



October 7, 2015

First Six Weeks

# Cougar Connection

## Brazos High School Newsletter

### STUDENT LEADERSHIP

When students returned to campus this fall, many were surprised to see a new course, Student Leadership, on their schedule. The official description, *"This course provides opportunities to study, practice and develop group and individual leadership and organizational skills. These skills include decision-making skills, problem-solving techniques, communication skills, leadership roles, human relation skills and understanding the need for civic responsibility. Students enrolled in the course will apply these skills in dealing with peers, school administration and the community."* made most students initially run to the counselor's office for a schedule change. Those who remained in the class, taught by Mrs. Fernandez, have been pleasantly surprised with an activity based class which lets them have a say in the things happening at Brazos High School.

Student Leadership's first project was "Suicide Awareness Week." The students planned activities for each day such as putting up encouraging posters, passing out crisis number pocket cards, posting mysterious sticky notes on lockers, sponsoring a wear yellow day, and hosting a student produced suicide awareness assembly.

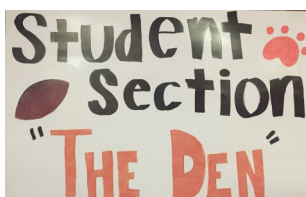


Last week, Student Leadership surprised BHS students with a delicious homemade cookie to celebrate National Homemade Cookie Day! They also sponsored "THE DEN," the BHS Student Spirit section, at the homecoming game. Coming up, students are planning a Bullying Prevention Week and a Teen Driving

Safety Week.

Four students were honored to be selected to present Student Leadership at the Texas Association of School Boards and School Administrators Conference on October 2. Cierra McCain, Chris Demny, Adrian Small, and Mayra Tavera travelled to Austin to share the good things our students are doing. School Board members and Superintendents across the state were enthralled with what our students had to say about Student Leadership.

Student Leadership is a one-semester course. It is available to any BHS student regardless of grade level. If you are interested in taking Student Leadership, visit Mrs. Kubena.



### DOCTOR JEKYL & MR. HYDE

The Mighty Cougar Band has been busy since August 3rd working on their 2015 UIL Marching Show. Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. The music is arranged by composer Luke McMillan and is based on the novella, *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson.

The show features 3 movements, Dr. Jekyll, Transformation, and

Mr. Hyde. The music is characterized by a dark, sinister sound. Mr. Cantu jokingly says the show is cursed as he has run into numerous obstacles during preparations for the Edna Marching Contest on October 10 and the UIL Marching Contest on October 17.

A fun addition to the show is the vintage styled costumes worn by

the Color Guard. The zany, vintage costumes add to the mystique of the production.

The Mighty Cougar Band would appreciate your support as they perform on Saturday, October 10 at Edna High School at 2:00 PM and at the UIL Marching Contest at El Campo High School on October 17 at 11:45 AM.



### FUNDRAISERS

#### Upcoming Dinners

**Oct 15 - Sophomore Class**  
**Chicken Fried Chicken Dinner**  
**Tickets - \$8.00**  
**Served 4:30 - 6:00 PM**

**Oct 23 -Senior Class**  
**Turkey & Dressing Dinner**  
**Tickets - \$10.00**  
**Served 4:30 - 6:00 PM**

**Nov 8 - Junior Class**  
**Bar-B-Que Plates (Brisket & Sausage)**  
**Tickets - \$10.00**  
**Served 4:00 - 6:00 PM**

# Upcoming Events

**Thu Oct 8, 2015 SCHOOL HOLIDAY**  
7:30pm JV Football v Tidehaven

**Fri Oct 9, 2015 SCHOOL HOLIDAY**  
4pm Volleyball v Hempstead  
7:30pm Football @ Tidehaven

**Sat Oct 10, 2015**  
Edna Marching Festival

**Mon Oct 12, 2015**  
FFA Fundraiser begins  
6:30pm Project Graduation Meeting

**Tue Oct 13, 2015**  
5pm Volleyball @ Van Vleck

**Wed Oct 14, 2015**  
Cross Country @ District 24AAA Meet  
8am - 12pm PSAT

**Thu Oct 15, 2015**  
4:30pm - 6pm Soph. Class Fundraiser Dinner  
7:30pm JV Football v East Bernard

**Fri Oct 16, 2015**  
4:30pm Volleyball @ East Bernard  
7:30pm Football @ East Bernard

**Sat Oct 17, 2015**  
UIL Marching Band Contest  
8:30am - 9:45am Mini-Cheer Pictures  
10am - 2pm Mini Cheer Clinic

**Mon Oct 19, 2015**  
7pm - 10:30pm Brazos ISD School Board Meeting

**Tue Oct 20, 2015**  
5pm Volleyball v Boling

**Thu Oct 22, 2015**  
7:30pm JV Football @ Danbury

**Fri Oct 23, 2015**  
FFA Fundraiser ends  
4pm Volleyball v Danbury  
4:30pm - 6pm Sr. Class Fundraiser Dinner  
7:30pm Football v Danbury

**Mon Oct 26, 2015**  
Cross Country @ Region III Meet

**Tue Oct 27, 2015**  
5pm Volleyball @ Hitchcock

**Thu Oct 29, 2015**  
7:30pm JV Football v Boling

**Fri Oct 30, 2015**  
7:30pm Football @

**Tue Nov 3, 2015**  
Volleyball Bi-District

**Wed Nov 4, 2015**  
Picture Retake Day

**Thu Nov 5, 2015**  
7:30pm JV Football @ Van Vleck

**Fri Nov 6, 2015**  
End of 2nd Six Weeks  
Volleyball - Area  
- Junior Class Fundraiser Dinner  
7:30pm Football v Van Vleck

**Sat Nov 7, 2015**  
7:30am SAT Test

**Mon Nov 9, 2015**  
6pm NHS Induction



Brazos FFA is very proud of Dylan Zapalac and Brisa Castillo for taking time at each of the home football games to raise the flags before the game starts.

## LIVESTOCK JUDGING

Brazos FFA members have attended several livestock judging contests in the month of September and October. Brazos FFA members first traveled to Washington County on September 19 where Brazos team number 1 placed 30th out of 149 teams. Brazos FFA Teams 2,3,4 also did very well by placing in the top 75. The next contest Brazos FFA traveled to was the Colorado County fair on September 26. Brazos FFA Team number 1 placed 28th out of 68 teams with Brazos team number 2 not far

behind. The third contest Brazos FFA traveled to was the Waller county fair on October 2. Brazos FFA number 1 placed 25th out of 92 Teams that participated. The fourth contest that Brazos FFA traveled to was the Fort Bend County fair on October 3 where Brazos FFA team number 1 placed 13th out of 64 teams that participated. Brazos FFA members will travel to Austin County fair this weekend for a Livestock Judging contest and have several more coming up in the next few weekends.

## PEER ASSISTANCE & LEADERSHIP

Our PALs students have completed their training and are starting on the middle school and elementary campuses this week. They will be assisting in various capacities at both campuses. They are so excited to get started on

the next phase of PALs. One of the students said, "We are ready to go and start changing lives!" We have some outstanding students in our school. They aren't perfect but they are so willing to help others.

## AG OLYMPICS

The Brazos FFA first annual Ag Olympics were held on September 30th 2015. A total of 44 students showed up to participate in games and fun activities. There were multiple games including a water balloon toss, a water balloon fun run, an egg toss, a game

involving Cheetos and shaving cream and a slip-n-slide game. Students enjoyed pizza and great fellowship after the games were over. It sparked enough interest that we may have a kickball tournament in the works for the spring.

## CLASS OFFICERS

Class Officers were elected on September 17.

### Freshmen Class Officers:

President—William Diezi  
Vice-President—Grace Demny  
Secretary—Katherine Ressler  
Treasurer—Kennedy Jetelina

### Sophomore Class Officers:

President—Katherine Corchado  
Vice-President—Amanda Rincon Morales  
Secretary/Treasurer—Ruby Moreno

### Junior Class Officers:

President—Ian Martin  
Vice-President—Justin Nanes  
Secretary/Treasurer—Charity Karl

### Senior Class Officers:

President—Ian D'Rubio  
Vice-President—Rita Gonzalez  
Secretary—Adrian Small  
Treasurer—Grace Lozano

Class officers are responsible for planning class meetings with their class sponsors, coming up with fundraiser ideas, and con-

# THE DEN

## For the Students By the Students

Do you have SCHOOL SPIRIT?  
Do you want to express it?  
Ok then, come out to the  
Football Games on Friday  
and sit in THE DEN!



ducting fundraisers. Each class is allowed two fundraisers per year. The money is held in an account and is used to pay for Prom and Senior Field Trip. It is very important for every class member to participate by selling tickets, working at the fundraiser, or donating items such as desserts. The secretary/treasurer keep records of participation so that when it comes time to enjoy Prom and Senior Trip, the ones who worked hard are rewarded.

# TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY

## 2015 Accountability Summary

### BRAZOS H S (008903001) - BRAZOS ISD

#### Accountability Rating

**Met Standard**

##### Met Standards on

- Student Achievement
- Student Progress
- Closing Performance Gaps
- Postsecondary Readiness

##### Did Not Meet Standards on

- NONE

In 2015, to receive a Met Standard or Met Alternative Standard rating, districts and campuses must meet targets on three indexes: Index 1 **or** Index 2 **and** Index 3 **and** Index 4.

#### Distinction Designation

##### Academic Achievement in Reading/ELA

NO DISTINCTION EARNED

##### Academic Achievement in Mathematics

NO DISTINCTION EARNED

##### Academic Achievement in Science

NO DISTINCTION EARNED

##### Academic Achievement in Social Studies

NO DISTINCTION EARNED

##### Top 25 Percent Student Progress

NO DISTINCTION EARNED

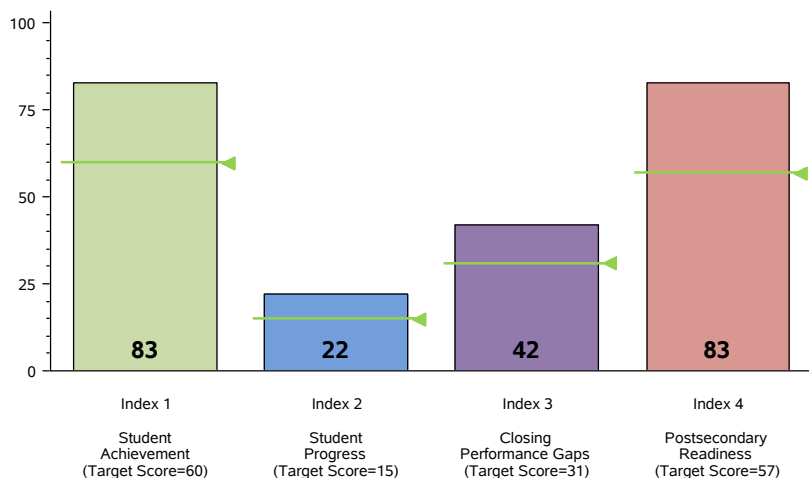
##### Top 25 Percent Closing Performance Gaps

NO DISTINCTION EARNED

##### Postsecondary Readiness

NO DISTINCTION EARNED

#### Performance Index Report



#### Performance Index Summary

Index	Points Earned	Maximum Points	Index Score
1 - Student Achievement	305	366	83
2 - Student Progress	134	600	22
3 - Closing Performance Gaps	339	800	42
4 - Postsecondary Readiness			
STAAR Score	14.3		
Graduation Rate Score	24.5		
Graduation Plan Score	23.2		
Postsecondary Component Score	20.8		83

#### Campus Demographics

Campus Type	High School
Campus Size	252 Students
Grade Span	09 - 12
Percent Economically Disadvantaged	50.4
Percent English Language Learners	2.8
Mobility Rate	12.8

#### State System Safeguards

##### Number and Percent of Indicators Met

Performance Rates	14 out of 15 = 93%
Participation Rates	8 out of 8 = 100%
Graduation Rates	3 out of 3 = 100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>25 out of 26 = 96%</b>

For further information about this report, please see the Performance Reporting Division website at <http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/perfreport/account/2015/index.html>



# BRAZOS HIGH SCHOOL

*Excellence in Education Since 1974*

PO Box 458 • 16621 HWY 36 S • Wallis, TX 77485 • Phone: 979-478-6832 • Fax: 979-478-6022

Principal: Mary McCarthy

Counselor: Nanette Kubena

Hello!

On behalf of Brazos ISD and our wonderful Yearbook Committee, we would like to offer you the opportunity to have your own personal ad in our 2015-2016 Yearbook.

**\*\*HOW CAN YOU PLACE A PERSONAL AD YOU WONDER...\*\*b>**



The explanation is quite simple. Reach out to a fellow Brazos Yearbook member for more information. We offer a wide range of sizes including, an eighth of a page to even full page ads keep in mind our prices increase by size. Your involvement is greatly appreciated. For more information please go to [fhaskins@brazosisd.net](mailto:fhaskins@brazosisd.net) or call 979-478-6832 and remember to ask to speak to your Yearbook staff. Your Personal Ad can be either designed by you or a member of our committee. If you wish to purchase an ad online you can go to [www.brazosisd.net](http://www.brazosisd.net) by clicking the blue Walsworth box located at the bottom of the page. Below you will see the Personal Ad prices and sizes.

**\*\*\*Personal Ad Prices & Sizes\*\*\***

Full Page- Color: \$200 up to\* 24 Pictures

Half Page- Color: \$150 up to\* 12 Pictures

Quarter Page- Color: \$100 up to\* 6 Pictures

Eighth Page- Color: \$40 up to\* 3 Pictures

*Thank you & we look forward to hearing from you!!!*

**"FOR WE ARE BOUND TOGETHER UNTIL ETERNITY"**

[www.brazosisd.net](http://www.brazosisd.net)

Brazos Independent School District  
Campus: Brazos High School  
Gradebook Parent Account  
Confidentiality Affidavit

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Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name First Name M.I.

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name First Name M.I.

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address City & State Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Physical Address City & State Zip Code

By completing the application for this account, you will allow the Brazos Independent School District (BISD) to make your child's grades available to you by means of the Internet on a website that is secure and accessible only by a login and password. Only you will be able to see your child's grades. Others will not be able to see the information of your child unless you share your password with them.

BISD will not make your username/password publicly available. The grades of your child posted on the website can only be accessed only by someone who knows your username and password.

Be aware, however, that disclosure by BISD, including the contents of the website, may occur in the event that such information is required by order of a court subpoena, a decision or directive from the Attorney General's office, or other reason required by law.

Please remember that the grades that you see might not include all assignments or tests that have been completed by your child. As teachers complete the grading of assignments and tests, the teachers will update the report. If you have any questions about any item, please contact the teacher by calling the campus office that your child attends. The teacher will either contact you by phone or e-mail. If you desire further clarification you may call and schedule a conference with the teacher.

You are permitted to share your username/password only with those whom you consider to have a legitimate educational interest in your child. You may cancel this

service at any time or change your username/password, by contacting the Gradebook Site manager of your child's campus.

By signing and returning this form to the campus office of your child, you understand that BISD is not responsible for Internet access to your child's grade reports by persons who do not have authorization or consent. You also understand that BISD has the right and authority to revoke your access to the website if the district feels your use of and behavior on the website violates others rights and confidentiality. In addition by signing and returning this application, you agree to waive any claims or causes of action that you may have against BISD by reason of such unauthorized access or revocation of access privileges.

Parent/ Guardian Signature:\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please choose from the following options to receive your child's portal ID.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will pick up my child's Student Portal ID at my child's campus.

\_\_\_\_\_ Please email me at:\_\_\_\_\_ with my child's Student Portal ID

\_\_\_\_\_ Please mail my child's Student Portal ID to the address listed above.

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**Brazos High School  
Parent Notification Letter 2015  
Compliance with P.L. 107-110, Section 1111(h)(6)(A)**

To: All Parents  
From: Brazos High School  
Date: October 1, 2015  
Subject: Notification to Parents of Teacher Qualifications

As a parent of a student at Brazos High School you have the right to know the professional qualifications of the classroom teachers who instruct your child. Federal law allows you to ask for certain information about your child's classroom teachers, and requires you to receive this information in a timely manner. Specifically, you have the right to ask for the following information about each of your child's classroom teachers:

- Whether Brazos High School has licensed or qualified the teacher for the grades and subjects he or she teaches.
- Whether Texas Education Agency has decided that the teacher can teach in a classroom without being licensed or qualified under state regulations because of special circumstances.
- The teacher's college major; whether the teacher has any advanced degrees and, if so, the subject of the degrees.
- Whether any teachers' aides or similar paraprofessionals provide services to your child and their qualifications.

If you would like to receive any of this information, please call Mary McCarthy, Principal, at 979-478-6832.

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## TRUANCY

**House Bill 2398, passed this 84<sup>th</sup> legislative session, made numerous changes to the truancy laws in Texas. This piece of legislation became effective September 1, 2015.**

**TRUANT CONDUCT.** If a student is absent from school on 10 or more days or parts of days within a six-month period in the same school year. **Family code 65.003**

**WARNING NOTICE:** If a student is absent on 10 or more days or parts of days within a six month period, the student's parent is subject to prosecution and the student is subject to referral to truancy court for civil processing.

If a student has been absent without excuse on three days or parts of days within a four-week period, the school district shall issue a warning notice to inform the parent that the student is subject to truancy prevention measures in addition to other statutory requirements in existence. **Education Code 25.095**

## TRUANCY PREVENTION MEASURES

- ★ Impose a behavior improvement plan including the specific behavior required or prohibited of the student and the period of time the plan will be in place. **Education Code 25.0915**
- ★ Impose school-based community service
- ★ Refer the student to counseling, mediation, mentoring, teen-court, or other in-school or out-of-school service aimed at addressing truant behavior

**OLDER STUDENTS:** Students attending school after age 19 may have their enrollment revoked if the student has more than 5 unexcused absences in one semester. **Education Code 25.085. Family Code 65.002**

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