

BARBERS HILL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

# BarbersHill

Summer 2019

## Count On BH

BARBERS HILL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



## Barbers Hill ISD Administration

Dr. Greg Poole  
*Superintendent*

Sandra Duree  
*Deputy Superintendent  
and Curriculum and Instruction*

Stan Frazier  
*Assistant Superintendent  
of Planning and Operations*

Becky McManus  
*Assistant Superintendent  
of Finance*

Barbara Ponder  
*Assistant Superintendent  
of Personnel*

Sue Garcia  
*Assistant Superintendent  
of Special Services*

## Directors

Tom Westerberg | *Athletics*

Jami Navarre | *Community Relations*

Becky Johnson | *Operations*

Susan LeBlanc | *School Nutrition*

Kristen Davis | *Technology*

## 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

George Barrera | *President*

Fred Skinner | *Vice President*

Cynthia Erwin | *Secretary*

Eric Davis

Benny May

Clint Pipes

Becky Tice

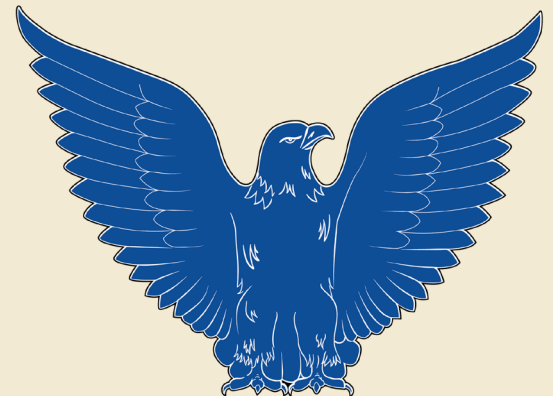


## Dr. Greg Poole, *Superintendent*

We are counting down the days to the 90th school year start for Barbers Hill Independent School District! Barbers Hill began as a Common School District in 1877 with a gift of land from Amos Barber, and a 48-0 vote produced our current Independent School District in 1929-30. The unanimous vote is indicative of the unequivocal support our community has always shown for public education, and in fact, voters have never voted down a school bond offering. It is safe to assume few, if any,

people associated with that inaugural Barbers Hill year are alive today, yet I'm confident our forefathers and foremothers would still recognize the essence of excellence that has truly characterized our school district since its inception. That excellence was recently displayed as our school board approved a state-leading teacher pay schedule that includes the first time in the history of Texas that a beginning teacher will make \$60,000. In fact, we can also brag that Barbers Hill leads the state in every year of experience in teacher pay because our Board of Trustees believes you pay the best to get the best. Barbers Hill has been bragging about our school district since practically its inception. A framed newspaper article in our administration lobby from June of 1937 is titled "Barbers Hill Brags of Having Finest Schools in the State!"

Our theme for this year's convocation refers to the dependable nature of Barbers Hill quality. Our driving goal is that taxpayers, students and staff will always be able to "Count On Excellence" and that Barbers Hill will continue to be a state leader. Our Education Foundation actually leads the nation with a total endowment of \$52 million and 100% of the proceeds will forever benefit Barbers Hill students. However, the real story of Barbers Hill is not dollar signs. Our district has always excelled because of a community that believes in excellent public education, and those expectations produce a staff and student body that are determined to achieve. For 90 years, people have been able to "count" on Barbers Hill ISD. We are committed to continue to substantiate that trust because, as Elizabeth Gill said first... We Can, We Will... We're Barbers Hill!



# WE CAN, WE WILL!

# BH Early Childhood Center

*New campus opens doors on Monday, August 19th*

The Barbers Hill Early Childhood Center, approved by voters in Bond 2017, will open its doors to students Pre-K through 1st grade this fall. The facility will welcome our youngest Eagles to Texas-themed corridors such as Bluebonnet Boulevard, Cactus Court, and Rodeo Ranch Road, as well as featuring state-of-the-art safety components.

The campus includes 93 classrooms and can accommodate up to 1400 students. This fall, Principal Lisa Watkins and Assistant Principal Ami Davis will lead 147 staff members as they welcome incoming students. To better accommodate parents who wish to bring their Pre-K to 1st grade students on the first day of school, and to allow teachers to put the finishing touches on their classrooms, the ECC **will open a few days after other campuses**. Grades 2-12 will begin school on August 15, but the Early Childhood Center will open to Pre-K, Kindergarten, and 1st grade students on **Monday, August 19**. See below for school start times and school supply information.



## New School Start Times 2019-2020

High School & Middle Schools 7:20 - 2:45

Elementary North and South 8:00 - 3:25

Early Childhood Center  
(Pre-K thru 1st Grade) 8:30 - 3:55

## School Supplies

For 2019-20 School Supply lists, please visit [bhisd.net/parents-students/school-supply-lists](http://bhisd.net/parents-students/school-supply-lists).

A new option is available this year (but not required) for parents who wish to purchase pre-packaged supplies from a third-party vendor. If you wish to purchase

pre-packaged supplies, visit <http://fund.school/bhisd>



## OPEN HOUSE DATES

High School	September 16	6:30-7:30pm
Elementary North	September 23	6:00-7:00pm
Elementary South	September 23	6:30-7:30pm
Middle North	September 30	6:00pm
Middle South	September 30	6:00pm

Early Childhood Center visit [bhisd.net](http://bhisd.net) for updates





# Paul Williams



## *Distinguished Alumnus*

One of Paul Williams' earliest memories of Barbers Hill is of riding his tricycle almost a mile to visit a friendly neighbor named Winfree, who taught young Paul to fish.

Today, nearly 80 years later, a choke still rises in Williams' throat as he describes the community he has called home all these years.

**“They gave me the blue shot a long time ago, and it still runs in my veins.” -Paul Williams**

A graduate of the Barbers Hill Class of 1955, Williams attended BH all 12 years, earned an Associate's Degree at Lee Junior College, served his country in the National Guard, then served Barbers Hill for 32 years as Justice of the Peace.

His children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren attend or graduated from Barbers Hill, and he still attends sports events throughout the year.

His memories on the Hill include teachers J.B. Gill, who taught math and later became the first mayor of Mont Belvieu. And Mrs. Green, who taught Geography so well, he could draw a world map and correctly place more than 200 points by the time he completed her class.

But perhaps his most special memories were played out in the small, grassy Eagle Stadium, where he earned All-District football titles for 3 years and played on the very first Regional Champion team in 1954.

For more of Paul Williams' BH memories and accomplishments, visit [bhisd.net/community/distinguished-alumni](http://bhisd.net/community/distinguished-alumni).



# Nathan Watkins



## *Honorary Eagle*

Former Barbers Hill student Nathan Watkins missed graduating as an Eagle by one year, but the community has welcomed the alumnus back in the pivotal role of Mont Belvieu City Manager. Under Watkins' leadership, the city is rising to meet the many

challenges posed by exponential growth and development, and Watkins stands as an important liaison between the city and school district.

Watkins' family moved to Barbers Hill in the mid-90s for his father's work at Enterprise Products, allowing him to attend school on the Hill from 6th to 11th grade. But when his dad's work required that they move to Louisiana for his senior year, he and his (now) wife Jessica McKeown kept in touch.

**“I always knew I'd be making my way back to Barbers Hill.” -Nathan Watkins**

Watkins entered the U.S. Navy where he served six years, reaching the rank of Special Boat Operator, 2nd Class. On his return to Texas, he earned a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of Houston, a Master's degree in Public Administration, and a Certificate of Public Leadership from Harvard.

Watkins has worked at the City of Mont Belvieu for nine years, now serving as City Manager. For more information on Watkins and his vision for the City, visit [bhisd.net/community/distinguished-alumni](http://bhisd.net/community/distinguished-alumni).





# Welcome New & Returning Board Members



Clint Pipes graduated from University of Houston - Clear Lake with a Bachelor of Science in Accounting. He has worked for LWL, Inc. for 31 years and has served as the VP/Controller for the past 15 years. LWL, Inc. is a general contracting firm that performs work in the petrochemical industry.



Cynthia Erwin is a graduate of Southwestern University with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing and Economics. She has been in the bio-tech pharmaceutical industry for 25 years and is employed at Walgreens Specialty Pharmacy as a Houston Account Manager.



Benny May earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Business from McNeese State University. He has been employed at ExxonMobil Mont Belvieu Plastics Plant for 31 years where he has worked as a Day First-line Supervisor for 20 years.



## Fee Free Initiative

Barbers Hill ISD will implement a Fee-Free initiative for the 2019-2020 school year. This proactive measure approved by the BHISD Board of Trustees recognizes the many financial obligations parents face in the modern age of rearing children.

“Many of us have our children participating in a multitude of out-of-school activities, most of which require significant expenditures,” said Superintendent Dr. Greg Poole. “Our school board feels that parents deserve core educational experiences that are free of charge.”

This initiative will include removal of educational agenda fees, district technology fees, elementary-level party fees and more.

“Certainly, parents will always have the right to financially supplement as they see fit, and there will still be enrichment opportunities that will require charges, but our goal is to provide financial relief to parents and guardians while ensuring that money is never the reason for a child’s non-participation in an activity,” said Poole.



## Education Foundation

The Barbers Hill Education Foundation, at a value of \$52 million and growing, is currently the largest education foundation in Texas and one of the largest in the U.S. Thanks to careful investing by the BHEF Board, our students will benefit today and tomorrow with new learning opportunities in grades Pre-K through 12!







**Sandra Duree**  
*Deputy Superintendent  
 and Curriculum &  
 Instruction*



**Sue Garcia**  
*Assistant  
 Superintendent of  
 Special Services*



**Jami Navarre**  
*Director of Community  
 Relations*

## New Faces/ New Places



**Michelle James**  
*Associate Director  
 of Language Arts  
 & Academic  
 Instruction*



**Christine Bruton**  
*Assessment &  
 Accountability  
 Coordinator*



**Mandy Malone**  
*Student Services  
 Coordinator*



**Alyssa Albus**  
*Academic Dean  
 Middle School  
 South*



**Bryan Harris**  
*Girls Athletic  
 Coordinator &  
 Head Coach Girls  
 Basketball*

## A Note From Personnel



**Barbara Ponder**  
*Assistant  
 Superintendent of  
 Personnel*

Welcome back, Eagles! We are excited to have everyone back as we kick off another year of exciting things on The Hill. Without a doubt, you can “Count On” Barbers Hill to provide a great place to work, with excellent salaries and benefits. We are grateful to our School Board for their continued support of our employees, and we are especially excited to open the new Early Childhood Center this year!

In 2019-20, we welcome our biggest hiring class with 107 new employees arriving in an exciting period of growth and expansion in our district. We will begin the year with 880 total employees...WOW! There will be 61 new professionals, 20 new paraprofessionals, and 26 auxiliary staff members joining the BH Family this school year. We are excited to have them here and can't wait to see the contributions they will provide to our continued success. The steadfast efforts of our teachers and staff, as well as the support of our community, truly make Barbers Hill a special place to be. This commitment is evident in everything we do.....and ensure that our children can “Count On” us to give our best! It is a great year to be an Eagle!

# COUNT ON LEADERSHIP



# Summer Camps

Barbers Hill Athletics Department hosted nine summer sports camps this year including soccer, golf, tennis, football, volleyball, baseball, softball and boys and girls basketball, in addition to a Strength and Conditioning program led by Performance Course. With nearly 1,500 student participants, the 2019-2020 summer camps saw an attendance spike of around 10% over last year's numbers. Eagles of all ages were encouraged to learn new skills, develop existing skills, and leave each day with a sense of growth and greater love for their sport. Helping students reach these goals were The Hill's very own coaching staff and Athletic Department alumni.



## COUNT ON



## Varsity Football Schedule

Thursday August 22 Scrimmage - Sterling - Home 7:00 p.m.  
Friday August 30 - Magnolia - Away 7:30 p.m.  
Friday September 6 - Montgomery - Home 7:30 p.m.  
Saturday September 14 - Kingwood Park - Away 6:00 p.m.  
Friday September 20 - Open  
Friday September 27 - Dayton - Home 7:30 p.m.  
Friday October 4 - Nederland - Away 7:30 p.m.  
Friday October 11 - Baytown Lee (Homecoming) - Home 7:30 p.m.  
Friday October 18 - Vidor - Away 7:30 p.m.  
Friday October 25 - Crosby - Home 7:30 p.m.  
Friday November 1 - Port Neches Groves - Away 7:30 p.m.  
Friday November 8 - Santa Fe (Senior Night) - Home 7:30 p.m.



**BARBERS HILL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

9600 Eagle Drive  
Mont Belvieu, TX 77523

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LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER



**BACK TO  
SCHOOL!**



*School Starts August 15*

*(BH Early Childhood Center  
starts August 19)*

