

BRAZOSPORT INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

December 16,2024



BOARD: Recognition

SUBJECT: Awards, Achievement, and Recognitions

BOARD POLICY: BJA(Local)

DISTRICT GOAL: Brazosport ISD will promote, communicate, and market the accomplishments, achievements, and successes of students and staff

FISCAL NOTE: N/A

Background Information:

- In alignment with our district's strategic plan, it is desired that BISD work to foster student and employee engagement and community partnerships. One effort towards goal achievement is to recognize and affirm the efforts and performances of our students, staff, and community.

Administrative Considerations:

- Brazosport ISD is proud to announce that three of its high-achieving students have been recognized by the 2025 National Merit Scholarship Program. These students, from Brazoswood High School, have demonstrated outstanding academic talent through their impressive performances on the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT). Manuel G. Cardenas, recognized as a National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist, earned scores that place him among the nation's most talented academic achievers. As a Semifinalist, Manuel is eligible to compete for one of the prestigious National Merit Scholarships, awarded to less than 1% of high school seniors across the United States based on their academic excellence, community service, and leadership potential. Robert F. Elam and Penelope L. Mulholland are joining him, both named National Merit Commended Students. This honor recognizes their exceptional academic promise, placing them in the top 3% of students nationwide who took the PSAT/NMSQT. Their achievements demonstrate a strong commitment to educational excellence, dedication, and discipline.
- Brazosport High School's BBQ team, Anchor & Flame, made a spectacular debut at their first competition on Saturday, October 19, securing the coveted overall Grand Champion title of the Region. The team showcased their culinary skills and teamwork, earning them multiple

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awards. They each took home \$10,000 Scholarships to Sullivan University. In addition to being named Regional Grand Champion, Anchor & Flame took home the top prize for GRAND Steak while earning Reserve titles for both Chili and Ribs. They placed 4th in Chicken and Grilled Cheese, further showcasing their versatility and talent in the BBQ arena. This achievement would not have been possible without the invaluable support and sponsorship from Chef Kristian Mahalitic, Coach Mike Fojtik, Chef Jay Collins, Brock Group, The Vandergrift Family, B&H Distributors, Sharkies and Exporter Apparel. Their guidance and resources have helped propel Anchor & Flame to new heights in the competitive BBQ landscape. As they prepare for the State Championship, the team is eager to continue building on their success and representing Brazosport High School with pride. The team's success has earned them a spot at the upcoming State Championship, set to take place on May 3 in Burnet. Congratulations to LeLand Matthews, Adrian Garcia, Gwendolyn Whistler, Klarissa Ledezma, and Izaeh Chabra.

- On November 15, 2024, students from Brazosport High School, Brazoswood High School and Clute Intermediate School had an outstanding showing at the Area 4 Texas Association of Future Educators (TAFE) Competition held at the University of Houston Downtown. Dozens of students showcased their hard work and dedication across a variety of projects, representing BISD with pride. This year's competition marked a significant milestone for Clute Intermediate, as it was the first time the school participated in TAFE. Their impressive inaugural performance highlighted the growing enthusiasm and talent among our intermediate students, adding to the overall success of the BISD TAFE program.

Congratulations to the following students:

Brazosport State Qualifiers

Clifton White - Portfolio

Natali Reyes - Portfolio

Larissa Pryor - Portfolio

Catalina Cisneros-Huerta - Portfolio

Aliana Mata & Maritza Cardenas - Interactive Bulletin Board Special Edition

SPONSOR: Jaime Moreno

Brazoswood State Qualifiers

Olivia Bonnot and Katherine Odom - Children's Literature Kinder-3rd Varsity

Olivia Guffey - Children's Literature Kinder-3rd Junior Varsity

Michelle Ebey - ELF Test Varsity

Adelyn Bonnot and Caroline Odom - Children's Literature Pre-K Junior Varsity

James Mann and Kayleigh Johnson - Children's Literature Pre-K Varsity

James Mann and Lindsey Nichols - Interactive Bulletin Board Varsity: Elementary audience

Leon Hudzietz and Chip Dobson - Interactive Bulletin Board Varsity: Middle School audience

Annie Luker and Caroline Odom - Interactive Bulletin Board Junior Varsity: Middle School audience

Rosie Rios - Spanish Children's Literature K-3 Varsity

Leon Hudzietz - Teacher Created Materials Varsity

Olivia Guffey and Paris Ponce - Project Visualize: Appreciation Junior Varsity

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Kayde Huber and Rami Elyoussef - Project Visualize: Service Varsity
SPONSOR: Mary Ashley Jimenez, Cameron Peters

Clute Intermediate State Qualifiers in middle school level:

Public Speaking: Evangelyn Aguirre, Viviana Damian

Children's Lit Pre-K: Cecilia Alvarado

Interactive Bulletin Board: A'myriah Patterson, Jayson Torres and Jarimiah Clay, Eliza Faltysek and Vivianna Flores

SPONSOR: Mary Ashley Jimenez

- **Spotlight Educator-** The purpose of the BISD Educator Spotlight Award is to recognize outstanding teachers across our district. These are teachers who go above and beyond for not only students, but for their co-workers, as well. They are knocking instruction out of the park, they are collaborative team members, and support all learners. These teachers lift-up their co-workers and students, and their overall performance is spectacular!

December Spotlight Teachers

- **Secondary Spotlight Teacher-Alicia Peña** - Ms. Peña, a 6th-grade math teacher, is highly praised by the Rasco administration for her exceptional dedication to students, mentorship of new teachers, and leadership within the school. She excels at making math engaging and accessible, fostering confidence and a love for the subject in her students. Beyond the classroom, she mentors new teachers, sharing resources and strategies to support their success, and contributes significantly to the math department's collaborative environment. As a campus leader, Ms. Peña actively leads professional development, participates in school initiatives, and supports school-wide goals, inspiring her colleagues with her teamwork and commitment. Her contributions have made a lasting impact on the school community, earning her this well-deserved recognition.
- **Elementary Spotlight Teacher- Crystal Matt-** Ms. Matt, a Kindergarten teacher at Freeport Elementary, is celebrated for her exceptional dedication and passion as an educator. She is a strong advocate for her students, creating a supportive, engaging classroom where every child feels valued and encouraged to succeed. Beyond teaching, she actively participates in PTO activities, fostering collaboration and community within the school. Her peers describe her as caring, driven, and inspiring, consistently going above and beyond to ensure the success of her students and colleagues. Her positive energy, thoughtful lesson planning, and meaningful relationships leave a lasting impact, making her highly deserving of this recognition.

Communication Deployment:

- Board Meeting minutes
- Social Media
- District Website

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Respectfully submitted,

Danny Massey
Superintendent