

Latest Buzz

Weekly Superintendent Update for Flour Bluff ISD

The Premier District in Texas! Welcome to Hornet Country!

Friday, May 6, 2022 - Volume 2; Edition 35

Greetings from Superintendent, Velma Soliz-Garcia!

Here we go! The last few weeks are upon us – 13 days left this Academic Year with our Hornet Scholars! Hang on because it is full speed ahead to the finish line!

In the last few publications, we have highlighted our Hornet Heroes - our faculty, staff, and administrators! We will continue to celebrate them for their dedication and commitment to the success of our students and our community! If you see our Heroes, please thank them for their years of service and commitment to FBISD! They are all phenomenal educators that care deeply for each of the students they serve!

We have also named our Elementary and Secondary Teachers of the Year this week! Congratulations, Katie Doyle, Elementary Teacher of the Year, and Alexandria Hutchinson, Secondary Teacher of the Year!

Our Hornets continue to compete and succeed in academics and athletics! This past weekend Flour Bluff High School had six art students advance to State of only 25 selected overall from our Region and Area! You can read more about these artists in this publication! In addition, this weekend, our High School UIL team is competing at State, and our Lady Hornets Softball Team is playing at Weslaco this evening for the Area Championship – Good luck, Hornets!

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



**THANK
YOU
TEACHER**

Together We Can...
INSPIRE.FOSTER.EMPOWER.

We are buzzing about our Principals! Happy National Principal's Day!

National School Principal's Day was on May 1, but we celebrate our outstanding principal's everyday! Join us in celebrating our incredible, kind, hardworking, supportive, & all-around stellar Principals! Your leadership, wisdom, and passion make you all outstanding examples of Class, Pride, and Heart.

Mollie Martinez - ECC
Cindy Holder - Hornet Learning Academy
Dr. Nikol Youngberg- Primary & Elementary
Dr. Sal Alvarado - Intermediate
Brodie Wallace - Junior High
Linda Medley - High School

National Principal's Day

MAY 1, 2022



MOLLI MARTINEZ
EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

CINDY HOLDER
HORNET LEARNING ACADEMY

DR. NIKOL YOUNGBERG
ELEMENTARY / PRIMARY

DR. SAL ALVARADO
INTERMEDIATE

BRODIE WALLACE
JUNIOR HIGH

LINDA MEDLEY
HIGH SCHOOL

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Thank You Principals!

Together We Can...
INSPIRE. FOSTER. EMPOWER.

Flour Bluff ISD announces our 2023 Teachers of the Year!

Flour Bluff ISD is excited to announce our Elementary and Secondary Teacher of the Year!

Katie Doyle - FBISD 2023 Elementary Teacher of the Year

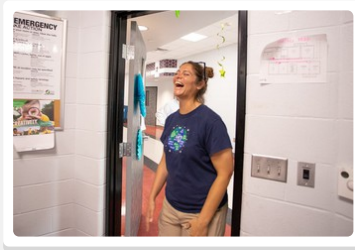
Alexandria Hutchinson - FBISD 2023 Secondary Teacher of the Year

Please help us to congratulate these two incredible educators!

Thank you, Dr. Sal Alvarado and Linda Medley, for helping us make this surprise possible! Members of our Teacher of the Year committee included Jeana Banta, Delmagene Storm, Ashley Durham, and Kristen Bily!

We also want to thank our Board members and Superintendent Soliz-Garcia for supporting and congratulating teachers!





Did you know that we have Superheroes in our cafeterias?

Happy School Lunch Hero Day! Today, we harness the power of creativity to express gratitude for all of the hard work being done in our school cafeterias!

We want to thank the incredible staff at all of our campus cafeterias for their hard work and dedication!





UIL Academic team heads to Austin and returns as UIL State Champions!

UIL STATE CHAMPS - Number Sense!!!

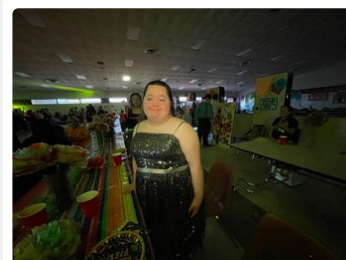
Congratulations Connor Murphy, Samuel Zhang, Kyle Xu, Nathaniel Puumala and Coach Chad Purdy!

[#togetherwecan](#) [#premierdistrict](#)



Special Hearts Prom gives a magical experience for our Hornets and volunteers that made this night happen!

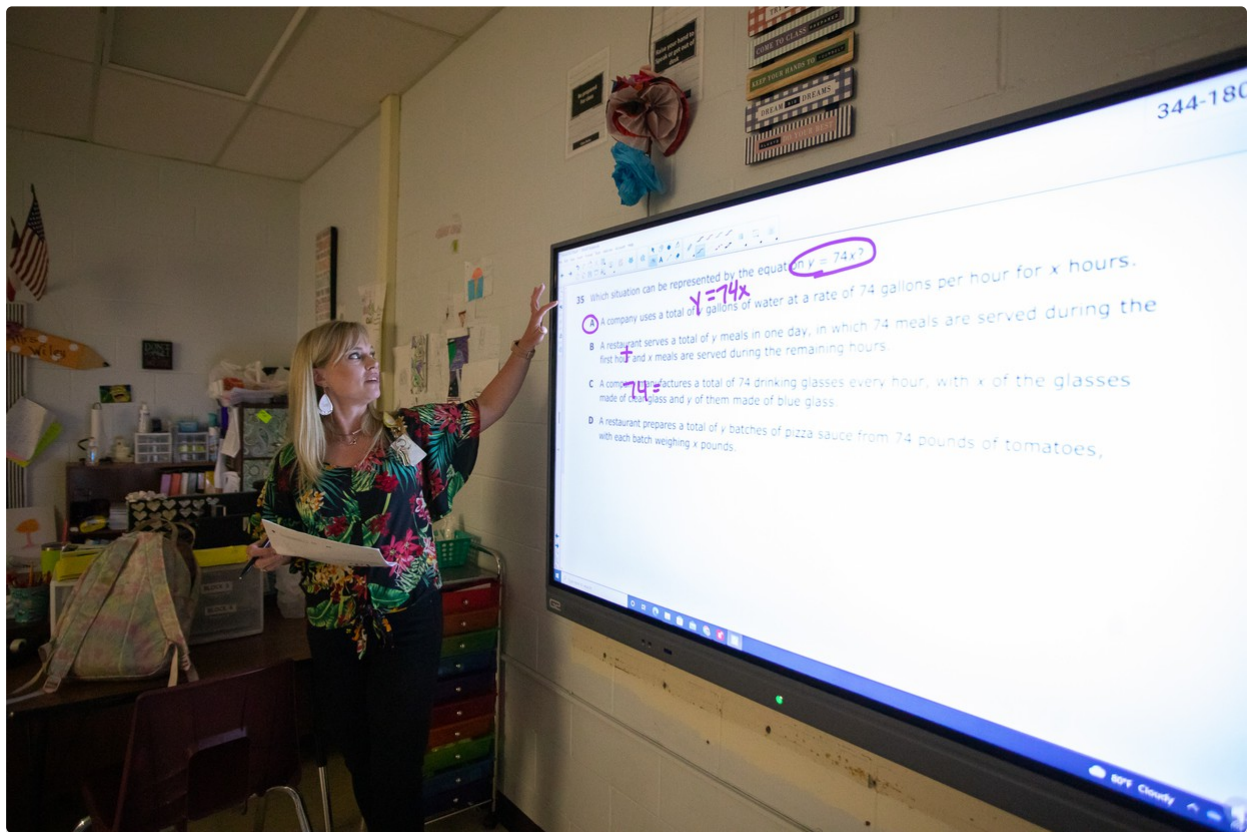
Special Hearts Prom was tonight, and we are making some beautiful memories! Our students had the best time, thanks to all our teachers, staff, and students who came together to make this night special for our Hornets!



Flour Bluff ISD Teacher Appreciation Spotlight!

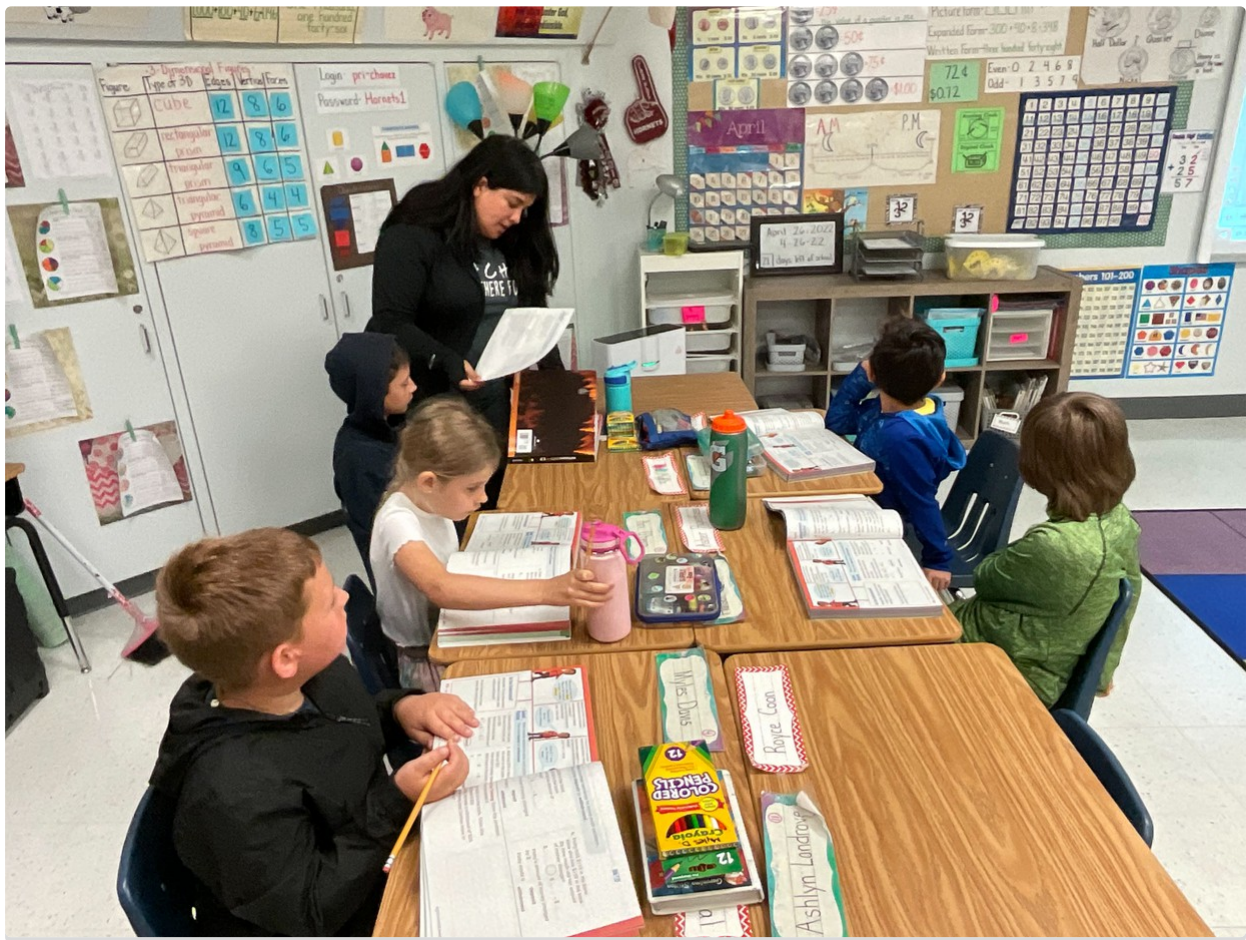
Nicole Wiley – 12th year teaching (Intermediate Math)

What I love about teaching: *"It allows me to connect with young imaginations and encourage them to shoot for their dreams."*



Laura Chavez – 18th year of teaching (Primary Math, Science, and Social Studies)

What I love about teaching: "I absolutely love working with children, and I love to see how much they grow and learn throughout the school year. It is fun celebrating their success when they accomplish something new that they have learned. I learn something new from a student daily. I love to see their unique sense of humor and laugh along with them. "



Cathy Graham – 22nd year of teaching (Intermediate ELA)

What I love about teaching: "I have loved teaching children since I walked into my first classroom. The children are so eager to learn and curious about the world around them. Their enthusiasm is contagious, and it keeps me young and excited about learning right alongside them. I love that look of astonishment and pride they get when they have struggled diligently with a skill, pressed on instead of quitting, and finally mastered it. It is the ultimate feeling of satisfaction."



Students attending Craft Training Center to receive honor cords thanks to FBHS teacher Marina Lovin's passion!

Students attending Flour Bluff High School's CTE training received their honor cords earlier this week. In addition to the award ceremony at Craft Training Center, the president also recognized Marina Lovin, CATE (Career and Technical Education) Training Specialist at FBHS. Marina spearheaded the creation of the honor cord, which seniors wear at their graduation ceremony to recognize their CTE accomplishments and receive a patch for their letterman jackets!

Seniors from all around the Coastal Bend attending and earning certifications from Craft Training Center will benefit from her ideas and diligence to bring them to fruition!



Primary & Elementary Campus Teacher Highlight: Julia Williams

My name is Mrs. Julia Williams, and I have been teaching music here at Flour Bluff Elementary for almost 30 years. I am married and have four daughters. Three of my daughters have attended Flour Bluff I. S. D. and have graduated, attended college, and moved on to careers of their own. At home, I have a Siamese Cat who I adore. My love for the children here at the Elementary has kept me here at this campus. The third and fourth grades are my favorite grades to teach. As I say goodbye to the fourth graders this year, I look forward to the incoming third graders next year.





Mrs. Williams and some of her champion UIL Music Memory Students

Primary & Elementary Campus Teacher Highlight: Tanya Schillinger.

My name is Tanya Schillinger. I am a first-grade teacher. Why do I love teaching first grade? I could go on forever, but here are a few of my reasons "WHY". First graders are sponges. They LOVE to learn new things and share their learning with their family. Where first graders begin the year and end the year is tremendous. We learn a lot in first grade, and I enjoy making it as fun as possible for my students. I LOVE to watch them help one another along this journey. Every year I am sad to watch my students leave, but I love it when they come back and visit. I truly believe my purpose is to be a first-grade teacher.






Mrs. Schillinger on Dolphin Boat Trip with her students

Primary & Elementary Campus Teacher Highlight: Cindy Brewer

My name is Cindy Brewer, and I began my journey here at Flour Bluff Primary as a first-grade teacher in 2007. I have a passion for helping all children reach their potential and love to challenge students to be curious and take chances when learning.

As a young girl, I always dreamed about becoming a teacher because my teachers were able to make learning so much fun. I had several teachers who were influential in this decision. When I was in second grade, my teacher profoundly impacted my life. Ms. White was so kind and compassionate. She taught me how to be excited about learning while challenging me every day to reach my full potential. My fourth-grade teacher always welcomed us with a smile each day and made our class feel like family. My high school ELA teacher captivated our attention by sharing her life stories with us and




was always encouraging. I wanted to be able to give children the same positive and joyful experiences I had while in school.

I knew that I could be a part of something magical with teaching. There is a new plan, a new problem to solve, and something to learn every day. I teach because I care. I teach because I know that I make a difference. I teach because I genuinely love every kid. I teach because I provide a safe place for them to be themselves and make mistakes. Teaching gives me purpose in life. Students count on me, parents rely on me, and my school depends on me.

Although things aren't always perfect, and the days are long and tiring, teaching is worth it. There's nothing sweeter than seeing my kids come to school excited each day and hearing them say they don't want to leave. There's nothing sweeter than being greeted by the biggest smiles and the most genuine hugs each day. There's nothing more rewarding than seeing my kids grow socially, emotionally, and academically.

It only takes one person to be a light in someone's life. This person can be the one to change an unmotivated or broken life and make it brand new. Teachers are these people. We motivate students to do their best, guide them to success when no one else will, and are the best listeners. I want to be the one person that can change or make a difference in a child's life. This has always been my motivation to be a teacher.





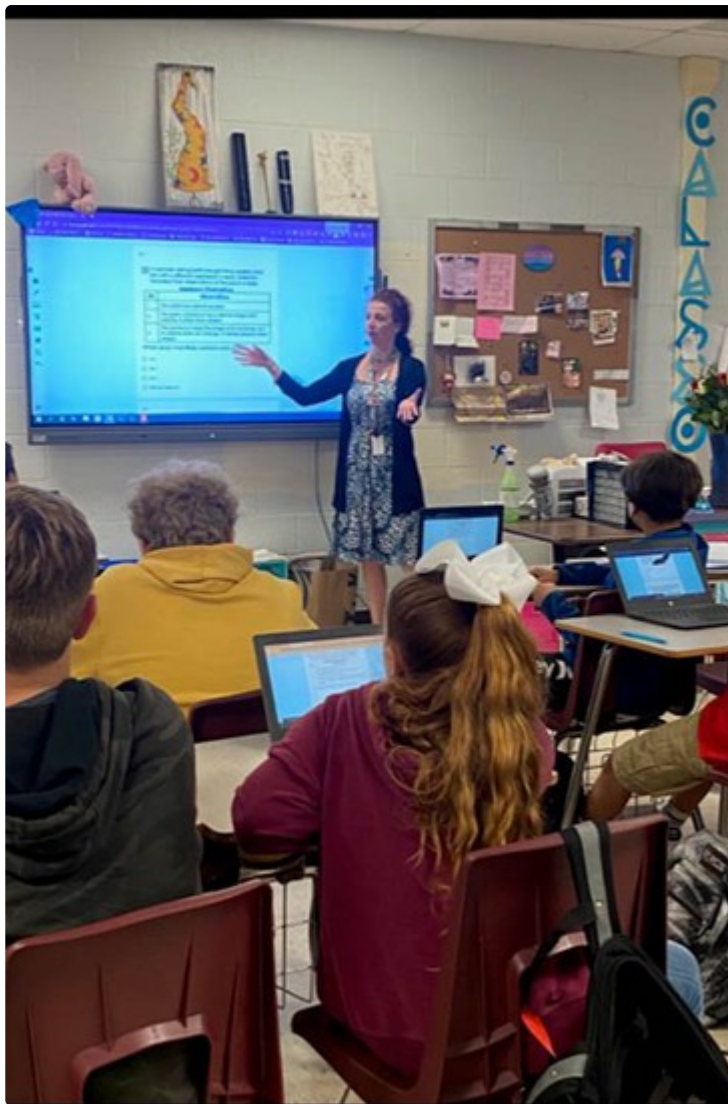
Mrs. Brewer and her class

Intermediate Campus Teacher Highlight: Toni Calasso

Students in Mrs. Toni Calasso's 5th grade Science class are enjoying reviewing Earth, Physical, and Life Science concepts utilizing the Gimkit technology game. Gimkit uses a game show type of platform that requires students to use their knowledge, strategies, as well as collaboration skills to answer questions.

Ms. Calasso is always looking for creative ways to motivate her student to do their very best. Student Hailey Garcia states, "When I step into Mrs. Calasso's classroom, I instantly feel good. Mrs. Calasso teaches in a way that is fun and makes me want to learn more."

Mrs. Calasso is originally from New York City and has been teaching for nine years, with the last four years at Flour Bluff. Thank you, Mrs. Calasso, for everything you do for your students! It is GREATLY appreciated! GO HORNETS!!!

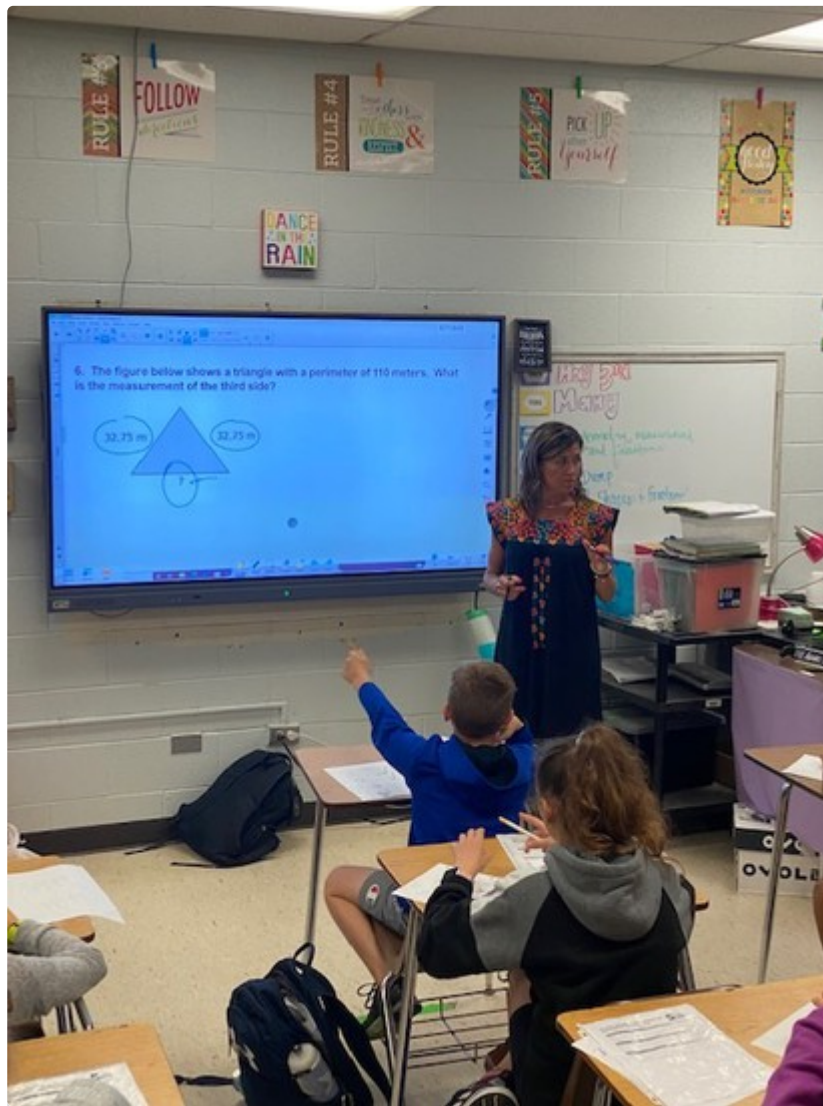


Intermediate Campus Teacher Highlight: Micki Beaureguard

Ms. Micki Beauregard loves teaching her 5th-grade math classes. Ms. Beauregard has been teaching for nine years, all at Flour Bluff, and she has a true passion for helping students develop and strengthen their math skills.

Ms. Beauregard states, "I believe that it is my job to ensure every student is successful in my classroom each year. Understanding that Math is an abstract concept, that you cannot see the number five on a plant like you do a butterfly, I feel that it is my job to make math come to life. Every student is different and learns in a variety of ways, so I teach and demonstrate numerous ways to solve problems that allow my students to become successful."

Thank you, Ms. Beauregard, for all you do for your students and for always going the extra mile to ensure their success. GO HORNETS!!!



Upcoming STAAR/EOC Testing Dates:

UPCOMING STAAR/EOC TESTING DATES:

Assessment	Date
4th RLA	May 10
3rd RLA	May 11
4th Math	May 17
3rd Math	May 18
5th RLA	May 11
5th Math	May 10
5th Science	May 12
6th RLA	May 18
6th Math/7th Math	May 17
7th RLA May 10th - May 20th	May 11
7th Math (8th Math & Algebra 1) May 10th - May 20th	May 10
8th RLA May 10th - May 20th	May 11
8th Math (Algebra 1) May 10th - May 20th	May 10
8th Social Studies May 6th - May 20th (not on Monday, May 9th)	May 6
8th Science (not on Monday, May 9th)	May 5
US History	May 3
Algebra I	May 5
Biology	May 9

Junior High campus honors our wonderful teachers this week!

We love our Junior High teachers! Five teachers were the lucky winners of gift cards from local restaurants this week.

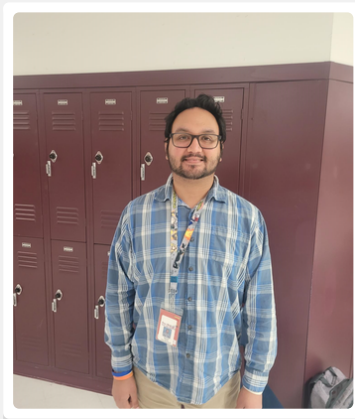
Monday's Winner: Michael Perez (Choir Teacher)

Tuesday's Winner: George Henderson (Health, College Career Readiness Teacher)

Wednesday's Winner: Erin Harkins (Science Special Education Teacher)

Thursday's Winner: Taylor Billings (English Teacher)

Friday's Winner: Gabriela Palm (Spanish Teacher)



Michael Perez (Choir Teacher)



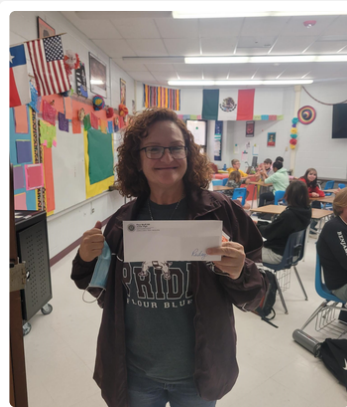
George Henderson (Health, College Career Readiness Teacher)



Erin Harkins (Science Special Education Teacher)



Taylor Billings (English Teacher)



Friday's Winner:
Gabriela Palm (Spanish Teacher)

Assessment and Accountability Spotlight: Staci Cade

Staci Cade graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies from Texas A&M University-Kingsville in 2006. She then began her career in education at Orange Grove Jr. High and taught there for eight years. During this time, Mrs. Cade taught Special Education classes for four years and then moved into a general education setting in which she taught 6th grade Social Studies and 7th grade Reading. While teaching, she earned a Master of Education in Administration from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.

Mrs. Cade furthered her career in education, at Alice ISD, as an Assistant Principal at Dubose Intermediate and later moved to the High School as Campus Testing Coordinator. When Mrs. Cade moved to the Flour Bluff Community, she was an Assistant Principal at Driscoll Middle School in CCISD for one year. However, she hoped to become part of the Flour Bluff Hornet team.

Mrs. Cade joined Flour Bluff ISD in 2018 as an Assistant Principal for Flour Bluff Intermediate and later moved into the Curriculum Supervisor position. At this time, Mrs. Cade serves as the District Testing Coordinator.

Mrs. Cade seeks to encourage and empower all students to reach their academic and social potential.



Dyslexia Spotlight: Alicia Little

Alicia Little has been with Flour Bluff ISD for 15 years. She started at FBHS as a C.A.T.E paraprofessional while going to school to finish her degree. When she obtained a degree in Kinesiology and Special Education from Texas A&M Corpus Christi, she started coaching at FBHJ and working as an ELAR co-teacher at FB Intermediate. She received a Master's Degree in Counseling from Lamar University.

Ms. Little believes being able to relate and have empathy is essential while teaching. She wants her students to feel safe and know she will be there for them no matter what they face.

Currently, Ms. Little is an ELAR Basic/Applied teacher at FB Intermediate and teaches Reading by Design. Thank you, Ms. Little, for all you do for FBISD students and staff!



Hornet Learning Academy is proud to recognize our latest graduates!

Congratulations to our latest Hornet Graduates! Great job. We wish you all the best of luck pursuing your dreams!

Matthew Hattenbach – enlisting in the Navy.

Jayson Garza – seeking a Culinary Arts degree to become a chef

Zophia Morris – pursuing college opportunities

Blake Ready – pursuing college opportunities

Workforce Solutions of the Coastal Bend will present information about financial literacy and resume writing to our Hornet Learning Academy and Student Development and Guidance Center students on

Thursday, May 12, 2022. Students will be able to have a question and answer session to learn how to become financial literate for the future and walk away with important tips on writing a strong working resume.



Visual Art Scholastic Event recognizes our High School Hornets and their incredible artwork!

Flour Bluff High School had six artists advance to state in VASE (Visual Art Scholastic Event) held in San Marcos, TX, on April 29th. There were only 25 artists selected overall from our Region and Area!

The artwork was adjudicated at State VASE and exhibited in the State Art Gallery. Two FBHS students received Exemplary 4 Ratings and were named State Medalists!

State Medalists are:

Lauren Balbin & Maria (Izzy) McDonel

State Qualifiers were:

Lauren Balbin

Kyleigh Batchan

Carter Blanchette

Madison Gianotti

Isabel Holland

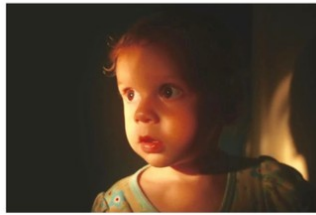
Maria (Izzy) McDonel

Qualifying and Medaling at State VASE is a prestigious honor. It is recognized as an achievement of excellence in high school art in the State of Texas.

Congratulations to these talented art students! Their artwork is incredible!



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



Title: Innocence
Name: Isabel Holland
Grade: 11



Title: My Garden of Dreams



Title: 46 and 2



Title: Morning Coffee



Title: Aequoreal
Name: Maria McDonel
Grade: 10

State Medalist

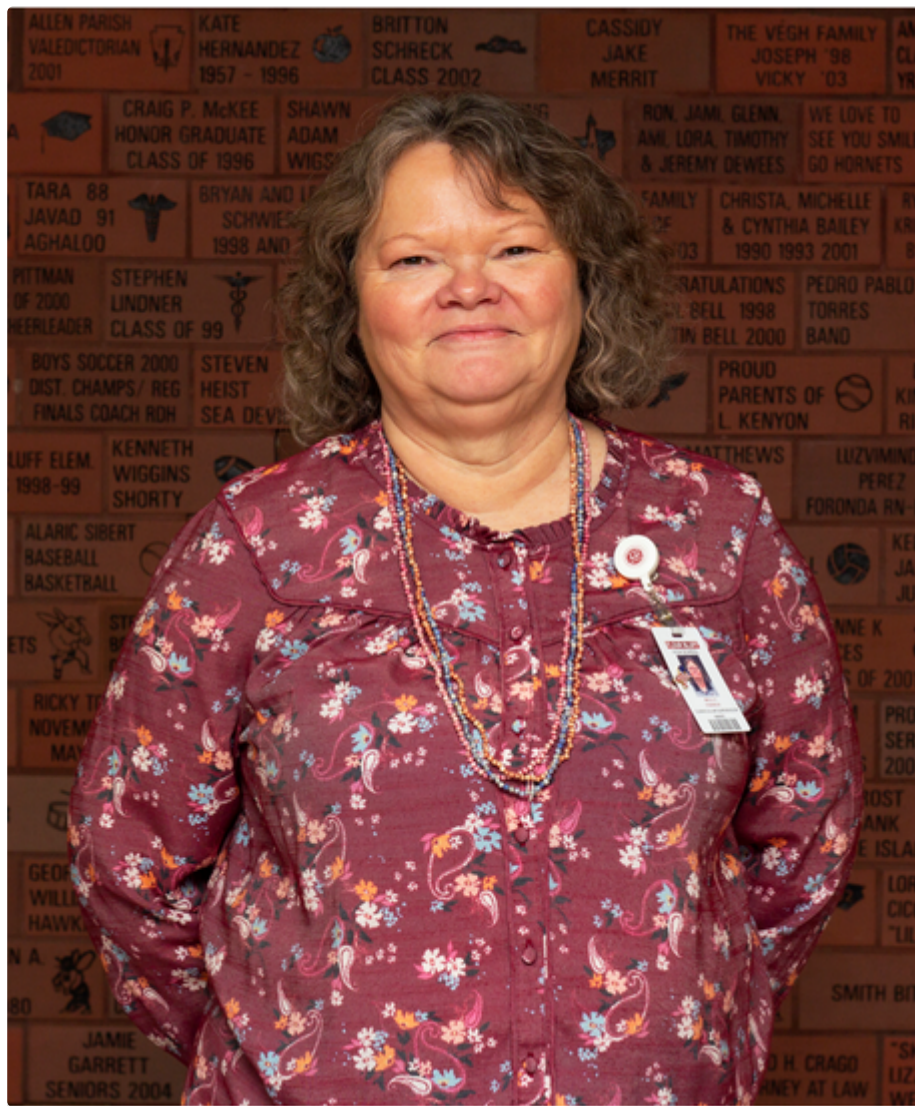
Curriculum Supervisor Spotlight: Molly Parker

Molly Parker received a Bachelor of Business Administration, majoring in Accounting, in 1998 from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. She then began working on a Master's degree in Secondary Education and was hired at Aransas Pass High School in 2000 as a technology teacher.

Mrs. Parker completed her Master's degree in 2005 from TAMUCC and, shortly after that, was hired at Flour Bluff Junior High as their Career, Technology, and AVID teacher in 2006. Wanting to do more to help our students, she decided to go back to school in 2010. Mrs. Parker graduated in 2013, receiving a second Master's degree in School Counseling from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.

The following year, she was hired at Flour Bluff High School as a Counselor and advanced to Head Counselor in 2016. She decided to go back to school one final time to receive a Principal's certification in 2019. After passing the certification exam in 2021, Ms. Parker was promoted to Curriculum Supervisor for Flour Bluff High School, which she currently holds today. Her greatest pleasure is assisting students to be more successful in the classroom and helping them prepare for college and life after high school.

She thoroughly enjoys being a Hornet, working with the staff at the high school and throughout our great district.



Curriculum Supervisor Spotlight: Amanda (Mandy) Beauregard

Amanda (Mandy) Beauregard is the Curriculum Supervisor at Flour Bluff Intermediate and the newest member of the FBISD C&I Department.

She has been in education for twelve years, eleven of which she taught 5th-grade math. Mrs. Beauregard holds a Master's Degree in Curriculum & Instruction and is currently working toward earning a Principal Certification from Lamar University. Mrs. Beauregard hit the ground running mid-year and made a seamless transition from the classroom.

We are grateful to have such a strong math expert on the C & I team. Mrs. Beauregard and her entire family are Flour Bluff alumni. She is proud to be part of a fantastic community and even more proud to be part of Flour Bluff ISD. Go Hornets!!!



Curriculum Supervisor Spotlight: Tamara Blair

Tamara Blair graduated from Flour Bluff High School in 2004 and received a Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.

She taught 6th - 8th-grade science at Cullen Middle School while earning a Master of Education in Administration from Lamar University.

Mrs. Blair furthered her career in Administration, where she was an Assistant Principal at Alice High School and later the Dean of Instruction at Roy Miller High School. Mrs. Blair became part of the Flour Bluff team as the Curriculum Supervisor for Flour Bluff Intermediate and now holds the Curriculum Supervisor position for Flour Bluff Junior High, where she is passionate about providing the highest quality education for our students. Her ultimate goal is to cultivate a stimulating learning environment that fosters confidence and encourages every student to aim for their full potential. Mrs. Blair is very involved in the Flour Bluff community with her husband, Dave, and two beautiful children, Landon and Lola.

Mrs. Blair provides a wealth of knowledge, leadership, experience, and expertise in all things curriculum and instruction. She improves the quality and value of the C & I Department daily; we are truly fortunate to have her in FBISD!



CHANGE OUR WORLD BY HOSTING AN INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE STUDENT

Greenheart Exchange, the well-respected, nonprofit student exchange organization, seeks volunteer Host Families to host international exchange students for the upcoming 2022 high school fall semester or 2022-23 high school year. Students hosted on Padre Island or on Flour Bluff will attend Flour Bluff high school in August. Each year, Greenheart Exchange provides over 800 exchange students from over 60 countries the opportunity to study in local public high schools for a five-month semester or a ten-month Academic High School Year. "Host families make all of the difference," said Connie Dean, Executive Regional Director of High School Programs. "They influence a young adult's life, changing world views and making dreams come true. When the family is so willing to give, they have just as many rewarding and enriching experiences as the student."

Volunteer host families come from varied economic, religious and racial backgrounds and include working parents, empty nesters, singles and single parents. They are to provide: Open communication, Encouragement, Patience and Sound Advice, a separate bed (which can be in a shared room with a host sibling of similar age and same gender), a quiet place to study, three daily meals, transportation to school and school-sponsored events (students are not permitted to drive while on the program) and a welcoming home that includes the student as a member of your family! Students are fully vaccinated, have their own accident and health insurance and bring their own spending money. Students are encouraged to participate in school-sponsored activities, community service and environmental programs.

Area Coordinator John Lembo, who lives on Padre Island, will provide regular communication and support to both host families and students. For more information, please contact John Lembo at 361-704-4920 or email him at padreisland.greenheart@outlook.com and visit the web at <https://www.hostwithgreenheart.org>
<https://greenheartexchange.org/host/host-an-exchange-student/apply/>



Wishing our Hornet Track athletes good luck in UT Austin!

Hornet track stars (*left to right*) Bradford Jennings, Olivia Mitchell, and Wyatt Elwood will be competing in the UIL state track meet next weekend at UT Austin.

Branford Jennings: High Jump

Olivia Mitchell: Pole Vault

Wyatt Elwood: Triple Jump



Let's go Hornets, let's go!

Our Lady Hornets Softball Team is playing at Weslaco this evening for the Area Championship! We wish you all the very best of luck!



[Click Here for More Athletic News](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 9-13: National School Nurse Week

May 11: National School Nurse Day

May 11: Texas Public School Paraprofessional Day

May 15: National Peace Officers Memorial Day

May 16-20: National Educational Bosses Week

FBHS Graduation: Class of 2022

Date: Thu May 26, 2022 6 pm – 8 pm

Location: American Bank Center, 1901 N Shoreline Blvd, Corpus Christi, TX 78401

SOCIAL MEDIA



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[FBISD Calendar of Events](#)

Regular Meeting of the Flour Bluff ISD Board of Trustees

When

Thursday, May 19th, 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.

 vsolizgarcia@flourbluffschoo...

 (361)694-9205

 flourbluffschoo...

