

# Latest Buzz

Weekly Superintendent Update for the Flour Bluff Community!

Friday, December 10, 2021 - Volume 2; Edition 19

## Velma Soliz-Garcia, Superintendent

These past two to three weeks, we have been attending district and campus events celebrating the success of our Hornets! We are so fortunate and blessed to serve such a wonderful community of caring and dedicated individuals! Our students, faculty, and staff have not only celebrated their accomplishments but have taken the time to give to others.

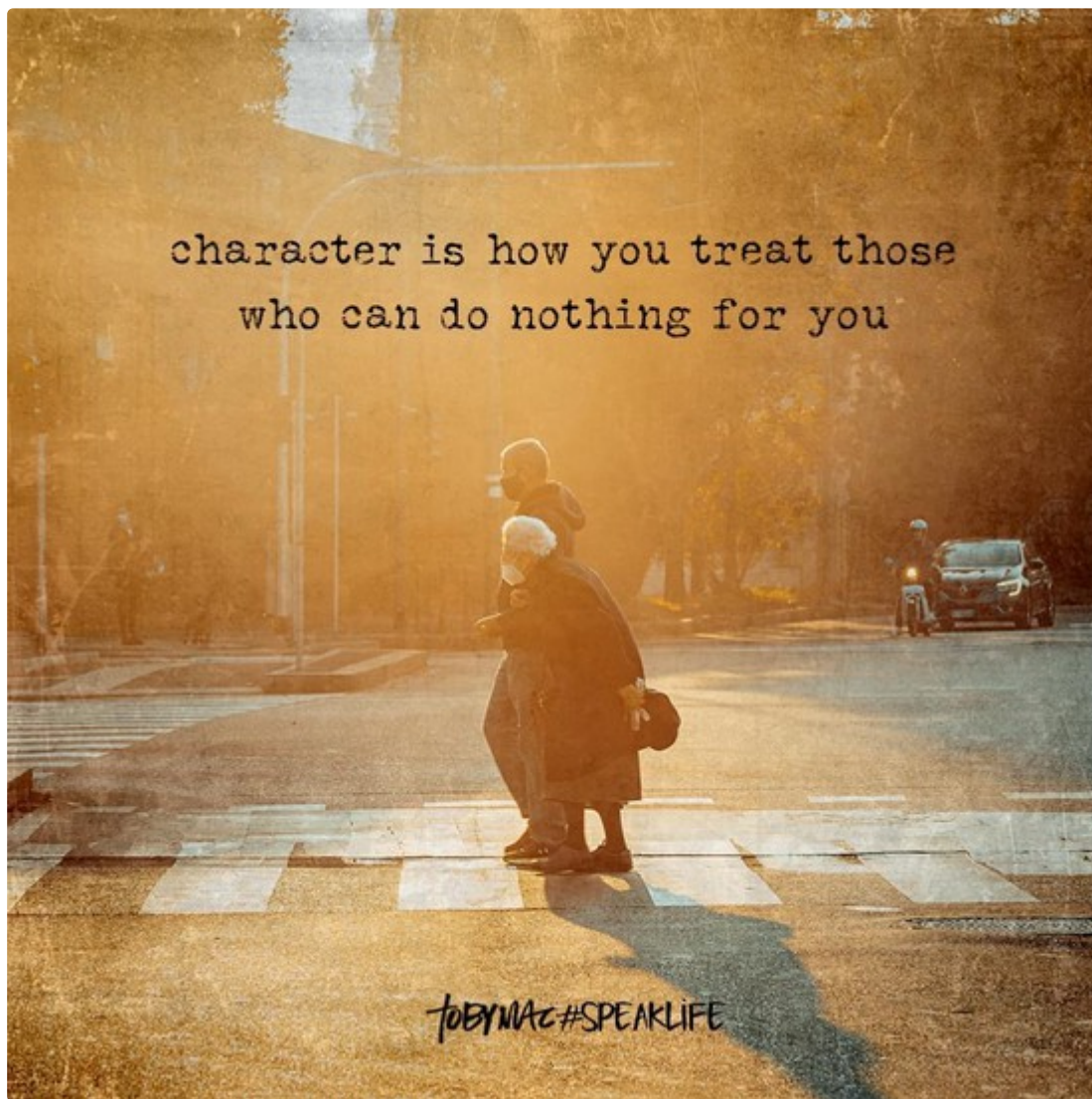
Many of our Hornets donated food, toys, and their time to ensure that several families in our community had what they needed for this holiday season. Several of our Hornets have displayed CPH (Class - Pride - Heart) daily, and many have added character to that list!

Yesterday as I visited campuses at dismissal, our Hornets were so excited carrying their bags full of goodies anticipating the upcoming break but a bit hesitant to leave their teachers. I heard many of them tell their teachers, "I love you!" and "I'll miss you!". It is proof of how imperative and powerful it is to foster that connection and continue to build those relationships with our students and their families.

I want to thank all members of our Hornet community for being there for our students, staff, faculty members, and administrators when they need it most! 2021 has been an excellent year for our Hornets! We have had many reasons to celebrate and even more reasons to be grateful! May you all have a restful and blessed holiday season!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! See you in 2022!

***Be safe & strong! Be committed! Bee a HORNET!***



## Hornets Donate to Coastal Bend Food Bank

Coastal Bend Food Bank (CBFB) notified FBISD Administration Friday, December 7, that the school district donated 7,767 pounds of food for the upcoming holiday distributions! The Coastal Bend Food Bank would like to extend its gratitude to our students, faculty, and staff for donating and volunteering their time to pick up the donations at each school to prepare for the delivery to CBFB! FBISD and Coastal Bend Food Bank would like to thank *2 Men and a Truck* for their assistance with the food delivery!

## Flour Bluff Learning Academy Celebrates two Graduations!

Flour Bluff ISD is excited to congratulate Ashton Whittaker and Hailey Mullican as they officially graduated from the Hornet Learning Academy at Flour Bluff High School!

This incredible program kicked off in 2021 as a drop-out prevention program. The Hornet Learning Academy provides a flexible school day program so that students who have dropped out or are at-risk of dropping out. They will also have the opportunity to walk the stage in May!

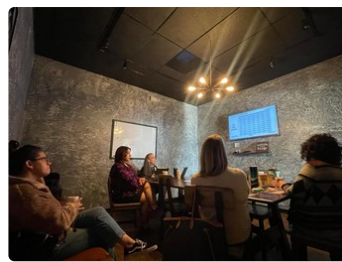
[#hornetstrong](https://twitter.com/hornetstrong)





## Listening & Learning Sessions with Superintendent Soliz-Garcia

Several Listening and Learning Sessions with Superintendent Soliz-Garcia were held the past month. Mrs. Soliz-Garcia has shared information regarding the state of the district and plans for future projects. One more session will be held at the Intermediate campus in January. The sessions are held at every campus and department each semester. In addition, three sessions are held for parents and community members. The next series of Listening & Learning Sessions will be held in April and May 2022. Thank you to all who attended and participated - your contribution is greatly appreciated!



## Flour Bluff Hornets Partnered with Coastal Bend Food Bank for latest Food Distribution!

Our Hornets helped distribute food to our community at the latest food distribution event held Thursday, December 16! The Lady Hornets Soccer team volunteered their time to help with the event. Thank you, Lady Hornets!



## Oceans Program welcomes more students to learn about our sea life at the Wetlands!

On Friday, December 10th, students from the Early Childhood Center and the Intermediate campus collaborated on a joint field trip to the wetlands. Ms. Azua's Kindergarten class combined with Ms. Doyle's Wetland Ambassadors at the FBISD Salt Water Wetlands. The 5th & 6th Grade Ambassadors

created and organized several different stations for the Kindergarten students to participate in, including kayaking, seining, and using binoculars. The field trip was a great success thanks to the efforts of Ms. Azua, Ms. Doyle, the ECC staff, Dr. Murgulet (professor at TAMUCC and Oceans Committee member), and the Wetland Ambassadors.



## Flour Bluff ISD will host several Academic UIL Meets for 2nd Grade through High School in 2022!

Flour Bluff ISD will host several Academic UIL Meets, for 2nd Grade through High School, which will occur on various dates throughout January, February, and March. The contest dates are as follows:

- High School District Cross Examination Debate: January 18, 2022
- 2nd through 8th Grade Project Based Art: January 25, 2022
- Jr. High One Act Play: February 5, 2022 (location - Tuloso-Midway)
- 2nd Grade through 8th Grade Academic Contest: February 12, 2022
- High School Zone One Act Play:
  - Zone A – March 5, 2022
  - Zone B – March 6, 2022
- High School District One Act Play: March 20, 2022
- High School Academic Contest: March 25-26, 2022

## Veterans of Foreign War Essay Contest recognizes Flour Bluff students!

On December 16th, three Junior High students were surprised with a monetary award for their essays titled "How Can I Be A Good American." This essay contest sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars is held each year at the local level. Representing The Veterans of Foreign Wars was NAS Military Liaison Joe Holder. First-place winners advance to the district level, and if they win at the district, they will advance to the state level. The first-place winner receiving \$150.00 was Emmarie Chapa, the second-place winner receiving \$100.00 was Mia Stannard, and the third-place winner receiving \$50.00 was Fernanda Mendoza. All students are in Mrs. Gilson's English class. Congratulations to these students who represented Flour Bluff Junior High.





## Junior High Choir brings Holiday joy to the campus

The Flour Bluff Junior High Choir went throughout the campus, singing Christmas songs and spreading warm wishes to all. The choir sang numerous Christmas songs such as "We Wish You A Merry Christmas," "Blue Christmas," and "Christmas Bells." The choir is under the direction of Mr. Perez. The choir wants to wish everyone a Merry Christmas!





## FBHS Julia Gilliam will be awarded the Student Hero Award on December 21!

Julia Gilliam, a rising senior at FBHS, has been awarded the State Board of Education (SBOE), District 2, Student Heroes Award. She is only one of 12 students to receive this prestigious award across the state.

The Student Heroes program recognizes Texas public school students in prekindergarten through high school who do an outstanding volunteer service that benefits their fellow students, schools, or communities.

Julia was selected for the Student Heroes Award for her work in creating and organizing the Nueces County Junior Livestock All-Star Show for special needs students.

Ruben Cortez, SBOE District 2 Member, will present the Student Heroes Award to Julia on Tuesday, December 21st, at the Flour Bluff High School basketball game at 1:30 PM!





## ECC Celebrates Perfect Attendance!

Our PTO is providing our students with attendance incentives each month! Students that had perfect attendance from December 1- December 14. Out of the 495 students on our campus, 287 had PERFECT ATTENDANCE for this time period!!!! Students enjoyed popcorn, candy canes, and music!



## Corpus Christi Area Texas Retired Teachers Association donates books to PreK

The Corpus Christi Area Texas Retired Teachers Association donated a free book to EVERY PreK student. TRTA president, and former FBISD Superintendent, Leroy DeHaven was here to distribute books. Other TRTA members present were Linda Holloway, Lee Holloway, and Eileen Rogers.





## Kinder students help others with Care Kits

During our Kinder Social Studies unit, we have been learning and discussing needs and wants. Our teachers and students had great discussions about the differences between what a person wants and what they need to live a safe and healthy life. We thought it would be a perfect opportunity for students to practice empathy and kindness by creating "Care Kits" to donate to Timon's Ministries this holiday season.

ECC is not only collecting for Timon's Ministries; they are also "Sharing Our Christmas" with the local Foodbank. Our ECC families are amazing and have the biggest hearts.





## Our principals help our students and our community!

ECC's Principal, Molli Martinez, represented our campus and district at the community La Posada Boat Parade on Friday, December 10th. During the same event, *Toys for Tots* also collected donations for our community!





**Schedule for Friday Night, December 10, 2021**

**5:00 pm:** Judges arrive at Cris and Chuck Forney's home,  
[REDACTED] A La Entrade Calle, for diner with Marines.  
Judges see Debbie Davenport, Judges host.

**5:00 pm:** Marines arrive at Forney home

**5:15-5:30 pm** Judges eat

**5:30-6:15** Marines have dinner

**6:15 pm:** Marines load onto Collector Boats

**7:00 pm:** Judges take seats and receive instructions

**7:00 pm:** Parade Starts

**8:30 pm:** Toys are off loaded to trucks to PIYC

*2021 Judges at this location are:*  
*Keith Clark, financial planner, Edwards Jones*  
*Molli Martinez, principal, Flour Bluff Early Childhood Center*  
*May Nardone, agent, Farmer's Insurance and Owner Mikel Mays*

## Flour Bluff Intermediate students bring Christmas cheer to the hallways!

Flour Bluff Intermediate:

The Intermediate KII Music students, under the direction of Ms. Marti Veith, decked the Intermediate hallways with holiday cheer, performing for our students and staff.



## Intermediate Band shines in holiday performance!

On Tuesday, December 14th, under the direction of Mrs. Virginia Vela-Hernandez, the Intermediate Band delivered an AMAZING holiday performance. Great job Intermediate Band. GO, BAND, GO!!!



## Assessment & Dyslexia Updates

[Assessment Information](#)



- The state selected some of our students to take the STAAR 2.0 Field Test between February 7-18, 2022. These students include:
  - 3rd-5th grade Spanish Reading & Language Arts (RLA)
  - 6th grade Reading & Language Arts
  - 8th grade Math
- Additionally, a sample of FBISD 9-year-olds will be selected to participate in the NAEP Assessment on February 2, 2022. Parents can find more information regarding this assessment [here](#).

### **Dyslexia Updates**

On September 4, 2021, the State Board of Education (SBOE) gave final approval to update the Dyslexia Handbook. The updated Dyslexia Handbook will go into effect in the coming weeks (20 days after filing as adopted with the Texas Register). As of today, the updates have not been filed with the Texas Register; information will be provided to the district once this occurs. For now, we will continue following our current processes and procedures for dyslexia referrals and testing.

Once the Dyslexia Handbook updates go into effect, we will have new procedures for evaluation. In the updated handbook, the sections on evaluation for dyslexia and dysgraphia have moved to a single pathway for identification under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). This change means that anytime we suspect a student has dyslexia or a related disorder and may need dyslexia intervention services, we must seek parental consent for a Full Individual Initial Evaluation (FIIE) under the IDEA. We must seek informed parental consent under the IDEA and include proper prior written notice, and be accompanied by the notice of procedural safeguards. Parents and guardians must be informed of the procedural protections and rights afforded to them and their child under the IDEA. Using a single pathway for the identification of dyslexia and related disorders ensures we will fulfill our child find obligations under the IDEA. The FBISD Dyslexia Teachers will continue to help evaluate for dyslexia in collaboration with our Diagnosticians and Licensed Specialists in School Psychology (LSSP) once the updates are filed with the Texas Register.

## UPDATES FROM HORNET ATHLETICS

### Sports Update: Go Hornets!

- Friday, December 17th
  - o Girls Basketball vs. King (9th 7:30 pm, JV 5:00 pm, Varsity 6:15 pm)
  - o Boys Basketball vs. King (9th 6:15 pm, JV 5:00 pm, Varsity 7:30 pm)

[Click Here for More Athletic News](#)

## COVID-19 UPDATE

### **COVID-19 Update**

The Flour Bluff ISD COVID-19 Testing Center reported from December 13 to December 16; they tested a total of 22 students and staff members at the FBISD Testina Center. The testina center reported no

positive case during this time. As of December 16, we have 2 active cases in the district. The cases are all students.

[Click here for the latest COVID-19 case numbers and other district data.](#)

To keep up to date on the latest information surrounding COVID-19, visit

<https://flourbluffschoools.net/coronavirus-covid-19-updates/>.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

December 20-31: Winter Break

January: School Board Recognition Month

January: National Mentoring Month

January 2022 : FBISD Community Advisory Committee- exact date to be determined

Time: 6:00 p.m.

January 3: Teacher Prep Day

January 4: Teacher Planning Day

January 4: Special-Called Board Meeting

January 5: 3rd Nine-Week Grading Period Begins

January 5: 4th Six Week Grading Period Begins

January 17: Martin Luther King Day

January 27: Board Meeting

### FBISD Calendar of Events

## Special-Called Meeting of the Flour Bluff ISD Board of Trustees

When

Tuesday, Jan. 4th 2022 at 6pm

Where

Central Office, Board Room



# Regular Meeting of the Flour Bluff ISD Board of Trustees

When

Thursday, Jan. 27th 2022 at 6pm

Where

Central Office, Board Room



## CONTACT INFO

 Facebook

 @FlourBluffISD

Please feel free to contact me if you have questions or need clarification on any items presented in the weekly publication of the Latest Buzz. Board, faculty, staff, and parents can reach me at 361.438.0160.

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