



For Immediate Release

School Bus Changes for the 2017-2018 Academic Year

August 15, 2017 • Beeville, Texas

Beeville ISD has modified bell times at all campuses for the upcoming year. Changes will be made in the way students are transported by bus in the morning and afternoon.

For returning students, the District **will not use the bus exchange at the High School Stadium parking lot** as it has done in the past. This year, a total of 17 buses will pick up students at morning stops and take them directly to their appropriate campus. In the afternoon, students will be dropped off at the same location as they were picked up in the morning.

Buses will run at approximately the same time as last school year during the morning hours. Bus schedules are posted on-line and available at each campus. Students are required to be at their morning bus stop 5-10 minutes prior to their scheduled pick-up time.

In the afternoon, school buses will probably be running later than usual for the first couple of weeks as students acclimate to the new process and correct bus. The District asks for everyone's patience during the learning process.

All students who ride a bus will need to know their home address and bus number. All young students and NEW student bus riders should have their address, parent contact information, bus information, and school they attend available in their back packs. Pre-K, Kinder, and First Grade students should always wear their bus tags!

Each school has a designated bus zone where students are dropped off and picked up in order to keep students safe and traffic flow moving. Parents and visitors will be asked not to block or park in these areas. Parents who are driving their children to school will have a separate drop-off and pick-up area at each campus. Campus maps with locations are available on the Beeville ISD website (www.BeevilleISD.net).

Questions regarding the new bus routes may be directed to the Transportation Department at **(361) 362-6090**. Office hours are 6:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

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For additional information, please contact:

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For Immediate Release

Eclipse Safety Information for Beeville ISD

August 17, 2017 - Beeville, Texas

Two very exciting events will be happening on Monday, August 21st. Not only will it be the first day of school for Beeville ISD students, but the United States will experience a Solar Eclipse from coast-to-coast for the first time in over 40 years.

Because the safety of our students and staff is always a top priority at Beeville ISD, we wanted to share a few precautions the District will be implementing to keep everyone safe. Our schools will make every effort to ensure that students remain indoors and away from windows during the time of the eclipse. A partial eclipse will become visible around 11:43 AM with maximum eclipse scheduled for 1:12 PM. This astral show will conclude at 2:40 PM.

Even though Beeville will not be directly under the path of the full eclipse, our community will still experience the magnificence of this celestial event as well as share in all of the medical risks due to improper viewing techniques.

Although we realize that this is an historical occasion, we would prefer to err on the part of safety than have a student sustain any temporary or permanent injury to their eyes. Some teachers may be showing the eclipse with their students using their classroom computers or televisions. We are encouraging staff that if they watch the eclipse on-line, so do so watching the live feed from NASA.

We are also asking parents to use an abundance of caution while driving during the time of the eclipse, and to be especially careful in the parent pickup area at school to avoid distracted drivers, students and pedestrians. Regular dismissal times will not be affected.

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For Immediate Release

Beeville's RA Hall helps senior citizens recovering from Harvey

September 18, 2017 • Beeville, Texas

The National Elementary Honor Society at RA Hall Elementary School in Beeville, wrapped up an amazing collection drive for nursing home residents evacuated by Hurricane Harvey. Beeville's Woodridge Nursing Home and Rehabilitation Center, is currently housing 20 residents who had to escape the hardships created as a result of Harvey in Aransas County, Texas.

The National Elementary Honor Society members, under the guidance of 3rd grade teacher April Zapata, M.Ed., asked their fellow students to bring chips, sweet snacks, socks, and cleansing wipes for the displaced residents. They responded with hearts full of enthusiasm and caring. As a result of the entire RA Hall's campus efforts, the National Elementary Honor Society delivered 212 bags of chips, 569 snacks, over 1800 wipes, and 60 pairs of socks!

Beeville ISD's vision statement "Inspiring Bold Innovative Leaders" is modeled every day, as witnessed by the work of these outstanding students.

PHOTO INCLUDED:

- RA Hall National Elementary Honor Society members and their donations for senior citizens.

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For Immediate Release

Beeville students and staff inspire others with presentation on STEM education at state-wide conference

October 10, 2017 • Georgetown, Texas

Students and staff members from Beeville ISD, presented *STEM and Computer Science for All!*, a concurrent session to participants at the TASA/TASB Annual Convention in Dallas this past Friday. Beeville ISD is one of the first school districts in the country to incorporate a kindergarten through 12th grade computer coding curriculum. The Beeville team recapped their bold initiative to prepare all students for the 21st century with a STEM education which includes coding, computer science, and engineering processes. Over 100 school administrators and board members from around the State attended this informative session.

“The students and staff presented wonderful vignettes on how to engage students through hands-on, computers science project-based learning experiences for even the youngest students” boasted Superintendent Dr. Marc A. Puig. “Hopefully other school districts will be inspired to cultivate the computer scientist and innovator mindset necessary to drive student curiosity, collaboration, and critical thinking.”

Beeville ISD presenters included AC Jones High School senior Sarah Peacock, Hampton-Moreno-Dugat teachers Rose Bruns and Sarah Gamez, Faden-McKowen-Chambliss teacher Margaret Hall and Principal Martina Villarreal. Executive Director for Learning and Innovation Dr. Bonnie Bomar, Board President Dr. Kevin Behr, and other Trustees served as the facilitators. More than 6,000 school board trustees, superintendents, and other educational leaders attended the conference which focused on ways to meet the growing challenges facing public school districts.

Photo Included:

- TASA-TASB STEM Presenters

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For Immediate Release

Clean schools reduce absenteeism, a top goal for Beeville ISD custodians

October 11, 2017 • Georgetown, Texas

At Beeville ISD, the primary goal for the Maintenance and Custodial Department is a clean campus. Sounds like a pretty easy goal doesn't it? How about if that task included over 560,000 square feet of indoor space to maintain? That's exactly what 30 district custodial staff members are charged with every day.

According to Joseph Perales, Maintenance Director for Beeville ISD, an assessment study provided by the Texas Association of School Boards strengthened guidelines in place for the custodial program. "Utilizing the International Sanitary Supply Association (ISSA) cleaning time standards, we were able to define areas, cleaning times, and manpower required to perform tasks which get our campuses to a desired level of cleanliness" explained Perales. The *ISSA Clean Standard for K-12 Schools* establishes a framework to help schools objectively assess the effectiveness of the cleaning process, thereby contributing to the quality of the indoor environment for the benefit of students and staff.

Abel Guajardo is the custodial supervisor for Beeville ISD. He has been with the district for over 18 years and recently received the Custodial Management Association of Texas certification training. Guajardo leads and monitors the custodial department with an upbeat per-

sonality and attitude. "Our primary goal is a clean campus" Guajardo boasted. "If students get sick, so does the staff. Clean schools reduce absenteeism!"

Beeville ISD has implemented a team cleaning concept which is used in many school districts, and is an endorsed MAO103 Custodial Staffing & Organization training certification standard. During the day, custodians focus on restroom facilities, hallways, cafeteria, offices and libraries. Their tasks include trash removal, sweeping, vacuuming, mopping and disinfecting restrooms. At night, custodians focus on classrooms, hallways, outdoor corridors, and restrooms once again. Their tasks include trash removal, sweeping, vacuuming, and mopping. In addition, night custodians disinfect student desks.

It's not an easy job, but a job that is taken very seriously. Custodians need to know proper techniques for setting-up for the day, how to use the various cleaning agents purchased by the district, and how to store them in a safe and secure manner. Using the right equipment is also a key to success. Guajardo works with the custodial staff to make sure that buffers, scrubbers, vacuums, and washers are all used appropriately and safely.

As you can see, Beeville ISD custodians are responsible for more than just sweeping, mopping, and turning the lights off at the end of the day. They contribute to student learning by creating a clean and healthy environment for students. They are at the forefront when it comes to inspiring bold, innovative leaders.

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Attached photo:

- Abel Guajardo

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REQUEST FOR PUBLICITY

Beeville F-M-C students to deliver school supplies to Refugio Elementary

October 13, 2017 • Beeville, Texas

On Wednesday, October 18th, a bus load of National Elementary Honor Society students from Faden-McKowen-Chambliss Elementary School in Beeville, will depart to deliver backpacks and school supplies they collected for students effected by the hurricane at Refugio Elementary.

The F-M-C students put together a service project called “Kids Helping Kids! because they were saddened to hear about the damage Hurricane Harvey caused to the school and community in Refugio. They collected backpacks, notebook paper, pocket folders, pencils, crayons, markers, glue, spirals, scissors and any other school supplies elementary students need. The collection period ended on October 12th.

A Beeville ISD school bus filled with students and supplies will depart the F-M-C campus on Wednesday, **October 18th at 9:00 AM** for the 30 mile excursion to Refugio. Reporters and journalists are invited to participate. F-M-C Elementary is located at 100 TJ Pfeil in Beeville.

F-M-C Contacts for this project:

- Martina Villarreal, Principal (361) 362-6050
- Leti Escamilla, Instructional Consultant

Beeville ISD Contact:

- Dr. Bonnie Bomar, Executive Director for Learning & Innovation (361) 358-7111

To **confirm your participation** covering this exciting student service project, please e-mail Brad Domitrovich, PR Strategist at brad@przealot.com.

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For Immediate Release

Rolling down the highway, 40 years behind the wheel of a school bus

October 14, 2017 • Beeville, Texas

What started as a request from a friend many years ago, has turned into a lifetime of stories and smiles for Dolores Muniz at Beeville ISD. Many people don't have the moxie to get behind the wheel of a big yellow bus for even a minute, but this energetic lady with an infectious smile has been doing just that for over 40 years!

Dolores Muniz was a Migrant Teaching Assistant at Beeville ISD when she approached by a bus driver and told that the District was in need of more drivers. When she approached her school principal to express an interest, he recommended that she change jobs at the school to Coaches Assistant in order to accommodate the time frame needed to drive a bus. She accepted the challenge of the two new jobs with her usual positive attitude and willingness to serve.

“In the beginning all buses had manual transmissions which required an additional skill of driving a stick shift and having a third leg to keep from rolling back” explained Muniz. “I had learned to drive a stick shift vehicle as a young girl while working in the fields with my father moving cotton trailers.” With that experience in her back pocket, you would think that being a bus driver would be easy. She quickly learned that what she was about to do, and love to do for many years to come, is not an easy challenge.

Those special people who choose this career know that you need to have a great rapport with not only students, but with parents too. “You have to love and understand children, be a good listener, show compassion, have consistent discipline, and reward good behavior”, Muniz added. “Oh, and I almost forgot the most important thing, you must have eyes in the back of your head!”

In her years as a bus driver, Muniz has been told and asked some funny things. “What’s wrong with your hair?” “You sure are pretty!” “Are you one of the Golden Girls?” “When I grow up I want to be a bus driver.” “How much do you weigh?” She even remembers a time when two students got on the bus after they were both sprayed by a skunk!

Keeping students safe is a consistent discipline for a bus driver. It’s not just opening the door and traveling down the road. A good bus driver discuss the rules and expectations at the beginning of each school year, and reinforce them throughout the year. Support from school administration and parents is also necessary to ensure the safety of all students.

Although Muniz officially retired from Beeville ISD in 2001, she was asked to come back and serve her community once again driving the big yellow bus and working as a substitute teacher. “I have been hugged, kissed, high-fived, hit, kicked, cussed at, flipped the bird, back-talked to, coughed on, sneezed on, spit on, and thumped by backpacks and band instruments” Muniz summarized. “These are incidents I will never forget. Good and bad, being a school bus driver has been the best experience of my life.”

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Photo included:

- Dolores Muniz

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For Immediate Release

State Troopers join forces to keep Beeville kids safe

October 24, 2017 • Beeville, Texas

Riding a school bus is one of the safest transportation methods for children. At Beeville ISD, student safety, as well as the safety of the community, is the highest priority for their Transportation Department. According to statistics, illegal passing of school buses is a national problem. Surveys have shown that there is a widespread disregard for the law. When a school bus stops to pick up or drop off children, the driver switches on red flashing lights and makes a stop sign extend out from the side of the bus.

"If a school bus has its stop sign extended and its red lights flashing, then traffic in both directions must stop" explained Transportation Director Al Alvarado. "It is imperative for everyone to be aware of school bus safety rules and to follow those rules" he added.

Ensuring the safety of students as they enter and exit school buses is essential. Two State Troopers from the Texas Department of Public Safety, recently spent the day with Beeville ISD bus driver Kenneth Seals, with the goal of increasing student safety even more. Troopers Jacob Gonzales and Javier Veliz joined forces with Seals to address the importance of school bus safety. Ensuring the safety of students as they entered and exited the bus, one Trooper rode along. The other Trooper followed closely behind, ensuring that motorists were alert, attentive, and observant.

“Motorists who travel the same road every day sometimes drive on autopilot, or get distracted by cell phones and other devices” explained Alvarado. “This combined effort by Beeville ISD and the Texas Department of Public Safety helps increase awareness and improve student welfare.”

Throughout the year, Beeville ISD bus drivers receive updated training to ensure that students and the community remain safe. Students receive lessons in bus safety at the beginning of each year with ongoing reminders to stay focused. Everyone needs to be aware of school bus safety rules. A combined effort is the best way to ensure children make it home each and every day.

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Photo Included: State Troopers

- State Troopers Jacob Gonzales and Javier Veliz, bus driver Kenneth Seals

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For Immediate Release

Beeville students to honor Veterans on November 10th

November 2, 2017 • Beeville, Texas

Veterans Day is always a special day celebrated in a special way by students and staff in Beeville ISD. This year, the district's Veterans Day Program and Ceremony is being planned once again by A.C. Jones High School Assistant Principal Victor Ramos. "We want the community to come together to honor our veterans," explained Ramos. "It's our way of saying thank you for serving."

Mr. Ramos has been leading the charge when it comes to planning a memorable program for the past few years. A veteran himself, Ramos enlisted in the U. S. Marine Corps in 1969 and served in Vietnam and throughout the Pacific. He attended Texas A&I Kingsville as an

ROTC cadet while serving in the Army Reserve. Ramos was commissioned in 1981. He retired after 22 years with the rank of Major as an Engineer Reserve Officer. Ramos' service is commemorated with a banner on Beeville's Main Street.

Assisting Mr. Ramos with the ceremony this year is A. C. Jones Physics and Astronomy teacher Ben Barris. Barris is not only a 1981 alumnus, but a 20+ year veteran who retired as a Lt. Colonel from the U.S. Army. Barris will Raise the Colors while the Mighty Trojan Band plays.

All veterans are invited to attend the November 10th Ceremony which begins at 9:30 AM. The ceremony will be held at Beeville ISD's Veterans Memorial Stadium located at 1902 N. Adams in Beeville. Veterans are invited to sit in reserved seating directly on the field. A complimentary breakfast will be served to all veterans in the A.C. Jones cafeteria prior to the ceremony beginning at 8:30 AM. The breakfast is sponsored by H-E-B.

Students from A. C. Jones and Thomas Jefferson Intermediate School will perform during the ceremonies. In addition, the Bee County Honor Guard and Beeville ISD Board of Trustees members will be participating. A complete schedule is attached with this release.

Photos Included:

- Victor Ramos - Ben Barris

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PSA For Immediate Release

PSA - Veterans invited to Beeville ISD November 10th Program

November 3, 2017 • Beeville, Texas

Veterans Day is a special day, and its always celebrated in a special way by students and staff in Beeville ISD. This year, the district's Veterans Day Program and Ceremony will be held on Friday, November 10th at A.C. Jones' Veterans Memorial Stadium starting at 9:30 AM.

All area veterans are invited to attend this moving and patriotic celebration. A complimentary breakfast will be served to all veterans in the A.C. Jones cafeteria prior to the ceremony at 8:30 AM. The breakfast is once again sponsored by the local H-E-B. Veterans are encouraged to sit in the guest of honor reserved seating directly on the football field.

Students from A. C. Jones and Thomas Jefferson Intermediate School will be performing during the program. The Bee County Honor Guard and Beeville ISD Board of Trustees members will be participating in addition to a number of BISD teachers and administrators.

Once again, all veterans are invited to attend the Beeville ISD Veterans Day Program and Ceremony on November 10th at Veterans Memorial Stadium.

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REQUEST FOR MEDIA COVERAGE

Beeville ISD's Community Veterans Day Program - November 10th

November 8, 2017 • Beeville, Texas

Veterans Day is a special day, and its always celebrated in a special way by students and staff in Beeville ISD. This year, the district's Veterans Day Program and Ceremony will be held on Friday, November 10th at A.C. Jones' Veterans Memorial Stadium starting at 9:30 AM. Reporters and journalists are inited to attend.

All area veterans have been invited to attend this moving and patriotic celebration. A complimentary breakfast will be served to veterans in the A.C. Jones cafeteria prior to the ceremony at 8:30 AM. The breakfast is sponsored by H-E-B. Veterans will sit as guests of honor in reserved seating directly on the football field.

Students from A. C. Jones and Thomas Jefferson Intermediate School will be performing during the program. The Bee County Honor Guard and Beeville ISD Board of Trustees members will be participating in addition to a number of BISD teachers and administrators.

Please e-mail brad@przealot.com if you plan to attend.

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For Immediate Release

A.C. Jones Dazzlers shimmer with the addition of a Rockport Emerald

September 11, 2017 • Beeville, Texas

The A.C. Jones High School Dazzlers, welcomed a new addition to their drill team during Friday night's football game vs. Orange Grove. Kimberly Perez, a sophomore from Rockport-Fulton High School, is currently staying with relatives in Beeville along with her mother. The City of Rockport and Rockport-Fulton High School received considerable damage and destruction as a result of Hurricane Harvey. The high school in Rockport is currently closed and will not re-open until later this school year.

Veronica Medina, Kimberly's mom, did not want her daughter out of school for an extended period of time so she enrolled her at A.C. Jones High. Kimberly was a member of the Emeralds, the RFHS drill team. The Dazzlers welcomed her with open arms as she joined the squad cheering on the Trojans under the

Friday Night lights. Although her dance outfit was a different color, she shared the same enthusiasm and desire on the sidelines as did all of the Dazzlers.

PHOTO: *Dazzlers* The A.C Jones Dazzlers welcomed Kimberly Perez from the Rockport Fulton High School Emeralds as a member of their squad.

PHOTO: *Kimberly Perez* Kimberly Perez joins the A.C. Jones Dazzlers wearing her RFHS Emeralds ensemble.

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