

BARBERS HILL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

# BarbersHill

Fall 2016



**BARBERS HILL**  
Independent School District





**#BarbersHill** *Trending since 1929*

#### VISION STATEMENT

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

#### Barbers Hill ISD School Board

Benny May | President  
Becky Tice | Vice President  
Cynthia Erwin | Secretary  
George Barrera  
Jef Farrell  
Ron Mayfield  
Fred Skinner

#### Barbers Hill ISD Administration

Dr. Greg Poole  
*Superintendent*

Sandra Duree  
*Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction*

Stan Frazier  
*Assistant Superintendent of Planning and Operations*

Becky McManus  
*Assistant Superintendent of Finance*

Barbara Ponder  
*Assistant Superintendent of Personnel*

#### District Directors

Tom Westerberg | *Athletics*  
Carla Rabalais | *Communications*  
Becky Johnson | *Operations*  
Susan LeBlanc | *School Nutrition*  
Sue Garcia | *Special Services*  
Kristen Davis | *Technology*

cover:  
BH Primary School parent WatchDog Chad Cervi was a finalist in our district wide staff/student photo contest in May. WatchDogs is a volunteer program for dads in our KC and PS campuses.

## Dr. Greg Poole, *Superintendent*

### Cream Rises to the Top

I grew up in a family of educators in an era when education as a vocation paid just enough to get by. In fact, a luxury for my brother and me was a trip to Baskin Robbins Ice Cream in Bryan. As enticing as the flavor of the month was, I typically stayed true to my favorite... Pink Bubble Gum. I recall envisioning that the truly wealthy would likely come each day of the month to try each of the 31 flavors! Plain Vanilla sold the most, but momentous occasions produced trendy flavors such as Lunar Cheesecake and Beatles Nut. I've not been to Baskin Robbins lately, but surely they have a Social Media Sherbet.

Social media is a phenomenon with implications I am still trying to grasp. I resisted My Space, Facebook, and Instagram (before anyone feels compelled to educate me, yes, I realize those do not all serve the same purpose). The concept of social media seems counter-intuitive. It's not media in the traditional sense, and it seems anti-social at times, but there is no questioning its power as a tool for communication. There is also no questioning that Barbers Hill is and has been since its inception, the finest district in the State. BHISD is proud to communicate that message early and often, through both traditional and social media outlets.



Our Convocation theme is "#BarbersHill...Trending Since 1929"! Judging from the growth, it appears our district is as popular as vanilla ice cream! We are not a trendy new flavor, but we are trending in the social media sense. Be it student success or brand recognition, our presence is expanding at the state and national level. Even this summer, Barbers Hill set a state record for receiving the lowest rate on record for bonds that we sold at 2.61%. This equates to \$1.4 million in savings for taxpayers!

It is a rewarding feeling for our staff and students to take a superb district to even grander heights. We are trending onward and upward, but we will not lose sight of the plain vanilla concepts of pride, tradition and excellence that have been our successful ingredients since 1929.



*Dr. Poole and son Garner*

**Follow us on Twitter! @BarbersHillSoup, @BHISD, and every campus.**

## Open House!

High School	September 19, 2016	6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
MS North	September 20, 2016	6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
MS South	September 20, 2016	6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
ES North	October 4, 2016	6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
ES South	October 4, 2016	6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
Primary School	October 6, 2016	6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
Kindergarten Center	October 20, 2016	5:30 - 7:30 p.m.



# Celebrating Board President Benny May's 20 years of service

This summer was a milestone for BHISD Board of Trustees President Benny May, when he marked his 20th anniversary of service to the students, staff, and community of Barbers Hill.



"Benny has been in a leadership role in one of the most dynamic times in our district's history," said Superintendent Dr. Greg Poole. "Having the continuity of a stable Board is one of the key ingredients to keeping Barbers Hill 'Barbers Hill,' even in the midst of remarkable growth and change."

When May first began his service on the Board, he and his wife Lori, who serves as a counselor at BH Elementary North, had two small children, Myles and Makenzi, beginning their school years as Eagles. Today both children are BH grads and young adults.

Asked what first led him to run for a position on the BHISD School Board in 1996, May responded,

"I wanted to make a positive difference in the lives of children, and I wanted to do my part to ensure that our school district maintained the level of excellence that was already established many years before my time."

During May's 20 years of service, he has indeed continued that level of excellence through four bond programs, which all passed by large margins. May is also proud to say that even with recent bond programs, taxes have not been raised in Barbers Hill for more than a decade.

He has also served as a mentor and volunteer in the district, while working in a supervisory role at ExxonMobil in Mont Belvieu.

"I love being a part of the best school district in the state that truly believes in helping our students be successful," he said.



*"I wanted to make a positive difference in the lives of children, and I wanted to do my part to ensure that our school district maintained the level of excellence that was already established many years before my time."*

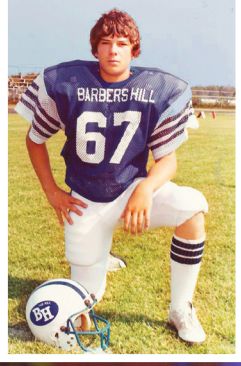
"This community is the backbone of BH, and their never-ending support, volunteer involvement, and the demand for excellence will help guide this district for decades to come."

In addition to May's service locally, he has also served on the Texas Association of School Boards' Board of Directors for the past nine years. This unique role has allowed him to see public education in Texas from a broader perspective.

"I've had the opportunity to be on the selection committee for Superintendent of the Year for the state of Texas (and am currently on this committee for the fourth time). I love learning about the successes as well as challenges of other districts around the state," he said. "God has blessed my family and me in many ways, and I feel that it's important that I continue to give back," May said. "Serving this community and the best school district in the state for over 20 years is a memory that I will cherish for a lifetime."



## Distinguished Alumnus Tony Sims



**Tony Sims, Barbers Hill's Distinguished Alumnus 2016**, is the current Chambers County Auditor, a leadership coach, and successful business owner. A graduate of the Class of 1983, Tony is also a 7th generation Texan and Barbers Hill native whose family tree includes Amos Barber. He is married to Lori Sims.

"When I think of Tony Sims, two things come immediately to mind," said BHISD Board member George Barrera. "Strong leadership, and the great feeling that a person like him is watching out for my tax dollars. To stand out as a strong leader in a county blessed with many strong leaders is really all that needs to be said, but added to that, he bleeds BLUE!"

Tony attended Sam Houston State University and Rice University Jones Graduate School of Management, and in 2014 became a Certified Public Manager. He has served as an elected and appointed county official since 2010. In addition, he is a speaker and leadership coach with the John Maxwell team and owns Coastal Refractory Services, Inc.

As a county official, Sims has greatly served BHISD and neighboring districts through his work on the Permanent School Fund Committee.

"Whether it be orchestrating leadership seminars, or fiscal management of county monies, Tony Sims is always striving to be part of the solution," said BH Superintendent Dr. Greg Poole. "His leadership has allowed BHISD to receive over \$5 million through the management of school resources."

For more on Tony Sims' service to our district and community, visit [bhisd.net](http://bhisd.net).



## Honorary Eagle Henry Adair



**BHISD's 2016 Honorary Eagle Henry Adair** has a lifelong tradition of public service to education and the community. He was born in Hunt County, Texas, in 1940 on a 40-acre cotton farm, and moved to Baytown as a youth. He graduated from Robert E. Lee High School in 1959.

As a teen, Adair hitchhiked to Sam Houston State University and walked on to the football team. He lettered three years and was named to the All-Conference team in 1961. Adair graduated from SHSU in 1963, with a B.S. degree in Physical Education and Industrial Arts.

Adair's primary area of business has been the storage, transport, and trading of hydrocarbons. He is the co-founder of Moss Bluff Storage Facility, and a builder and owner of pipelines.

"Henry Adair may be a Gander, but we claim him all the same!" said BHISD Superintendent Dr. Greg Poole. "Henry has served this community and school district through more than a dozen boards and elected positions. There are few folks that I can call on at any time, regardless of the situation, and know that help will be there. But Henry is one of those people."

Henry moved his family to Barbers Hill in 1981 for the great school system. Together, he and his wife Cynthia have 4 daughters: Jill, Alison, Heidi, and Angela.

A member of the BHISD School Board from 1987-1995 (five of those years as Board President), Adair served our district through the turbulent financial times when "Robin Hood" laws were initiated. Under Adair's skillful leadership, Barbers Hill remained strong.

For more on Henry Adair's service to our district and community, visit [bhisd.net](http://bhisd.net).



# Perfecting Attendance

#BarbersHill

Trending since 1929



Attendance has a significant impact on academic achievement. In other words, how often your child comes to school is closely related to success in school! In our research, we've discovered that the students who score at the top of their class also have great attendance. Attendance can impact grades, SAT and ACT scores, and STAAR results. For example, the average attendance rate of the top 10 seniors in BHHS last year was 99%. And the average attendance of the top 10 juniors at BHHS was 98.2%. This is compared to the overall HS attendance rate

of 96.69%. On the other hand, the average attendance rate of the bottom ten students is 92%. Clearly, there is a correlation between attendance and academic achievement.

We want your child to be in school every day so that he or she can be successful. You can help us maximize attendance by scheduling trips, vacations, and appointments on the days we are not in school. When your child is ill, we encourage you to keep him/her home. But as soon as possible, please bring them back to school. We want each and every child to be part of the great things happening in Barbers Hill!



## "A Note from TXDOT: Road construction on FM 565"

Construction at the intersection of FM 565-South and FM 3180 will continue through summer 2017. Lane closures while school is in session will be limited to between the hours of 9 am and 3 pm. The project consists of reconstructing the intersection of FM 565 and FM 3180 to provide additional turn lanes, to help relieve congestion and improve safety. Angel Brothers Enterprise, LTD., will perform the construction, with a contracted cost of \$6.4 million.

For more details, visit [bhisd.net](http://bhisd.net)





# #RFTB Ride for the Brand



## Meet Athletic Director Tom Westerberg



Coach Tom Westerberg joined the Barbers Hill family as new Athletic Director and Head Football Coach in January. He comes to us from Allen ISD, where he led the Allen Eagles to three state championships since 2012, a 57-game winning streak, and where he earned the title National Coach of the Year in 2014.

"It has been a blast coming into the Barbers Hill community," said Westerberg. "People have been so welcoming to our family. The small town atmosphere is exactly what we were looking for, and the students have been awesome."

Westerberg is joined by his wife, Sandra, and son Kyle, along with Kyle's wife Lindsay and two children. Tom and Sandra also have a son, Lance, who serves overseas in the military, and a daughter, Corri, who is a junior in college.

For the fall, Coach Westerberg knows that many fans will be eagerly watching for changes on the field of Eagle Stadium, and changes there will be.

"We'll have a whole new brand of football this year," he said. "We'll be snapping fast, throwing the ball, and stepping up the tempo."

"With every season, you practice a lot and try to put your athletes through situations similar to the real pressures of competition. I look forward to seeing what our kids can do this season under that pressure....to see if we did a good job coaching."

Westerberg is joined by new defensive coordinator Danny Cowgill, who comes to the Hill from Alabama, and new offensive coordinator Kyle Westerberg. The team will sport new uniforms this season and will be featured on a new scoreboard, which boasts a 24' x 44' video screen and comes to Barbers Hill through the generous contributions of Patients ER and Barbers Hill Bank.

Westerberg urges parents to get involved as much as possible in support of their student athletes, and then to sit back and enjoy the games.

Beyond Friday night lights, he encourages fans to come and witness another piece of history this winter when the first-ever Barbers Hill Varsity Soccer team bursts into action at Eagle Stadium.

## Coach Danny Cowgill Defensive Coordinator

**Raised in:** Miami, FL

### Graduated from:

High School: Nease HS, Class of 1992,  
College: Lenoir Rhyne  
University, Class of 1997

### Coaching History:

Interlachen HS - Interlachen, FL  
State University of New York - Canton, NY  
St. Augustine HS - St Augustine, FL  
Nease HS - Ponte Vedra, FL  
Foley HS - Foley, AL  
Daphne HS - Daphne, AL  
U.S. National Team Defensive Coordinator



*"I'm very excited to work in such a great community and school district!"*

**Family:** My wife's name is Sara, and we have a son, Will, who will be in 4<sup>th</sup> grade in Barbers Hill.

## Barbers Hill 2016 Varsity Home Football Games

8/19	Sterling (S)	5:30/7:30	(H)
9/2	Santa Fe	7:00	(H)
9/16	Kingwood Park*	7:00	(H)
9/30	Dayton*	7:00	(H)
10/14	Humble*(Homecoming)	7:00	(H)
10/28	Open		
11/4	Porter* (Parent Night)	7:00	(H)

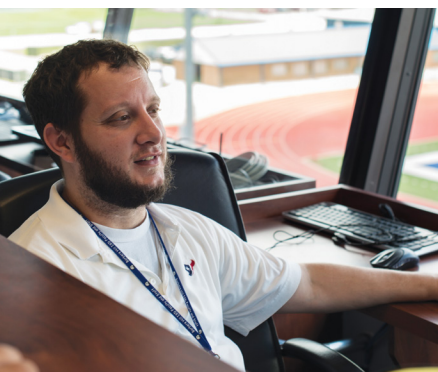
\*District Game

See [bhisd.net/Athletics](http://bhisd.net/Athletics) for all Fall sport





# Meet the Friday Night Lights Crew



Brett Parrish joins BHHS this year from Angleton ISD. Brett will lead our new audiovisual team of high school students, bringing Friday night football to a whole new level with live video, graphics, instant replay, and more on the new scoreboard in Eagle Stadium. On weekdays, Brett will be building an entire new A/V program for students at BHHS.

“My two main goals are to give the students as close to a real world experience as possible,”

said Parrish, “with experience shooting and editing videos, making graphics, and doing live productions. My second goal is for us to be a megaphone for our district. With so many great accomplishments both academically and athletically, we want to be able to showcase what our great students, faculty and staff are accomplishing.”

Brett’s resume sports a freelance athletics portfolio that includes regular work for the Houston Texans, Houston Astros, Houston Rockets, and for the upcoming SuperBowl LI to be held in Houston in February 2017.

“I’m extremely excited to join Barbers Hill ISD,” said Parrish. “It’s an honor to be part of such a great school district and very exciting to be able to build something from the ground up. I hope that my students and I will be able to start a program that will make the community and school district proud for years to come.”

Brett and his wife Ashley are parents to seven children ages 6 months to 9 years, including two sets of twins.



## Also joining the Friday Night Lights crew will be:



Brett Parrish  
AV Teacher



Lachele Stoek  
New Eaglettes Drill  
Team Coach



Amy Hightower  
New Varsity  
Cheerleader Coach



Andrew Kier  
New Assistant Band  
Director & Color  
Guard Coach



Ali Steadham Lide  
New Ag Teacher/FFA



Officer Doug Egbert  
Police Explorers Honor  
Guard Sponsor







## Charli Collier: Jr. Olympic athlete

Barbers Hill junior Charli Collier was selected in May to participate in the Junior Olympic FIBA Under-17 World Championship Basketball Tournament in Spain. Charli was one of 12 women athletes from around the U.S. to represent Team USA in the tournament.

Charli has been part of the Barbers Hill Lady Eagles Basketball team since her freshman year, and this year helped lead the Lady Eagles to the regional semifinals.

"Charli's potential is just unlimited," said Lady Eagles Basketball Coach Tri Danley. "She is the number one prospect in the nation right now, as an incoming junior. It's a privilege to coach her, and a privilege to have Charli in Barbers Hill," he said.

The USA team competed through the semifinal round of the world championship games, placing third, just behind Italy (2nd) and Australia (1st).

**When asked what's ahead for Charli in the next year, she replied,**  
*"The state championship! And that journey starts the first day of school."*

### Meet Head Boys Soccer Coach Brian Moore

**Raised in:** Houston

**Graduated from:** High School: St. Thomas HS,  
 College: Texas A&M - Commerce,  
 Bachelor's in Business Administration

**Coaching History:** 10 years in Allen ISD

**Assistant Soccer Coach:** Danny Cowgill

**Family:** My wife's name is Katie and we have two kids, Mason and Emmie. Mason will be starting Kindergarten this fall in BH.



**How do you feel about coaching BH's first-ever soccer teams?**

*It has been my goal to be a head coach, but to be able to come back to the Houston area and start a brand new program is a dream come true. I'm very excited about laying the foundation of what I believe will be a very successful soccer program in Barbers Hill!*

### Meet Head Girls Soccer Coach Kyle Westerberg

**Raised in:** Texas! As a coach's kid, I grew up all over the state.

**Graduated from:** High School: Allen HS,  
 College: Texas A&M - Commerce, Bachelor's in  
 Kinesiology

**Coaching History:** Bay City, Arlington  
 Sam Houston, Van Alstyne, and Allen HS

**Assistant Soccer Coach:** Meagan Lowery

**Family:** My wife's name is Lindsay and we have two kids, Parker, and Peyton. Parker will begin pre-school this year at Barbers Hill.



**How do you feel about coaching BH's first-ever girls soccer team?**

*I'm most excited about building a new program in Barbers Hill, and watching it grow from there.*

# Soccer comes to the Hill!





# Barbers Hill Education Foundation



Sandra Westerberg,  
Coordinator,  
BH Education Foundation



The BH Education Foundation last year was ranked #1 in the nation in assets per student, based on an annual study conducted by the research firm Dewey and Associates. At a current value of over \$13 million, the Foundation also ranked #3 in the nation for revenues per student, and is among the largest foundations in Texas.

The BHEF has awarded more than \$325,000 in grants to Barbers Hill teachers and staff for innovative learning projects that enhance student learning.



## BHHS ranks #23 in Houston

Barbers Hill High School scored an "A+" recently in the nonprofit Children at Risk annual study of school performance. Out of 171 high schools rated in the greater Houston area, BHHS was ranked #23. When compared statewide, BHHS ranked #68 out of 1159 high schools.

The most recent district-wide ranking in the same study took place in 2015, when Barbers Hill ISD as a whole ranked 28th out of 900 school districts.





# A Note from Personnel



Barbara Ponder  
*Assistant Superintendent  
of Personnel*

## Welcome Back!

As you all know.....we are growing! We will begin the year with 750 total employees! The Personnel Department has had a busy summer working with campus principals and directors to hire new staff members. There will be 40 new professionals, 12 new paraprofessionals, and 11 new auxiliary staff members joining the BH Family this school year. We welcome each of them and know they will quickly make a positive contribution to the success of our district. I also want to acknowledge our School Board Members for their continued support in allowing us to recruit and retain such outstanding candidates. I am so proud to be an Eagle, and I look forward to working with everyone during the upcoming school year.

**New Faces/New Places** Retirements and reorganizations led to both new and renewed positions throughout the district this summer. A few of our changes include:

### Director of Technology



Kristen Davis

### Principal Elementary School South

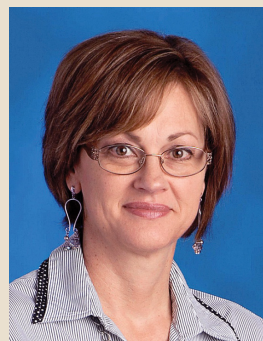


Elizabeth Filer

### Curriculum & Instruction Department



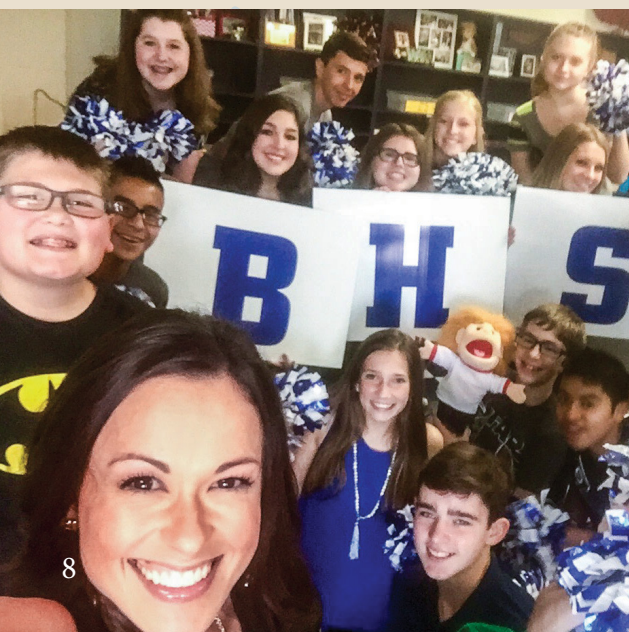
Julie Heffner  
*Director of Curriculum &  
Advanced Academics*



Linda Gerhart  
*State & Federal  
Programs Coordinator*



Stormy Thibodeaux  
*Math Curriculum  
Coordinator*



Natasha Holden  
*Assessment &  
Accountability Coordinator*



Kim Flores  
*C & I  
Administrative Assistant*







**#BarbersHill**

*Trending since 1929*

#### Assistant Principals



Doug Anderson  
*High School*



Shelley Deakle  
*High School*



Frankie Verner  
*Elementary School South*



Stephanie Farner  
*Primary School*

#### Academic Dean at Middle School South



Paula Jackson

#### Director of Choirs



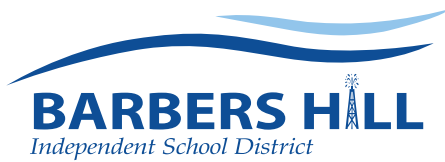
Nikki Thompson

#### Parent Text Alerts

Have you signed up for emergency text alerts? Go to Skyward Family Access and enter your cell numbers for emergency alerts.

Visit [bhisd.net](http://bhisd.net) or call 281.576.2221, ext. 1220. for details.





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