

# Latest Buzz

Weekly Superintendent Update for Flour Bluff ISD

The Premier District in Texas! Welcome to Hornet Country!

Friday, March 4, 2022 - Volume 2; Edition 28

## Greetings from Superintendent, Velma Soliz-Garcia!

Happy Texas Public Schools Week! This week was the week for our Hornets to SHINE! Our students had a great week performing and presenting their work to their parents! Every Open House Event across the district drew a large crowd! It was quite a sight to see!

This week was also when our campuses announced the 2022 Teacher and Paraprofessional of the Year. Our Hornet educators all deserve this recognition, but they take this process very seriously as they nominate one of their peers to represent their respective campus and, ultimately, our profession. Congratulations to all distinguished winners! We are so proud of you and wish you luck as you proceed to the next level! (See campus finalists in this publication!)

Have a great weekend, and enjoy this week's publication of the Latest Buzz! Spring Break is just around the corner! Our Hornet Scholars have eight Fridays to attend before promotion to the next grade level or graduation! Take advantage of every minute, Hornets! #SWARM

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

Congratulations to our FBISD 2022 Teachers and Paraprofessionals of the Year!

ECC PK - K Campus

Ann Lowery - Teacher of the Year



Cheryl Jackson - Paraprofessional of the Year





Primary 1 - 2 Campus

Karleen Pape- Teacher of the Year





Jennifer McCormick- Paraprofessional of the Year





Elementary 3 - 4 Campus

Shannon Gusler- Teacher of the Year





Mardi Harms - Paraprofessional of the Year





Intermediate 5 - 6 Campus

Katie Doyle - Teacher of the Year



Devin Story - Paraprofessional of the Year





Junior High 7 - 8 Campus

Nancy Pacheco - Teacher of the Year



Tracie Henderson - Paraprofessional of the Year





High School 9 - 12 Campus

Ali Hutchinson - Teacher of the Year



## Kittie Weaver - Paraprofessional of the Year



## CO-OP Program Awards More Than \$2 Million in Grants to Texas Communities, including FBISD

Community Outdoor Outreach Program (CO-OP) recently announced the winners of their grant awards totaling over **2 million dollars**. Flour Bluff ISD's very own Ocean's Program has been awarded **\$59,389.00!**

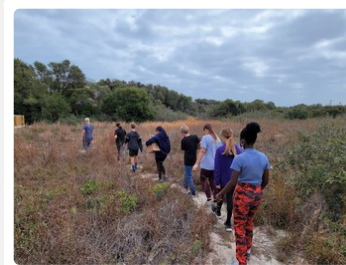
The Oceans Program increases existing wetland education programs to provide more students with experiential, TEKS-based environmental science lessons and recreational activities such as kayaking, fishing, and bird watching. TPWD's Aquatic Science curriculum is used to create a water quality monitoring program on the district's wetland sites and field trips to TPWD's Marine Center and Redhead Wildlife Management Area.

CO-OP grant recipients include churches, conservation groups, nature centers, non-profit organizations, school districts, and municipalities. Funded projects range from physical education classes focused on mountain biking at Franklin Mountains State Park to wheelchair-adapted vessels on the Laguna Madre Bay and Spanish language programs educating residents about the health of creeks and streams.

From all of us here at Flour Bluff ISD, we are elated and so very proud of the hard work and dedication put forth by our Ocean's Committee that continues to pave the way for our Hornets.

Together We Can!





## Junior High Band participates at the Region 14 UIL Middle School & Junior High Band Concert & Sight-Reading Contest

Tuesday, March 1st, our Flour Bluff Junior High Bands participated at the Region 14 UIL MS/JH Band Concert & Sightreading Evaluation (contest). Flour Bluff Junior High was the *only school* with bands competing at all three classifications – Sub Non-Varsity, Non-Varsity, and Varsity (over 120 FBJH Band students participating in UIL C&SR).

After many weeks of hard work, we are excited to announce the following results:

FBJH Concert Sub Non-Varsity Band – **Superior (straight 1's)** ratings in Concert & **Superior (straight 1's)** in Sight-Reading

FBJH Symphonic Non-Varsity Band – **Superior (overall 1)** rating in Concert & **Superior (straight 1's)** in Sight-Reading

FBJH Honors Varsity Band - **Superior (straight 1's)** ratings in Concert & **Superior (straight 1's)** in Sight-Reading

This is the first time in MANY years that all three Junior High bands have made an overall Superior Rating!! Ms. Briley and Mr. Sorrows are beyond proud of all our remarkable band students for their accomplishments and performances today! Please congratulate these FINE musicians when you see them.

Go, Band, Go!!!





## Official Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony for Ready, Set, Go Program!

On Monday, February 28th, staff, community, and local media joined Flour Bluff ISD for the Ready, Set, Go program ribbon-cutting event!

The Ready, Set, Go Transition Program provides students with disabilities, ages 17-21, transition-focused services including vocational/employability skills and the daily living skills these students



require. The program will offer these services in the community setting or a classroom/simulated home environment.

Students of the program lead the tours inside of the program's classroom and then the Spirit shop next to the public information office. The Spirit Shop will officially transition to online shopping for our parents and community. The shop itself will now be utilized as an extension of the Ready, Set, Go program, allowing the students to use this area for real-life job training, including folding clothes, cleaning, fulfilling orders, and more. To shop online at the Spirit Shop, head to <https://hornetspiritshop.net/>



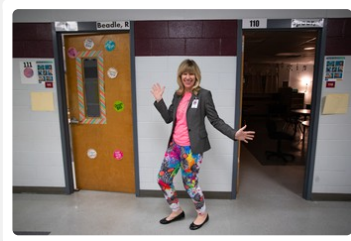
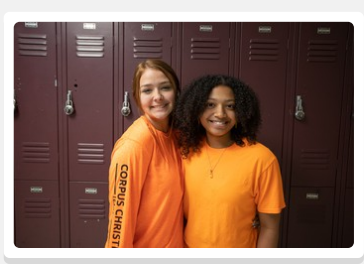
## Texas Public Schools Week engages students, parents, and our community!

February 28-March 4 was a week to celebrate Texas Public Schools Week at Flour Bluff ISD! This week was an excellent chance to highlight the outstanding work in our public schools each day and the educational opportunities available to our Hornets.

Parents, students, families, and the Hornet community were able to visit our campuses during their Open House events this week to see firsthand the great things happening in Flour Bluff ISD and how students are preparing for their futures.

This week was also a chance to have fun while learning at all campuses! Whether it was neon day, wearing your favorite Texas gear, celebrating Dr. Seuss, and celebrating Texas Independence Day - this week showcased our incredible campuses and all of the great things happening here at Hornet Country!

We want to thank our educators who worked so hard to make this week special and engaging to our students!







## Elementary Fun Run brings some fun in the sun as we finish Texas Public Schools Week!

Flour Bluff ISD wrapped up Texas Public Schools Week with the Fun Run. The Fun Run is a fundraiser that the Elementary campus puts on to raise funds for the PTO. The PTO helps raise funds for playground and recess equipment and classroom technology. We are excited to announce that the Elementary campus raised \$50,000 in pledges!

The sun was out, as well as those smiles! Way to go, Hornets!!

[#togetherwecan](#)



Our awesome Fun Run shirts were sponsored by the following local business! Each of our students received a free shirt that were used to marked their laps!





## Intermediate Campus Choir WOWS Parents and Community at Open House!

Under the direction of Mrs. Lori Dow, the Intermediate Choir gave a FANTASTIC performance as part of the festivities during Open House.

The Intermediate Choir ROCKS!!!





## March Forth! Happy National Band Day!

Friday, March 4th is National Band Day, so we are reminded to MARCH 4th! This afternoon, Whataburger, located in Flour Bluff, came to the Band Hall to Present to our Band Director, Einar Phillips, \$500.00 in Whataburger gift cards and snacks for the band!

Our band continues to do great things, and on National Band Day, we want to celebrate them and thank Whataburger for their wonderful gift!







## Visual Arts Scholastic Event takes place with 6 Hornets advancing to State!

VASE (Visual Art Scholastic Event) took place Saturday, Feb. 26th. Flour Bluff High School Campus had 34 Art Students receive medals with over 50 works of art receiving a Superior Rating 4 (the highest rating). Only twenty-eight works of art from our Region advanced to State. The State competition will take place in late April.

Students Advancing to State are:

Lauren Balbin - 12th Grade  
Kyleigh Batchan - 11th Grade  
Carter Blanchette - 11th Grade  
Madison Gianotti - 10th Grade  
Isabel Holland - 11th Grade  
Maria McDonel - 10th Grade

"Art washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life." - Pablo Picasso





Title: 46 and 2  
Name: Lauren Balbin  
Grade: 12



Title: My Garden of Beauty  
Name: Kyleigh Batchan  
Grade: 11

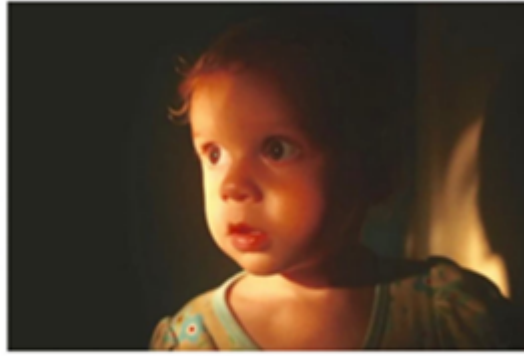


Title: Awakening of the Drone  
Name: Carter Blanchette  
Grade: 11



Title: Morning Coffee  
Name: Madison Gionotti  
Grade: 10





**Title: Innocence**  
**Name: Isabel Holland**  
**Grade: 11**



**Title: Aequoreal**  
**Name: Maria McDonel**  
**Grade: 10**

## SDGC Campus prepares for Largest Graduation Thursday, March 10th!

Flour Bluff Hornet Learning Academy is proud to announce another successful Hornet, Aleck Whitenton has completed his credits for graduation this week.

This coming week we will have our largest graduation celebration held this year, celebrating 5 FBHS students who have completed their graduation requirements. A graduation ceremony will be held on Thursday, March 10 at 10:00 AM in the Flour Bluff High School Teaching Theater. Go Hornets!!!!



## Integrated Oceans Program announces Grant Award and Spotlights Stephanie Huckabee!

In November, the Integrated Oceans Committee, comprised of Flour Bluff ISD staff and community members, submitted a grant through The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's (TPWD) Community Outdoor Outreach Program (CO-OP). This past week, the FBISD Oceans Committee received word the proposed project was fully funded at \$59,389!

The Oceans Program project will increase existing wetland education programs to provide more students with experiential, TEKS-based environmental science lessons and recreational activities such as kayaking, fishing, and bird watching. The Integrated Oceans Program will use TPWD's Aquatic Science curriculum to create a water quality monitoring program on the district's wetland sites and support field trips to TPWD's Marine Center and Redhead Wildlife Management Area. Special thanks to our FBISD teachers- Stephanie Huckabee, Steven Dial, Katie Doyle, Marisa Flores, FBISD Curriculum Supervisor- Jennifer Norman, TAMUCC Community Partners- Dr. Larissa Ford, and Dr. Dorina Murgulet, for their knowledge, time, and effort in writing this grant! Congratulations to the Oceans Committee!

Additionally, the Intermediate Oceans Program has been awarded another grant! This grant will expand the partnership between the Flour Bluff Intermediate Oceans Program and the Texas A & M- Corpus Christi Whale and Dolphins Program. At the end of the grant, FB Intermediate should have a doctoral thesis written on fostering a school-university relationship.

Furthermore, the Aquatic Science class at the High School completed day one of their trip to Texas A&M's Floating classroom. The course is led by Stephanie Huckabee, who has taught in Flour Bluff ISD for 10+ years. Ms. Huckabee serves on the district's Integrated Oceans Committee and plays an integral role in enhancing our Oceans program. She has won several grants and continually seeks out



partnerships with the community to improve the Aquatic Science class at Flour Bluff High School. Her expertise has been instrumental in making our Oceans program a success.

Ms. Huckabee secured a grant through Texas A&M College Station funded through the EPA and NOAA on Ocean Acidification. Students participated in several demonstrations that showed the importance of studying and finding ways to combat ocean acidification. Students then got to contribute data to the EPA/NOAA studies on how it affects the local bays and estuaries with various tests. Besides collecting pH, temperature, turbidity, salinity, and a few other water parameters, students collected plankton and recorded the variety of animal life accumulated in the trawl nets.



## Ocean Student Ambassadors lead the way in preserving our environment!

Earlier this week, Ocean Student Ambassador members had a great time planting seeds at the Redhead Pond Wildlife Area. Thank you for doing such a fantastic job helping cultivate and preserve our environment.

GO HORNETS!!!



## Flour Bluff ISD Dyslexia Spotlight

### Maggie King continues to mentor and encourage FBISD educators!

Maggie King is an FBISD Dyslexia Teacher, serving both the Intermediate and Jr. High campuses. She is one of our most veteran dyslexia teachers and provides a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the dyslexia team.

Maggie has mentored several FBISD teachers over the years, always willing to help guide them with dyslexia/dysgraphia evaluation and our dyslexia program, *Reading by Design*. Furthermore, Maggie recently supported the Primary campus by testing some of our first-grade students needing evaluation. We are fortunate to have such an experienced, supportive teacher in FBISD! Thank you, Maggie, for your commitment to our students!





## Assessment & Academics

### Assessment Information

- Upcoming Assessment Dates:
  - TELPAS/TELPAS Alt
    - February 21 - April 1, 2022
  - STAAR Alt
    - Preview Window: March 14 - April 29, 2022
    - Assessment Window: March 28 - April 29, 2022
  - STAAR
    - April Assessments
      - English I (paper & online): April 5, 2022
      - English II (paper & online): April 7, 2022
    - May Assessments
      - Algebra I, Biology & US History (paper): May 3 - May 6, 2022
      - Algebra I, Biology & US History (online): May 3 - May 13, 2022
      - 8th Science (paper): May 5, 2022
      - 8th Science (online): May 5 - May 20, 2022
      - 8th Social Studies (paper): May 6, 2022
      - 8th Social Studies (online): May 6 - May 20, 2022
      - 3-8 Math (paper): May 10, 2022
      - 3-8 Reading (paper): May 11, 2022
      - 5th Science (paper): May 12, 2022
      - 3-8 Math, Reading & 5th Science (online): May 10 - May 20, 2022
    - June Assessments

- English I (paper & online): June 21, 2022
- English II (paper & online): June 23, 2022
- Algebra I, Biology, US History (paper): June 21 - July 2, 2022
- Algebra I, Biology, US History (online): June 21 - July 1, 2022

## Upcoming Academic UIL Meets - FBHS

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 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

## UPDATES FROM HORNET ATHLETICS

### Flour Bluff Athletics March 7 – March 12

#### **Monday March 7 –**

- JV girls soccer at Moody 6:00 pm
- JV Boys Soccer at Moody 7:30 pm
- Freshman baseball vs Victoria East 4:30 pm Hornet Field
- JV Baseball vs Victoria East 6:30 pm Hornet Field

#### **Tuesday March 8 –**

- Varsity Boys Soccer at Moody 6:00 pm Cabaniss Field
- Varsity Girls Soccer at Moody 8:00 pm Cabaniss Field
- Softball vs Victoria East (JV 5:00 pm, Varsity 6:30 pm) Victoria Softball Complex
- Varsity Baseball at Victoria East 7:00 pm Riverside Stadium

#### **Tournament games**

- *Baseball Flour Bluff ISD tournament (Mar 10-12)*

#### **Thursday March 10 -**

- Flour Bluff Spring Break madness tournament 8:00 am

#### **Friday March 11 –**

- Softball vs Gregory Portland (JV 5:00 pm, Varsity 6:30 pm) Hornet Softball Complex
- Track Flour Bluff Intercoastal relays

#### **Saturday March 12 -**

- Varsity Boys Soccer vs Carroll Varsity 11:00 am
- Varsity Girls Soccer vs Carroll 1:00 pm
- JV Softball vs Ray 10:00 am Ray HS
- Varsity Softball vs Ray 12:00 pm Cabaniss Field

### Flour Bluff Athletics March 14 – March 19 (Spring Break)

**Tuesday March 14**



JV girls soccer at Victoria East 11:00 am

JV Boys Soccer at Victoria East 12:30 pm

Varsity Boys Soccer vs. Victoria East 11:00 am Victoria Memorial Stadium

Varsity Girls Soccer vs. Victoria East 1:00 pm Victoria Memorial Stadium

Varsity Baseball vs. Gregory Portland 8:00 pm at Corpus Christi Hooks' Whataburger Field

#### **Tuesday, March 15 –**

JV Baseball 6:00 pm at Gregory Portland

Freshman Baseball 6:00 pm Hornet Field

#### **Wednesday, March 16 –**

Varsity Softball vs. Veterans Memorial 4:00 pm Cabaniss Stadium

JV Softball at Veterans Memorial 2:00 pm

#### **Friday, March 18 –**

Varsity Softball vs. Carroll 2:00 pm Cabaniss Stadium

JV Softball at Carroll 11:00 am Carroll

Baseball vs. Ray 7:00 pm Hornet Field

#### **Saturday, March 19 –**

Baseball vs. Calallen 2:00 pm Wildcat Field

JV Baseball vs. Ray 10:00 am and 12:00 pm Hornet Field

Freshman Baseball vs. Ray 10:00 am and 12:00 pm Ray HS

## Sports Update: Go Hornets!

[Click Here for More Athletic News](#)

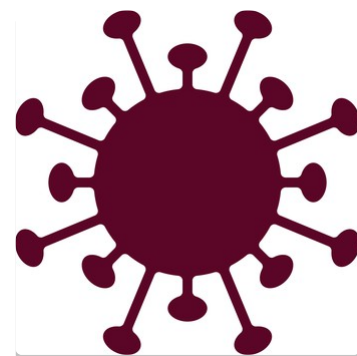
## COVID-19 UPDATE

### COVID-19 Update

The Flour Bluff ISD COVID-19 Testing Center reported from February 25 to March 3, they tested a total of 9 students and staff members at the FBISD Testing Center. The testing center reported 0 positive cases during this time. As of March 3, we have 3 active student 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

March 5: Flour Bluff Junior High One Act Play Perform "The Chicago Gypsies" at 4:00 p.m. Auditorium

March 11: Teacher Planning Day/Student Holiday

March 14-18: Spring Break

# SOCIAL MEDIA



## FACEBOOK

### FLOUR BLUFF ISD

[facebook.com/FlourBluffISD](https://facebook.com/FlourBluffISD)

### HIGH SCHOOL

[facebook.com/FlourBluffHS](https://facebook.com/FlourBluffHS)

### JUNIOR HIGH

[facebook.com/FlourBluffJuniorHigh](https://facebook.com/FlourBluffJuniorHigh)

### INTERMEDIATE

[facebook.com/FlourBluffIntermediate](https://facebook.com/FlourBluffIntermediate)

### ELEMENTARY

[facebook.com/FlourBluffElementary](https://facebook.com/FlourBluffElementary)

### PRIMARY

[facebook.com/fbprimary](https://facebook.com/fbprimary)

### EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

[facebook.com/FlourBluffECC](https://facebook.com/FlourBluffECC)



## TWITTER

### FLOUR BLUFF ISD

[twitter.com/flourbluffisd](https://twitter.com/flourbluffisd)

### HIGH SCHOOL

[twitter.com/FLOURBLUFFHS](https://twitter.com/FLOURBLUFFHS)



## INSTAGRAM

### FLOUR BLUFF ISD

[instagram.com/flour\\_bluff\\_isd/](https://instagram.com/flour_bluff_isd/)

### HIGH SCHOOL

[instagram.com/flourbluff.highschool/](https://instagram.com/flourbluff.highschool/)

FOLLOW FLOUR BLUFF ON SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

*Together We Can...*

INSPIRE. FOSTER. EMPOWER.

## NUTRITION



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## TRANSPORTATION



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## ATHLETICS



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## LIBRARIES



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[instagram.com/bluff\\_athletics/](https://instagram.com/bluff_athletics/)

## FLOUR BLUFF ISD

[FLOURBLUFFSCHOOLS.NET](https://flourbluffschoools.net)

## FBISD Calendar of Events

### Regular Meeting of the Flour Bluff ISD Board of Trustees

When

Thursday, March 31 st, 6pm

Where

Administration Building, Board Room

More information

2505 Waldron Road, Corpus Christi, Texas 78418





## 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.

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