

BARBERS HILL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

# BarbersHill

Fall 2020



## 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 Administration

Dr. Greg Poole  
*Superintendent*

Sandra Duree  
*Deputy Superintendent*

Stan Frazier  
*Assistant Superintendent  
of Planning and Operations*

Becky McManus  
*Assistant Superintendent  
of Finance*

Barbara Ponder  
*Assistant Superintendent  
of Human Resources*

Sue Garcia  
*Assistant Superintendent  
of Special Services*

Kristen Davis  
*Assistant Superintendent  
of Technology*

### Directors

Tom Westerberg  
*Athletics*

Jami Navarre  
*Community Relations*

Becky Johnson  
*Operations*

Susan LeBlanc  
*School Nutrition*

Mandy Malone  
*Student Services*

### Barbers Hill ISD School Board

George Barrera  
*President*

Fred Skinner  
*Vice President*

Cynthia Erwin  
*Secretary*

Eric Davis

Benny May

Clint Pipes

Becky Tice



Dr. Greg Poole  
*Superintendent*

## The Voice Not Being Heard

I probably get asked more than any other Superintendent, “What makes your District so great?” Of course there are a multitude of reasons, and they center around the fact that BHISD doesn’t follow, but leads. Our response to this world-wide health crisis will hopefully give strong evidence to the leadership that sets our district apart! I am very aware that each day brings the news that another school district is modifying, altering or weakening their re-opening plan. It seems apparent to me that many decisions are being made for political reasons and that the MOST important aspect is being overlooked by many educational leaders. Kids should ALWAYS come first. BHISD is a child-centered district, and the one non-negotiable in our “Return to Excellence” re-opening is we will make no decision that lessens the best educational experience possible for our children.

Area Superintendents and the Harris County Judge are using safety as a rationale for delaying and/or only offering distance learning. This is in spite of the fact that the most recent guidelines by the CDC (Centers for Disease Control) emphasizes the need for in-person learning and the minimal risk the virus poses for children. The CDC report also spells out the many negative consequences including the safety of children NOT participating in traditional learning. The more viable safety concern regards adults and specifically adults who are identified as most vulnerable. BHISD Board of Trustees have ALWAYS prioritized the needs of our staff whether it be the highest teacher salaries in the state or the millions spent annually to enhance building safety. We know that we have many staff who are concerned about their own health and the health of those they love, and our overriding goal will be to prioritize the safety needs of our entire staff. We have spared no expense to provide the best safety protocol!

Regardless of the educational delivery platform chosen, we are committed to making it THE best. These are indeed trying times, yet we know that the most trying times can also become defining moments. Barbers Hill will continue to lead, keep the best interests of children as our guiding principal and... Excellence is not negotiable!

## INSIDE

Distinguished Alumni.... pg 2  
New Faces/New Places.... pg 3  
Athletic Awards.... pg 4

# Welcome Back To School!

## In-Person and Remote Learners

Barbers Hill ISD is committed to meeting the needs of our students, staff, and community as we welcome students both in person and online this fall. As we have planned this unique school year, our guiding principle has been to have a balanced, prescriptive approach to safely meet the needs of both staff and students, as well as the expectations of our community.

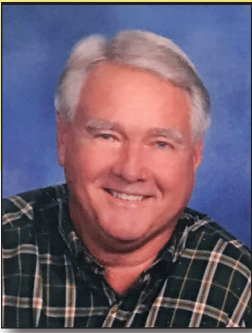
### Safety measures Barbers Hill ISD will implement this fall:

- 1** Face masks for all staff
- 2** Face shields for teachers
- 3** Hand sanitizer for classrooms and buses, as well as sanitation stations throughout campuses
- 4** One-to-one Plexiglas sneeze guards for desks district wide
- 5** Extra face masks for students who need replacements
- 6** Physical distancing reminder signage
- 7** New ID badges for every student that permit touch-free scans at lunch and libraries
- 8** Modified classroom arrangements to provide physical distancing
- 9** HVAC antiviral/antibacterial air purification systems for band halls, choir rooms, athletic areas, and special services
- 10** Additional playground awnings at elementary levels to permit more outdoor classroom activities
- 11** High touch points disinfected multiple times daily
- 12** Classrooms cleaned daily with hospital-grade disinfectant approved to kill COVID-19
- 13** Electrostatic sprayer backpacks and/or foggers with disinfectant used by custodial staff regularly throughout campuses
- 14** UV Lighting that destroys viruses and bacteria in athletic areas



Scan for  
School Supply Lists





## Joey Presnall

### Distinguished Alumnus

Joey Presnall has deep roots in Barbers Hill. One of his earliest memories is of riding a tractor with his dad, Joe F. Presnall, and being “turned loose” to drive it. He was six years old.

“Dad loved farming like everyone else enjoys hunting or fishing,” Presnall laughed. “When I got out of college, I started farming too, and I continued for the next 28 years.”

Presnall’s family farmed rice on more than 50 acres in the tiny township of Cove for decades, but growth in the area led to a change in focus after 2004. At that time, Presnall began using his well-honed tractor skills to help shape new housing developments in the community.

The elder Joe F. and his wife Nina (Welch) raised their three children, Carolyn, Sandy, and Joey, in the Barbers

Hill district, while Joe F. served on the BHISD School Board for 17 years. Presnall later continued the family tradition and served from 2003 to 2010, while his son, Joshua, attended BH. Josh now works as a teacher and coach in the district. Presnall’s wife Lori also served as a nurse in Barbers Hill from 1999 to 2009.

“I am honored to have grown up in the Barbers Hill school district,” said Presnall, a BH Class of 1971 graduate. “All my family has gone to Barbers Hill, and we have fond memories here. We

loved the Mayberry atmosphere of those early years,” he said.

The former school board member is also a graduate of Sam Houston State University, where he earned a Bachelor’s degree in Industrial Technology before returning to continue his family’s farming tradition.

“Barbers Hill has always, since long before I was born, tried to be the best they could be,” reflected Presnall. “That continues today, and it shows in the development of our community. Everybody wants the education for their children that Barbers Hill can provide.”

For more, visit [bhisd.net/Community/Distinguished-Alumni](http://bhisd.net/Community/Distinguished-Alumni)



Board member Joey Presnall awards son Josh his BH diploma in 2008.



## Heather Hawthorne

### Honorary Eagle

Chambers County Clerk Heather Hawthorne touches the lives of every person in Barbers Hill. Elected to the role of County Clerk since 2006, her office is responsible for marriage, birth, and

death certificates, five courts, probate, elections and land records.

A resident of West Chambers County for 20 years, Hawthorne moved to the area so her daughter could attend BH schools.

“Alexis started third grade at Barbers Hill, and she had an amazing experience in the Ag program, the Gifted and Talented program, on the Girls Basketball team, and many more organizations. The district gave her a strong foundation to continue on to the University of Texas and then to the Texas A&M School of Law,” said Hawthorne. “It was the best school district back then, and it’s the best school district today.”

As one of six children of a U.S. Marine who later joined the FBI, Hawthorne has lived in many places across the nation, graduating from high school in 1980 in Las Vegas, Nevada. She attended Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos, earning a Bachelor’s degree in Journalism/Public Relations, and then moved to mid-Chambers County before relocating to Barbers Hill.

“Barbers Hill’s greatest strength is its people, without a doubt,” said Hawthorne. “The leadership, the teachers, custodians, bus drivers, cafeteria staff – it is truly a team organization. I have never been to any event where someone hasn’t offered to help, with a smile.”

While growth continues in the district, Hawthorne appreciates the small-town feel it maintains.

“When TS Imelda struck our area and devastated east Chambers County, BHISD stepped up just like after Hurricane Harvey and offered whatever resources they had that could help. I hope we never lose that sense of community and willingness to help each other.”



Heather with her husband, Sheriff Brian Hawthorne, and grandson, Jack Jenkins.

For more, visit [bhisd.net/Community/Distinguished-Alumni](http://bhisd.net/Community/Distinguished-Alumni)

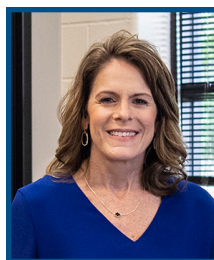
# Principals and Teachers of the Year



**Secondary Principal  
of the Year**  
Chloe Yowell  
*Middle School South*



**Secondary Teacher  
of the Year**  
Whitney Keene  
*Middle School South*



**Elementary Principal  
of the Year**  
Dr. Missy Barrington  
*Elementary School South*



**Elementary Teacher  
of the Year**  
Nicole Grisham  
*Early Childhood Center*



*BHISD App  
For Everyone*

## REAL TIME INFO FOR PARENTS & COMMUNITY

BHISD's messaging system for **parents** will transition to the **REMIND APP** this year. We have also developed a **NEW BHISD APP** for Apple and Android phones that permits real-time notifications and access to up-to-the-minute news, calendars, photos, campus info, and more. Download both in your app store today!



*BHISD Parent  
Communications*

## New Faces / New Places

Several leadership positions have new faces this year. Some have been Eagles for a while, some are new to the Hill. Welcome to all!



**Lisa  
Watkins**

*Principal  
Pre-K Center*



**Daniel  
Andrews**

*Principal  
ECC*



**Heron  
Thomas**

*Principal  
DAEP*



**Mandy  
Malone**

*Director of  
Student  
Services*



**Cliff  
Horn**

*Assistant  
Principal  
MSS*



**Stephanie  
Farner**

*Assistant  
Principal  
Pre-K Center*



**Josh  
Painter**

*Assistant  
Principal  
ECC*



**Casey  
Veen**

*Volleyball  
Head Coach  
High School*



**Cody  
Knight**

*Boys Track  
Head Coach  
High School*



**Kimberly  
Bryant**

*Swim Team  
Head Coach  
High School*

**124 New Eagles** *Welcome* to the largest-ever class of BH New Employees

# CONGRATULATIONS 2019-2020 EAGLE ATHLETES



**Eagle of  
the Year**  
Amy Buntin



**Eagle of  
the Year**  
Casey Collier



**Athletic  
Academic Award**  
London King

## DISTRICT TEAM CHAMPIONS



Volleyball  
District Champions  
Undefeated Season

Football

District Champions  
Undefeated Season

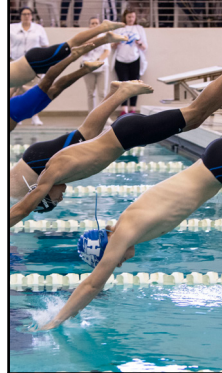
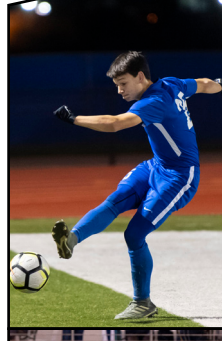


Team Tennis  
District Champions  
Undefeated Season

Girls Basketball  
District Champions  
Undefeated Season



Boys & Girls Cross Country  
District Champions



# Welcome to the Hill, BH Pre-K Center!

Barbers Hill ISD welcomes its 8th campus this fall with the opening of the Barbers Hill Pre-K Center. The campus will be led by Principal Lisa Watkins and will house both Tuition-based and Regular Pre-K classes. The campus was built in 1980 as an Intermediate campus, and later became an Elementary school. It most recently served as Barbers Hill Primary School from 2007 to 2019. This summer the campus underwent more than \$2 million in renovations in preparation for our new Eagle Class of 2034.



## Barbers Hill Education Foundation



Bragging is a pastime at Barbers Hill (I prefer to think if it's true, it's just stating facts!) Yet it is hard to not state facts about our Education Foundation without using superlatives. We have the largest endowment in our history, \$73.3 million, and we have reason to believe ours is the largest public school education foundation in the nation! We have distributed almost \$900,000 to teachers and students since our inception in 2009. Our foundation solely benefits BHISD, and it has returned close to 9% annually, providing an additional \$15 million in interest and returns.

Our Board of Directors includes George Barrera, Bob Moss, Wim Blokker, Benny May, Becky Tice, Calyn Wesson, Jimmy Sylvia, Jef Farrell, Becky McManus, Nathan Watkins, and Brad Widener.

The Barbers Hill Education Foundation will be benefitting this fine district when today's students' own children and grandchildren are able to enjoy our Tradition of Excellence.

*Executive Director Dr. Greg Poole*

### Every Child



### Deserves



### A Strong



### Foundation



[BarbersHillEF.org](http://BarbersHillEF.org)

[barbershillef@barbershillef.org](mailto:barbershillef@barbershillef.org)

281-576-2221 Ext. 1284

LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER

Barbers Hill Athletics schedules are being updated to reflect TEA and UIL responses to COVID-19. For up-to-date Sports schedules, visit [bhisd.net/athletics](http://bhisd.net/athletics), or for handy calendars and alerts, download the

**NEW BHISD APP**



available in Google Play and the Apple App Store.

*We look forward to welcoming our Eagle fans soon!*

