

Senior Parents/After Prom

Senior After-Prom committee will be having a Lasagna Dinner January 22, during the Whitewright basketball. They will be serving in the High School Cafeteria. Profits will go to funding the Drug Free/Alcohol Free "After Prom" Party.

FCCLA

FCCLA members are working on projects which will be entered into Region 3 competitive STAR EVENTS in February.

Audrey Morrow, Taylor Jordan and Cheyenne Arrington will be spearheading teams who will work with all elementary school children. Their focus is Respecting Our Environment. FCCLA members will be visiting the elementary school on FEB. 1 to work with the children.

Lindsey Holder is the Vice President of Community Service. Her focus is planning and implementing a project to aid the Pennell family, especially the children.

Sara Vincent is participating in a Recycle and Redesign event. She will be taking a garment she no longer wears and revising it, using gently used fabrics, trims, etc.

Band

The Mighty Tomcat Band is extremely proud to announce that Jessica Boren has been selected as a member of the ATSSB All-State Band. The All-State Band is made up of band students from all the 1A, 2A, and 3A schools in the state. After placing high enough at the regional contest Jessica competed for a spot in the All-State Band on Saturday January 9th. Out of the 36 trumpets to perform that day, Jessica placed 4th. The All-State Band will perform at the conclusion of the Texas Music Educators Association's convention on February 13th. Jessica still has one last competition as she prepares to compete for chair placement in the All-State Band, hoping to find her place among the 40 other trumpet players from across the state. Please join us in wishing her luck.

In other band news, the Mighty Tomcat Band is gearing up for the UIL Solo and Ensemble

Contest coming up in February and the UIL Concert and Sightreading Contest in March. The band will be attempting to achieve their second consecutive sweepstakes award by earning 1st divisions in Concert and Sightreading after earning their 1st division rating in Marching earlier this school year.

Theatre/One Act Play

The 2010 UIL One-Act Play, "Daddy's Dyin', (Who's Got the Will?)" by Del Shores has been cast and is in rehearsal. The cast and crew are as follows:

CAST:

SARA LEE TURNOVER.....Millie Van Horn
LURLENE TURNOVER ROGERS..Olivia Burns
MAMA WHEELIS.....Shelbie Strawn
EVALITA TURNOVER.....Hannah Burns
HARMONY RHODES.....Phillip Peterman
BUFORD TURNOVER.....Parker Ellis
OROVILLE TURNOVER.....Clayton Cummings
MARLENE TURNOVER.....Brianna Stowers

CREW:

Stage Manager.....Nick Ellis
Assistant Stage Manager.....Jessica Boren
Lighting Tech/understudy
for Sara Lee.....Morgan Ellis
Sound Tech.....Max Wendorf
Props/understudy for Marlene.....Caitlin Ranallo

ALTERNATES:

Josh Highlander.....understudy for Oroville/tech

Zone and District contests will be held at NCTC in Gainesville on March 26, 2010 and March 31.

FFA

The AgScience department is getting ready for a busy semester. The Ft. Worth Stock show starts next week. We have many students showing at Ft. Worth. After Ft. Worth, we will show at San Antonio, Houston and then the Loy Lake-our county show.

Also coming up soon is National FFA Week, which is Feb. 22-26, the FFA officers have several events scheduled for the week. The students have begun studying and practicing for the judging contests which will be in March.

Softball

Its cold outside and that means softball season is just around the corner. The first day of practice is scheduled for January 22nd. This year's team is looking to improve on last season's playoff appearance and trip to area finals. The Lady Cats return 7 starters while losing senior corners Kayla Hastings and Jessica Lubbers. This season the softball team will hold a cookout and intrasquad scrimmage to raise extra funds for the softball program. Weather permitting the game will be played on February 16th at 5:30. All those who sponsor a lady cat softball player by donating \$25 dollars or more will receive free food and drinks during the game. For more information you can contact Coach Cherry at 903-546-6319.

CLASS RANKING AND G.P.A.

An updated transcript with new class ranking is now available. You must complete a **"Transcript Request Form"** (in front office or magazine rack) in order to receive an updated transcript.

Senior class rank and G.P.A. will be calculated again at the end of the 5th six-weeks for graduation and class ranking purposes.

Final senior class ranking and G.P.A. will not be calculated until after the end of the spring semester. This is the information that will be sent to the college on your final transcript. Make those last six-weeks grades count!!!

TEA News Releases Online

Jan. 14, 2010

State curriculum standards earns "A" in national report

AUSTIN – A national report released today confirms that Texas does a superior job in crafting its own curriculum standards, which were created with input from thousands of Texans.

Texas, along with Alaska, has refused to join an effort this year to create national standards.

Education Week today released its annual Quality Counts report, which this year focuses on the national standards debate and examines the quality of work states have done independently preparing their own standards.

Texas earned a grade of "A" on standards, assessment and accountability, and ranked sixth in the country. The state earned a grade of 100

for both its standards and school accountability systems, and received a score of 86.7 for its student tests.

The report noted that 11 states said they had used the Texas standards when crafting their own standards.

"Today's Quality Counts report verifies what Texas leaders have been saying. Our standards are strong. They are models for other states. The Texas standards were crafted after receiving input from thousands of citizens while the national standards are being written without input from local educators, school boards or parents," said Texas Commissioner of Education Robert Scott.

Texas also ranked sixth and earned a grade of "B" for a category called transitions and alignments, which examines early-childhood education, college readiness and economy and workforce.

The full *Quality Counts* report is available at <http://www.edweek.org/ew/toc/2010/01/14/index.html>.

A LITTLE ABOUT COMMUNITY SERVICE:

Community Service is anything that you do to volunteer to give back to your community without being paid for it. **Most** scholarships ask you about your community service or volunteer hours. There are several organizations in the community where you may be able to help out. For example, cleaning yards for the elderly, visit a nursing home, baby-sitting, helping with Habitat for Humanity, making cards for a children's hospital, or helping with the Special Olympics. If you need help finding a place to donate your time, please see Mrs. Royal. You may also visit www.volunteermatch.org for other resources. Community Service tracking forms are available on the high school website or in the magazine racks outside the counselor's office.

Visit the high school counselor website for the latest and up to date information at www.tombean-isd.org – click on the High School Link!!!

SCHOLARSHIPS:

Updated scholarship lists are in the magazine racks and posted on the Tom Bean High School website at www.tombean-isd.org. They are also e-mailed to parents/students if you have signed up for the “On the Road to Success” list. Sign up today!!! Scholarships are added to the list as they come in to the office. Don’t miss out on FREE money for college by not filling out any applications. If you need help, please stop by and see Mrs. Royal. If you’d like to hear your name called out at graduation for scholarship awards, you *MUST* complete the applications first!

MISC KNOWLEDGE TO HAVE:

TEXAS COMMON APPLICATION

By using the Common Application, you can complete one application to apply to as many Texas public universities as you wish. You should always keep the original application and send copies to the admissions office of the universities, along with the application fee (if any), a transcript (which you request from Mrs. Rogers), and an essay (required by some of the colleges). www.applytexas.org

There is also a Common Application for private universities, including Austin College, SMU, Southwestern, TCU, Rice, and Tulane (and others). Apply online at www.commonapp.org

TOP 10% AUTOMATIC ADMISSION

The Top 10% rule applies to all public Texas universities. If you are in the top 10% of your graduating class, then you have automatic admission to any public Texas university. HOWEVER, you must still meet all application deadlines and requirements, take the ACT or SAT, and pay the application fee (if applicable). Check individual colleges for restrictions. For more information visit www.collegeforalltexans.com or contact the Texas Financial Aid Information Center at 1-888-311-8881.

ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Any student athlete who has a possibility of receiving a Division I or II athletic scholarship must register with the NCAA Clearinghouse at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net

Note to all Males

Please remember that it is the law that you register with Selective Service within 30 days of your 18th birthday. If you do not, you will not be able to receive any federal grants for college. You can register as early as when you turn 17 years and 3 months. It’s as easy as going online at www.sss.gov

FINANCIAL AID:

<http://www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov/>: The FAFSA Forecaster will allow students to submit current income information to determine the type of federal aid for which they may qualify. This is a great tool! Newsletter September 2009 for students to use now to assist in planning for paying for college.

<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>: Free Application for Federal Student Aid. THE form required to begin the financial aid process. Students may apply on FAFSA beginning January 1, 2010 for college admission in the fall of 2010.

<http://www.finaid.org/>: FREE comprehensive guide to student financial aid.

<http://fastweb.monster.com/>: FREE scholarship and college search that can be saved and updated.

<http://www.scholarships.com/>: FREE scholarship search.

<http://www.meritaid.com/>: FREE school-based scholarship search.