

Latest Buzz

Weekly Superintendent Update for the Flour Bluff Community!

Friday, January 7, 2022 - Volume 2; Edition 20

Velma Soliz-Garcia, Superintendent

Rise Above - What Lifts You?

Happy New Year - Welcome to 2022!

We are off and running into the second semester of the 2021-22 school year! The end of December and the beginning of January typically serve as a time for reflection, adjustment, and setting our sights on new goals or reaffirming our convictions.

Often, we set New Year's resolutions that we expect will give us quick results. Typically, with age or experience, we learn that setting realistic goals and attainable resolutions keep us focused on the finish line and success. It also helps when we have accountability partners! Accountability partners come from all walks of life - a spouse, a friend, a pastor, or a co-worker. They are there to lift us when we fall or praise us when we reach those benchmarks and goals.

These thoughts lead me to the following three points:

First, I often refer to the following Japanese proverb "Nana korib, ya oki" which means "Fall down seven times, stand up eight." Whatever you do, don't give up! Don't lose hope! Stand up after that fall and take that next step! Rise above!

Secondly, this month we celebrate a group of servant leaders in our community that always serve as our accountability partners and assist us to rise above and reach our goals - our Board Members! Thank you, Board, for all you do for our Hornets and our community! We (FBISD - Hornets) are who we are because of your leadership and guidance! We thank you for your continued support and vision for excellence and success and for helping us ... Rise Above!

Lastly, I'd like to recognize Ms. Lichtenberger and her Art students! They worked on this beautiful piece of art and reminded us that we all need to have someone or something that lifts us when we need it most! It serves as a great reminder to start this year!

Take care of yourselves and all aspects of your mental, spiritual, physical well-being. We need to be fit and ready to serve our Hornets! Then...Let's stay focused on those we are called to serve first - our children - the children of FBISD! Everything we do - let's stay focused on them! Let's do better and be better...for them!

May you be lifted to new heights and rise above in 2022!
TOGETHER...we can!

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

FB High School Art Students lift our spirits!

Ms. Lichtenberger and her Art students created and installed this beautiful piece of art that extends the work of artist Kelsey Montague. This project is the "What Lifts You?" theme shared around the nation. You can follow the collection by searching for @KelseyMontagueArt

#WhatLiftsYou

#FlourBluffHighSchool



Hornet Highlights!

We extend our gratitude to a fine group of employees that work so hard - many times behind the scenes - to beautify our facilities - our maintenance department, custodians, construction, and grounds crews! They work during the holidays, or school closures) and get many of the major projects completed. Thank you for your service and for being a member of our TEAM!





Flour Bluff Primary welcomes Joanna Breazeale as the 2nd grade Assistant Principal

Welcome, Mrs. Joanna Breazeale! Mrs. Breazeale is excited to serve the students and families of Flour Bluff Primary as the 2nd-grade Assistant Principal! She is in her 15th year in education. She comes to FBISD from Los Fresnos CISD, where she served as Assistant Principal and Instructional Officer at Dora Romero Elementary. Before that, Mrs. Breazeale served as a kindergarten teacher and music teacher at San Marcos CISD and Brownsville ISD. Mrs. Breazeale holds a Bachelor's and Master's Degree from Texas State University and is pursuing a Doctorate in Organizational Leadership at Abilene Christian University.



KRIS 6 News honors two great dads for the Angel Award!

Every month, KRIS 6 News honors someone in our community who has done something good for others.

John Valadez and Jason Mayne KRIS 6 Angels. Intermediate Principal Sal Alvarado nominated them. We were able to surprise them just before Christmas break. Both Jason and John were presented with a plaque from KRIS News, and the story ran on January 5th. To see the full story, click the link below:

<https://www.kristv.com/community/kris-6-angels/two-flour-bluff-intermediate-dads-stop-traffic-as-januarys-kris-6-angels>



FBISD student Julia Gilliam receives Student Hero Award

We are beyond proud of Julia Gilliam, who her wonderful family and friends joined as she received the 2021 Student Heroes Award for State Board of Education (SBOE) District 2!

We want to thank Ruben Cortez, the District 2 State Board of Education member, who presented the award today. We also want to thank our board President, Shirley Thornton, and Superintendent Velma Soliz-Garcia, for supporting Julia! We are so proud of you Julia, way to be a Hornet!



St. Andrews by the Sea Delivers Shoes to Flour Bluff ISD

Soles for Souls is a ministry at St. Andrews By the Sea. The students had a bake sale and received donations from church members. The students and Mrs. Cheryl Hooper bought the shoes on December 15 and then delivered them to Mrs. Savanna Bledsoe, the district Social Worker, on December 17. The administration will give 125 pairs of shoes to students in need throughout the district. The students have donated shoes for seven years, and Flour Bluff ISD is very thankful to receive this donation.



Honoring our School board this month!

In January, we will be our Flour Bluff ISD School Board!

Our board is made up of community members that serve students and represent their communities. January is known as School Board Recognition Month to honor those individuals who exemplify being Resilient, Ready, and Relentless for all of Flour Bluff ISD and their students. These last two years have been a testament to the student's abilities to adapt to their constantly changing environment and our school board members. They work diligently behind the scenes to make the educational experience the best it can be for our students in a time where normalcy isn't always accessible. They are extraordinary people who voluntarily tackle the enormous job of governing school districts and do so in a manner that illustrates what it means to be a true Hornet.

School board members come from all walks of life. They are former teachers, secretaries, doctors, lawyers, homemakers, architects, professors, business owners, and real estate agents, to name a few. While they all come from different backgrounds, these individuals come together on their school board with the common goal of helping students grow, learn, and enjoy their educational experiences.

Thank you to our school board for all you do!!!



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

FB High School Student collecting Teddy Bears for a great cause!

Flour Bluff High School Freshman Kaylie Kelley is collecting teddy bears for the Children's Advocacy Center of the Coastal Bend for a very special reason.

To help alleviate the anxiety of a strange new place to kids, Teddy bears are given after what could have been a traumatic forensic interview where they are asked to recall abuse. This project is near Kaylie's heart, and she is collecting teddy bears to continue to help kids that may encounter this situation.

Please help us help Kaylie by dropping off teddy bears at any of our school's front office areas. You can also drop off at the Coast Guard unit, Surfside Sandwich Shoppe, Buffalo Wings Company, and Scuttlebutts Bar and Grill! The deadline to get in new teddy bears is February 15th, so let's help Kaylie meet her goal of 1,000 teddy bears and continue to help so many kids!

We are so proud of you, Kaylie. We cannot wait to see our community come together to help you!

Teddy Drive

Benefitting the Children's Advocacy Center of the Coastal Bend

To help alleviate the anxiety of a strange new place to kids, they are given a stuffed animal after what could have been a traumatic forensic interview where they are asked to recall abuse.

Help us get 1,000 stuffed toys by Feb. 15th!

Teddy bears must be no smaller than 12 inches

Drop off boxes will be at entrances of Flour Bluff ISD Schools And the following: Coast Guard Unit, Surfside Sandwich Shoppe, Bluffalo Wings Company and Scuttlebutts Bar and Grill.

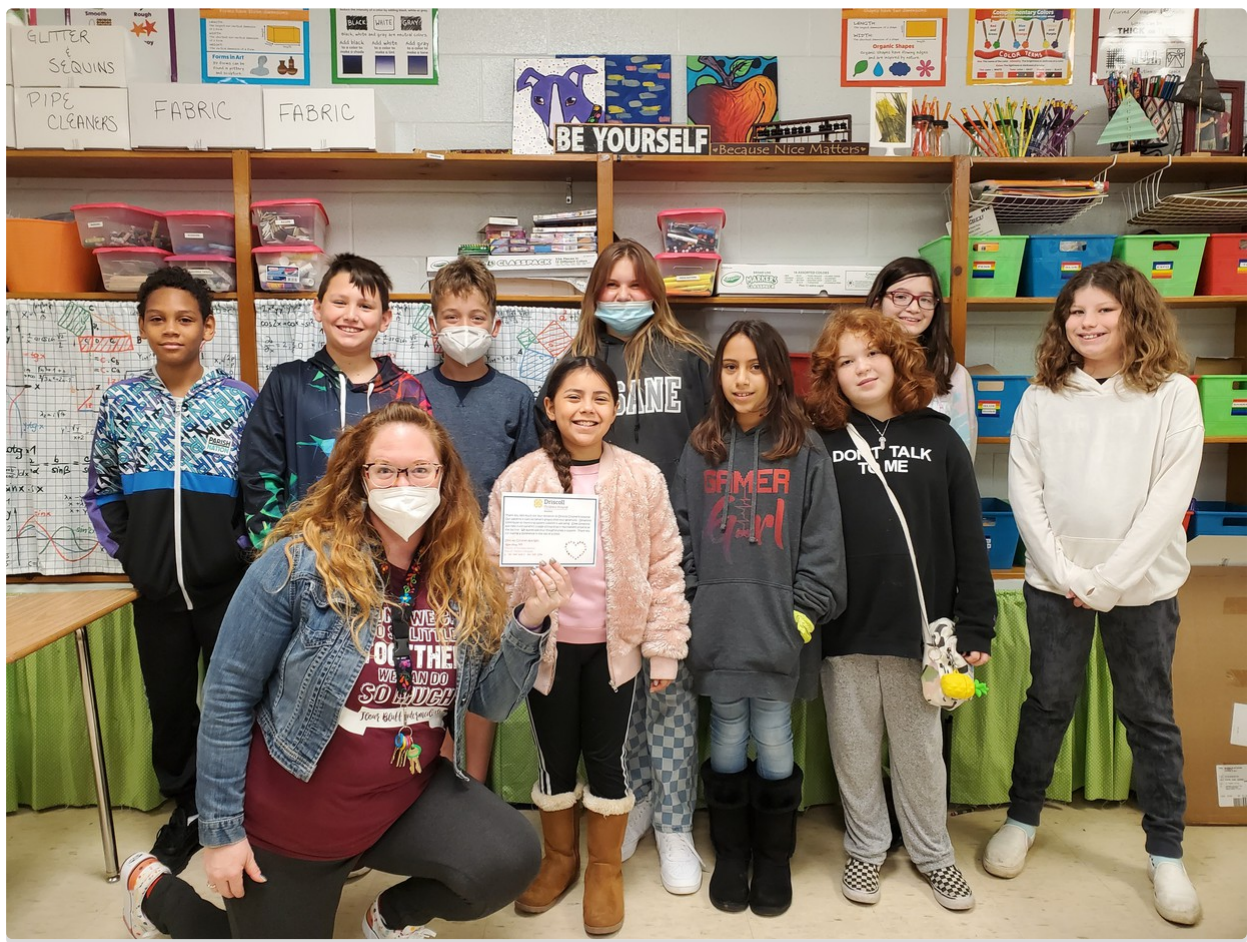


About me

My name is Kaylie Kelley, and I was a victim of sexual assault. For me, spreading awareness and helping others is what I feel I need to do to help the victims of sexual and physical assault in our community, come forward with their stories and feel safe at school and at home. For me receiving this stuffed animal was a symbol of when I finally felt safe and comfortable telling my story.

Intermediate art students send holiday cheer to Driscoll patients!

Mrs. Czar and her Intermediate art students created holiday greeting cards for patients at Driscoll Children's Hospital and delivered them over holidays to help spread cheer Way to go, Hornets! 😊



Assessment & Dyslexia Updates

Curriculum & Instruction - Nicole White, Executive Director of Curriculum & Instruction

UIL Academic Meets

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

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](#).

On September 4, 2021, the State Board of Education (SBOE) gave final approval for updates to 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 a proper prior written notice, and be accompanied by the notice of procedural safeguards. It is critical that parents and guardians are informed of the procedural protections and rights afforded to them and their children 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!

January 11: Boys basketball at Victoria West (9th 5:00 pm, JV 5:00 pm, Varsity 6:30 pm)
January 11: Girls Basketball home vs Victoria West 9th (5:00 pm, JV 5:00 pm, Varsity 6:30 pm)
January 13th - January 15th : Varsity Boys and Girls Soccer at the CCISD tournament
January 14: Boys basketball at Gregory Portland (9th 6:15pm JV 5:00 pm Varsity 7:30pm), Girls Basketball home vs Victoria East (9th 5:00pm JV 5:00 pm Varsity 6:30pm) , First day of softball practice

[Click Here for More Athletic News](#)

COVID-19 UPDATE

COVID-19 Update

COVID-19 Update

The Flour Bluff ISD COVID-19 Testing Center reported from January 3 to January 6, they tested a total of 225 students and staff members at the FBISD Testing Center. The testing center reported 44 positive cases during this time. As of January 6, we have 81 active cases in the district.

[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/>.

UPCOMING EVENTS

January: School Board Recognition Month

January: National Mentoring Month

January 18: Special-Called Meeting Budget & Facilities Workshop

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, 6pm

Where

Central Office, Board Room

Regular Meeting of the Flour Bluff ISD Board of Trustees

When

Thursday, Jan. 27th, 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.

 vsolizgarcia@flourbluffschoo...

 (361)694-9205 (361)438-0160

 flourbluffschoo...

