2013 |
| High School | 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. | September 16, 2013 |



Come see what we've been **LEARNING!**

Barbers Hill
Independent School District

www.bhisd.net • 281-576-2221

- High School (9-12) ext. 1299
- Middle School (7-8) ext. 1410
- Intermediate School (5-6) ext. 1230
- Elementary School (3-4) ext. 1504
- Primary School (1-2) ext. 1223
- Kindergarten Center (PK-K) ext. 1242
- DAEP ext. 1436

9600 Eagle Dr., Mont Belvieu, TX 77523



Editor
Carla Rabalais
Director of Communications
BHISD

BHISD Trustees call Bond Election



The Barbers Hill 2013-2014 Board of Trustees includes (l-r): Fred Skinner, Vice President, Cynthia Erwin, Secretary, Becky Tice, President, Ron Mayfield, Carmena Goss, Benny May, George Barrera.

Barbers Hill ISD's Board of Trustees and district staff work hard on behalf of students and taxpayers, finding ways to stretch shrinking state dollars while developing new resources through partnerships with local industry.

In their August meeting, the BHISD School Board approved a bond election that would allow more of our tax dollars to remain at home. The \$60 million bond issue would bring no increase in taxes, because the district has utilized Value Limitations Agreements under Chapter 313 of the Tax Code that allow more tax money to remain in the district.

Unlike most bond issues, this proposal does not include new building construction. The average age of buildings in Barbers Hill ISD is 30 years, but our older campuses still have many years of good use ahead. If the bond is approved by voters, funds would be utilized to renovate existing campuses and to renew older mechanical systems such as piping and HVAC equipment. Other areas of focus would be to strengthen security for the protection of our students

and staff at each campus, and to upgrade classroom technology for enhanced instruction.

"The key take-away for our taxpayers is absolutely no increase in taxes."

Superintendent Dr. Greg Poole

The bond election will be held November 5, 2013, with Early Voting October 21 – November 1. See below for dates, times and locations for Early Voting opportunities. For more information visit bhisd.net.

Election Day: November 5, 2013, 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Polling at: C.T. Joseph Conference Center, Cove Commty. Bldg, Beach City Commty. Bldg

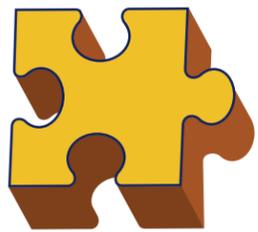
Early Voting Oct. 21 - Nov. 1

| Date | Place | Time |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Oct. 21 - Nov. 1 | C.T. Joseph Conference Center | 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. |
| Tuesday, Oct. 22 | BH Primary School | 5 p.m. - 8 p.m. |
| Thursday, Oct. 24 | BH Middle School | 5 p.m. - 8 p.m. |
| Saturday, Oct. 26 | BH Field House | 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. |
| Tuesday, Oct. 29 | BH Kindergarten Center | 5 p.m. - 8 p.m. |
| Friday, Nov. 1 | BH Middle School | 4 p.m. - 8 p.m. |



News You Can Use

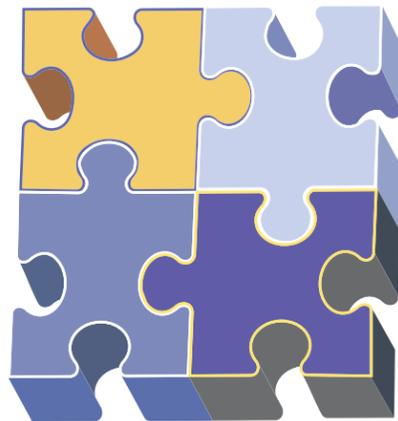
STAAR BRIGHT



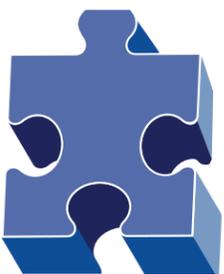
Barbers Hill students took the new state-mandated STAAR test in the spring this year. The state's rating system included two possible levels: "Met Standard" and "Improvement Required." Every campus in Barbers Hill ISD "Met Standard," and our district scored

above the state average in every category. In addition, Barbers Hill High School received Academic Achievement Distinction Designation for exceptional Student Progress. Barbers Hill Intermediate School received Achievement Distinctions in all three areas possible, including Math, Reading, and Student Progress.

As a result of recent state legislation, the number of End of Course exams required to graduate now includes five subjects: English 1, Algebra 1 and Biology, to be administered in 9th grade, as well as English 2 in 10th grade and U.S. History in 11th grade. Barbers Hill administrators and teachers spent many hours this summer building and refining curricula to assure state standards are within reach for every student in Barbers Hill.



CELL PHONE SAFETY



The 2013 Texas Legislature voted to further limit cell phone use inside school zones this year. In the past, cell phone use was prohibited while driving on the street during an active school zone. Beginning this year, that law is extended

to include any moving vehicle on school property during active school zone hours. This includes moving vehicles in car rider lines and parking lots. The law does not apply if a hands-free device is being used, or to stopped vehicles. For more information, contact BHISD Police Chief Kenny Widner at 281.576.2221, ext. 1347.

BIKE RIDERS



Many of our residents are enjoying the new wider streets and sidewalks along Eagle Drive, thanks to a comprehensive road improvement project by the City of Mont Belvieu. The presence of sidewalks has raised a new question for BHISD: Should students ride bikes to school? While we encourage students to exercise, safety is our primary

concern, and ongoing construction poses a high risk, particularly during school zone hours.

Following safety recommendations by BHISD Police Chief Kenny Widner, no bicycles will be permitted at the Kindergarten Center, Primary School or Elementary School during the 2013-14 school year. These campuses will be re-evaluated for bicycle safety prior to the 2014-15 school year, and bike racks installed upon approval.

Bike racks will be installed this year at the Intermediate, Middle, and High School campuses.

Pedestrian-crossing traffic lights on Eagle Drive are located at the intersections of Lakes of Champions and Royal Palm Drive. Extreme caution and bike safety practices should be used at all times, especially during school zone hours when construction equipment is active and traffic is most congested. Please be assured that safety has been and continues to be our highest priority.

Meal Prices



| Student Meal Prices | | |
|---------------------|-----------|--------|
| School | Breakfast | Lunch |
| Kindergarten Center | \$1.10 | \$2.10 |
| Primary School | \$1.10 | \$2.10 |
| Elementary School | \$1.10 | \$2.10 |
| Intermediate School | \$1.10 | \$2.10 |
| Middle School | \$1.35 | \$2.85 |
| High School | \$1.35 | \$2.85 |

Staff meal prices:

KC, PS, ES, and IS: \$1.50 breakfast and \$2.65 lunch.
MS and HS: \$1.50 breakfast and \$2.85 lunch.



From Coach Gage's Desk



Ronnie Gage
Athletic Director

I am extremely excited as we enter the 2013-2014 school year. The excitement of a new year is always motivating and brings with it new expectations and new goals. The colors blue and white embrace a proud tradition and each student athlete who has graduated from Barbers Hill has had an impact in building this remarkable legacy. Our coaches are proud to be a part of this and we are committed to lead with our efforts. We want to continue to build the pride that makes Barbers Hill a district above the rest.

Our athletes have trained hard in preparing for the upcoming school year. As in past years, we will continue to do all we can with hard work, preparation, and effort to be the best we can be. It is im-

portant for our athletes to understand the meaning of Integrity, Loyalty and Pride and to know we represent the best school district in the state every time we step out into the competitive arena.

I would like to congratulate our senior class of 2012-13 for the legacy they left behind. Their accomplishments are numerous and they left us a better place.

We are fortunate to be in a school district with a supportive administration, teachers who care for the welfare of their students, and student athletes who are committed to being the best. In preparing for the new year, we ask for your continued support. Our commitment to you is to work your son or daughter extremely hard and love them along the way. We will always give you our best. Win, Lose or Draw you won't be disappointed with our efforts.

Go Eagles!!!

VARSITY FOOTBALL

| | | |
|--------|---------------------------|------|
| AUG 30 | Tigres Juvenil Nuevo Leon | 7:30 |
| SEP 6 | Lumberton @ Lumberton | 7:30 |
| SEP 13 | Crosby* | 7:00 |
| SEP 20 | CE King* @ CE King | 7:00 |
| SEP 27 | Kingwood Park* | 7:00 |
| OCT 5 | Humble* @ Humble (Sat.) | 7:00 |
| OCT 11 | Porter (Homecoming) | 7:00 |
| OCT 18 | Open | |
| OCT 25 | Dayton* @ Dayton | 7:00 |
| NOV 1 | Summer Creek* (Parent Nt) | 7:00 |
| NOV 8 | New Caney* @ New Caney | 7:00 |

(*Denotes District 19-4A Game)

Join us for Dinner, Stay for the Game!

| Date | Menu | Sponsoring Organization |
|-------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 9/13 | Chicken Strip Dinner | Project Graduation |
| 9/27 | Tailgate Party w/Hamburgers | BH Athletic Booster Club |
| 10/11 | BBQ Dinner | BH Homecoming & Scholarship Assoc. |
| 11/1 | Chicken Fried Steak Dinner | BHHS Soaring Eagle Band |



Find out when & where your favorite Eagles teams are playing: Scan the QR code with your smart device to see schedules for all Fall Sports!

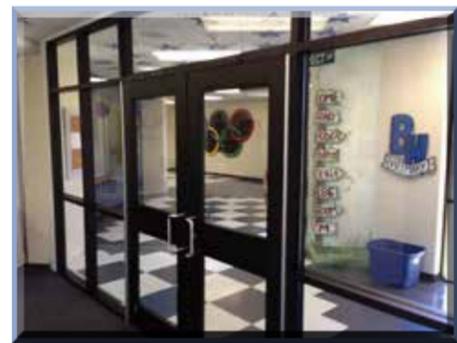
Growing Bigger, Growing Stronger



Barbers Hill Elementary North, under construction behind Eagle Stadium, will house grades 2-5.



Above: Architect's illustration of Barbers Hill Elementary South (current Elementary) after addition is complete.



Security vestibules have been added to all campuses.



Construction is well underway at Barbers Hill Elementary North, Barbers Hill Elementary South addition, and Barbers Hill Intermediate for conversion to a middle school.

When these campuses open in Fall 2014, BHISD will begin zoning students in grades 2-8. Students living south of Interstate 10 will attend BH Elementary South (current BH Elementary) in grades 2-5, and in grades 6-8 will attend BH Middle School South (current BH Intermediate).

Students in grades 2-5 living north of Interstate 10 will attend BH Elementary North (under construction) and in grades 6-8 will attend BH Middle School North (current Middle School).

Our Personnel Department is working diligently to make the transition seamless for faculty and staff. In December 2013, principals of each new campus will be announced, and in the spring, teachers will receive their campus assignments. Next summer will be busy with the physical move to new campuses and classrooms.

More detailed information will be available this spring via our website, a town hall meeting, and district and campus newsletters. Questions may also be submitted to Carla Rabalais, Director of Communications, at CRabalais@bhisd.net.

Convocation 2013



Over 650 faculty and staff were welcomed back to school on August 19 at the district's annual Convocation ceremonies. This year's theme, Shaping the Future, reflects not only the daily influence educators have on the future, but also each person's important role as BHISD approaches a new configuration of grade levels and campuses next year. The district is planning and preparing for a great transition in 2014!



Distinguished Alumna 2013



Sandra Hart Tilton
Class of 1966

Sandra Hart Tilton, 23-year veteran teacher and administrator at Barbers Hill ISD, was selected the 2013 Distinguished Alumna. A graduate of the Class of 1966, Mrs. Tilton earned her B.S. degree from Lamar University and her M. Ed. from University of Houston - Clear Lake. Nearly her entire family, including husband Chris, three daughters, and 9 of 11 grandchildren are Barbers Hill graduates or future graduates.

Mrs. Tilton made many contributions to BHISD during her years of service. As principal of the Primary School, which housed grades K-2, Mrs. Tilton was instrumental in beginning Barbers Hill's first pre-K program, first Mentor Program, first Fall Carnival that later integrated with Fall Fest, and she wrote a grant that brought the first computers to the campus. Mrs. Tilton has helped to shape a bright future for thousands of Barbers Hill Eagles, and we are deeply appreciative for all she has done and continues to do to serve our district.

Honorary Eagle 2013



M.Q. Bradford
Trustee 1970-1984

M.Q. Bradford has been a member of the Barbers Hill community since his birth in 1923. A veteran of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mr. Bradford served in both the Europe and Pacific Theaters in World War 2. His wife, Alma Bradford, worked as a teacher for 42 years, serving the African American students of our district at the Old River Winfree School before integration. Mr. Bradford retired from Humble Oil/ExxonMobil after 35 years' service.

M.Q. Bradford provided leadership to Barbers Hill during a period of intense growth through service on the Board of Trustees from 1970-1984. During those 14 years, Barbers Hill voters passed bonds that allowed the construction of campuses we now know as the Kindergarten Center, Primary School, Intermediate School, Field House, Administration Building, and parts of the Middle School. Mr. Bradford's foresight and sacrificial service shaped our past, present, and continues to shape the future of Barbers Hill students and staff.

Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction



Sandra Duree

Great things are happening in Barbers Hill ISD where excellence is an expectation! Our quest for excellence is evident in everything we do, including academics. We continue to work, plan, and implement new programs to prepare for the many changes facing our schools and our community. Some of the initiatives and activities that will prepare our students for college and beyond include:

We continue to work with local industry to develop a pathway for BHISD students to take courses that will prepare them for the hundreds of jobs we anticipate in the next five years due to expansion initiatives in local industry. Courses in Process Technology have been added to the High School course offerings. In this two-year program, students can receive dual credit hours that will lead to an Associate Degree. Additionally, Welding will be offered to High School students interested in becoming certified welders.

Barbers Hill Middle School became a STEM Academy in 2012. STEM curriculum provides "hands-on" activities that integrate Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics with real-world applications bringing classroom instruction to life. Based on the success of the program at the MS and input from our business partners, the program has expanded to the High School this school year. Concepts of Engineering has been added as an option for High School students who are inter-

ested in engineering or for those seeking a STEM endorsement.

Numerous staff development opportunities were provided to BHISD educators this summer and thousands of clock hours were logged by teachers, administrators, and paraprofessionals in preparation for the 2013-2014 school year.

Our teachers continue to explore strategies to increase the level of rigor as we address changes in the state assessment program (STAAR).



Mission to Mars Summer Camp sponsored by NASA at Barbers Hill Middle School

Two summer camps were provided for students to explore the integration of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Sixty students, grades 5-8, participated in "A Mission to Mars" summer camp held at the Middle School. Twenty-five students, grades 9-12, also participated in a STEM summer camp at Lee College.

Clearly, it's an exciting time to be an Eagle and we invite and encourage you to be actively involved! This fall, each school will host an Open House where parents can see first-hand the great things going on in classrooms. I encourage you to attend each of these important events with your child.



STEM Students at BH Middle School launched rockets as high as a cell phone tower last spring.

In addition, there are volunteer programs and mentor programs whereby community members can share their time and expertise to help individual students and support the great things going on throughout the district. I encourage you to invest in our future by getting involved in the activities offered in BHISD!

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Assistant Superintendent of Finance



Becky McManus

Shaping the future... there could not be a more appropriate theme that captures the economic environment of Mont Belvieu and Barbers Hill ISD. The BHISD Finance Department is helping to shape the future through several initiatives that will

continue to benefit our students and our district well into the future!

The area economic momentum is evident by the industrial construction "on the hill" and the residential construction throughout the district. Drilling at the Eagle Ford Shale system continues at full throttle and Mont Belvieu is reaping the benefits. As a result, Barbers Hill ISD entered into Value Limitation Agreements with several area companies for the construction of new industrial facilities in our district. These new industrial facilities reflect significant capital investment in our area and will enhance the tax base of BHISD in the future. Further, these facilities will employ hundreds of construction workers and numerous full-time employees once they are fully operational, all of which contribute to the economic growth of our community. Industry is integral in the shaping and growth of our school district and greater community.

Barbers Hill is breaking new ground by going paperless in our Finance Department. BHISD is using an easy, space-efficient way to store student and personnel records while meeting local and state-mandated record requirements and reducing paper in the process.

Lastly, BHISD has again received the State's highest rating of "Superior Achievement" under T.E.A.'s financial accountability rating system ("FIRST"). BHISD has maintained a "Superior" rating since TEA established the rating system in 2002. The District will hold a public hearing to discuss the District's rating on September 23, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. in the C. T. Joseph Conference Center.

Assistant Superintendent of Personnel



Barbara Ponder

"Shaping the Future"... what a great theme for the upcoming school year! Thanks to efforts by our exceptional team of educators, we pride ourselves in shaping and molding our students by providing an excellent education-

al experience. Our commitment resides within the hearts and minds of our staff and community, and communicates our unwavering dedication to the students in our district.

The future is full of changes on The Hill. The most obvious is the fact that we will open new campuses with new grade configurations in the fall of 2014. The Personnel Department will play a role throughout the transition process as we work with all departments, campuses and employees to assign staff and make the transition as smooth as possible.

The Personnel Department is proud to play a role in continuing our tradition of excellence by hiring the best and brightest candidates. This school year, more than 50 new staff joined the BH Family. We welcome each of them and know they will quickly make a positive contribution to the success of our district. We also want to acknowledge our school board members for their continued support in allowing us to recruit and retain such outstanding candidates.

Our teachers have been busy over the summer attending staff development sessions to learn and grow as educators. Once again we can report that 100% of our teachers are Highly Qualified in accordance with NCLB (No Child Left Behind) standards for the 2012-2013 school year and have met or exceeded the federal requirements for professional development. We congratulate all of our teachers for meeting and exceeding the level of quality required at the local, state, and national levels.

We congratulate and welcome all our new employees and look forward to the success that awaits faculty and students in the coming school year. I am confident that we will continue to shape and mold future leaders and productive citizens. There is no doubt that our "Tradition of Excellence" will be evident in all that we do during the upcoming school year. Welcome Back!



BHISD Leadership Team 2013-14

Director of Auxiliary Services



Stephanie Gage

BHISD's theme for 2013-2014 is "Shaping the Future." What could be more appropriate for a school district than to guide students in readiness for future changes? The pursuit to stay ahead is led by dedicated teachers,

staff, and administrators. The support of parents and community members makes it easier to go the extra mile to provide the best educational experience for the students of BHISD.

The Barbers Hill Mentor Program is a prime example of how BHISD volunteers are helping to "shape the future" of many of our students. On a weekly basis more than 100 community members, parents, and teachers, volunteer to help students who could benefit from extra time with a role model and encourager. Fifty-plus PALS, who are high school students, partner with young students to help them improve academic and social skills. In addition to these programs, we welcome volunteers to work in the schools. Volunteers, who give of their time to make Barbers Hill the best, are an essential piece of our assurance of excellence.

Barbers Hill is committed to keeping the school environment safe. With the partnership of the Barbers Hill Police Department and the district S4 (Safe Schools Save Students) Task Force, many training opportunities and educational programs about safety will continue to be offered to students and staff. Current information and resources on drug and alcohol awareness, bullying, and cyber-bullying are important in helping us "shape the future" of all students.

Become an active part of our Eagle community. Attend our exceptional school programs and extracurricular competitions, consider becoming a mentor, and share our Eagle pride.



Barbers Hill Education Foundation

Cultivating Resources... Enhancing Education

The Barbers Hill ISD Education Foundation is shaping the future of our students in many positive ways. The Foundation endowment fund surpassed \$2 million this year. With a mission to support educational opportunities for Barbers Hill students, the Foundation has awarded over \$100,000 in grants to BHISD staff since its inception in 2010. As the Foundation grows, our students will benefit even more through grants that fund innovative learning projects at every grade level. Our quest for excellence is never ending, and the Foundation truly will make a difference for the students and teachers of BHISD.

Assistant Superintendent of Planning and Operations



Stan Frazier

Planning and Operations departments look forward to helping provide a safe, clean and stimulating environment for our students, faculty, staff and all stakeholders during the 2013-14 school year. After opening the new fine arts addition at the High School this past year, we are currently working on the 2014 opening of the South Elementary addition, the North Elementary addition, renovations at the

Intermediate School for its transition to a Middle School, and the extension of Perry Road to the North Elementary site. To the right you will find some of the activities our departments engaged in this past summer in preparing facility usage for another year of academic and extracurricular excellence on the Hill!



Operations

In the Operations Department our staff team-cleaned all buildings in addition to stripping and waxing all floors and cleaning behind the summer school staff and students. Our staff also refinished the gym floors at the Field House, Kindergarten Center, and High School.

Grounds

Along with general duties of mowing and weed eating, the Grounds staff prepped all football fields as well as the cross country fields for the start of the new school year. All of the fields were aerated, fertilized, top-dressed with topsoil, and planted with Bermuda grass seed.

Transportation

In addition to keeping the buses rolling for summer school, the Transportation Department mechanics completed state inspections on all buses and service vehicles, checked and replaced brakes and tires as needed, and repaired or replaced seats in all our buses. Along with general maintenance, all bus surveillance cameras were inspected and repaired. Summer

Energy

Implementation of a comprehensive Energy Management plan in August of 2011 has been highly beneficial the past two years, culminating in energy savings of \$204,629 this past year and a savings of \$176,164 during the 2011-12 school year. This summer we retrofitted several areas with LED lights and recalibrated all thermostats to match our computer readings. Smart meters were also installed at

Maintenance

Our Maintenance Department upgraded plumbing fixtures in addition to moving furniture, hanging marker boards and projection screens. We also completed a number of painting projects throughout the district. The HVAC staff cleaned chillers and coils, as well as installed a new HVAC system in the DAEP, replaced bear-

ings on the Intermediate gym units, and installed new condenser coils at the High School. The Primary School received a new compressor and a number of fan motors, blades and new ventilators were installed throughout the district. Other HVAC work included improvements in the Ag meat prep room. Our electricians also replaced a number of floor outlets at the Kindergarten Center in addition to replacing bulbs and ballasts in every building.

each building, which will enable us to measure real time current usage to avoid high peak demands. Additionally, we have set up an Energy Management information page on the school website under Planning and Operations where everyone can see our energy conservation progress. Interactive learning skills geared for adults and students are also included.

ings on the Intermediate gym units, and installed new condenser coils at the High School. The Primary School received a new compressor and a number of fan motors, blades and new ventilators were installed throughout the district. Other HVAC work included improvements in the Ag meat prep room. Our electricians also replaced a number of floor outlets at the Kindergarten Center in addition to replacing bulbs and ballasts in every building.

Director of Technology



Katie Russell

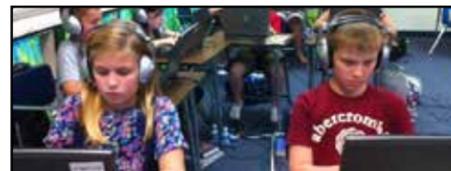
In 2004, when BHISD introduced the 1:1 laptop program, it became a model for other schools around the state and nation. Many school districts came to Barbers Hill to see how our 1:1

program was implemented regarding equipment, network configuration, and use in the classroom. A major need that was addressed at that time was that many homes in Barbers Hill did not have Internet access or computers. As technology has evolved since 2004, so has the access at home to technology devices and to the Internet.

From 2004 to 2013, we have seen a great deal of positive change that is moving us in a direction where our 1:1 program needs to take on a new look and feel. A recent survey of high school students done by our Tech department shows

that 84% of students have Internet access outside of school and that 99% of students have a personal technology device, with 90% of those having more than one!

Being new to this position since January, the baton has been recently passed to me. I want my part of this race to continue keeping us at the forefront of technol-



ogy. Although it is cliché to say that technology is ever-changing, it truly is. As the dynamics of technology devices and Internet access changes, we want to offer state-of-the-art technology to our students and teachers throughout the district.

A very popular term that is being used in the technology-savvy community is the "cloud." As I introduce Chromebooks at Barbers Hill High School this year, I look forward to using the Cloud for storage, apps and accessibility. With these devices, available in every classroom, students will learn while using devices they are fond of and which fit their lifestyle better. Having surveyed over 1200 BHISD students, I believe I have a much better understanding of their thoughts and feelings toward technology, and I look forward to keeping those lines of communication open and busy as the BHISD Technology Department moves us in a direction of continued excellence.

Keeping ahead of the curve is always an exciting time ... a challenge that the BHISD technology department is ready to embrace!

Director of Communications



Carla Rabalais

Welcome back! I hope you've had the opportunity to visit our new website this year and enjoy the great photos of Barbers Hill students and staff in action, as well as accessing news and upcoming events.

Our site, redesigned last fall and launched in January, is the district's primary communication tool. It was designed to be user-friendly while providing accurate, timely information about all that's happening on the Hill. Our web address is www.bhisd.net.

Speaking of all that's happening, don't just stop at our district site! Webmaster Valerie Hull has been busy training campus webmasters in the use of slideshows, calendars, news items, and more. Visit your student's campus web page to find more detailed information specific to your school, such as Book Fair dates, or

how to participate in Fall Fest. Campus web pages are accessible from the district homepage, under the "Schools" tab up top.

Another communication tool new this year will be teacher web pages through My Big Campus. Through the site's Parent Portal and mobile app, parents will be able to communicate with teachers, view assignments and events, and monitor their child's grades and progress.

Finally, a new program set to roll out this fall will provide parents and guardians the option to receive emergency alerts from Barbers Hill ISD via text message. These alerts will be reserved for emergency situations, such as a Shelter in Place status at a campus, or sudden changes to dismissal procedure due to severe weather. Participation in the program would require that you "opt in" once an initial message is sent. Stay tuned for more information about the program in coming weeks!

FALL FEST 2013

OCTOBER 26
10 A.M. - 2 P.M.
BARBERS HILL BUS BARN

Join us for
Planning & Preparation
Fridays @ 9 a.m.
Kindergarten Center
PDC
Beginning Sept. 13

LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER

Welcome Back!

