

High School-Lance Bernard

I hope that everyone had a great Holiday season. This semester has gotten off to a great start. The spring semester is always a busy time for the High School with athletics, UIL meets, spring concert, FFA contests, and more importantly the TAKS test! The first round of tests for English/Language Arts and Reading will be on March 3rd. Please encourage your child to work hard in preparing for these tests. We will benchmark again this semester in all subjects that are tested and will provide remediation for students who do not perform well on these benchmarks.



Band News:

Dusty Green, Shelby Stanaland, and Scotty Tremaine earned chairs in the All-Region Bands. Taylor Williamson made 5A All-State Band! Students are now preparing for the upcoming solo and ensemble competitions at SFA in February.



Congratulations!
Taylor made TMEA All-State 5A Band



Lauren Lackey placed 3rd in the special talent category at the Beta Club Convention held in San Antonio last week!



2nd Annual Baseball Alumni Game/Homerun Derby

The Bulldog baseball team will be hosting their 2nd annual alumni game/homerun derby on Saturday, February 20th! Everyone is invited as the concession stand will be up and running and BBQ plates will be available. Even if you don't want to stay all day, come get some food and support your local student athletes. Don't let this be the last time we see you at the ballpark!



Scholarships and Deadlines

SFA Alumni	February 1, 2010
Best Buy	February 15, 2010
Xi Alpha Omicron (Rodeo)	February 26, 2010
Austin Bank	February 26, 2010
Blood Center of East Texas	March 1, 2010
Deep East Texas Electric Coop	March 5, 2010
Rusk County Electric Coop	March 5, 2010
Texas Telephone Association	March 12, 2010
Heritage Land Bank (Ag Majors)	March 31, 2010
East Texas Professional Credit Union	March 31, 2010

Parents:

There will be more available throughout the year and I will keep you posted! Please remember to do the FAFSA as soon as you receive your W-2 forms!

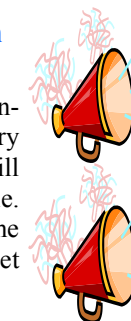
ACT Test Dates:	Deadline to Register:
April 10th	March 5th
June 12th	May 7th



Laws NOW in Effect

Two new laws that ARE in effect:

- Banning teen drivers from using cell phones and text messaging devices
- Prohibiting drivers from using handheld cell phones in school crossing zones.



Cheerleading Tryouts

High School AND Middle School cheerleading **Tryouts** will be held after school on Wednesday, **March 10th**. There will be a mandatory parent and cheer candidate meeting for the **Middle School** parents and candidates on Tuesday, **February 23rd**. High School will announce their meeting at a later date!

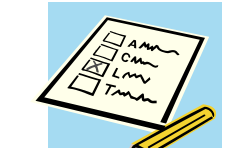
Garrison ISD

January 2010

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Superintendent—Darren Webb

As February approaches, the anticipation of realignment draws near. On February 1st, the University Interscholastic League (UIL) will release the new classifications for all Texas public schools. On October 16, 2009 all schools had to submit their high school enrollment to the UIL. The UIL consists of five conferences A- AAAAA, below are the enrollment figures from the previous realignment:

UIL ..	5A 2085 - up
	4A 980 - 2084
	3A 430 - 979
	2A 200 - 429
	1A 199 - below

According to UIL, 5A should consist of a minimum of 220 schools and a maximum of 245 schools participating in football; Conference 2A through 4A should consist of a number of schools that the enrollment ratio in grades 9-12 between the largest school and the smallest school has a multiplier of 2.0. There should be a least 200 school in each conference. Conference A shall consist of all schools that are not in conferences 2A-5A.

Garrison ISD turned in a number of 197.5 students. You may ask how we have a half of a student. Well we do not, however, using the UIL formula; some schools will end up with half of a student. On Monday, February 1st at 9:00 A.M. CST, administrators, coaches, players and parents will be excited to find out what conference and district their school will be in.

On another note, Mr. Mike Burkhalter has retired as bus driver from Garrison ISD. Mr. Burkhalter has driven a bus for Garrison for over 29 years. He has driven two different generations on his routes. I know there have been many cold and rainy mornings he has gotten up early to make sure the bus was warm for the kids. I personally want to thank Mike for his years of dedication and service to the students of Garrison ISD.

School Board Election Update

School board members whose terms expire in May of 2010 are Kerry Beard and Michael Hammer. Candidates interested in running for school board may pick up application packets beginning February 8th through March 8th in the Superintendent's office between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M.



GISD School Board presented Mr. Kelley a plaque honoring his 31 years of dedicated service to GISD!

!! H1N1 Virus !!

If your child or a family member is interested in receiving the H1N1 vaccine, please contact your child's building principal or the school nurse.

A form must be filled out and filed with the school nurse in order for this vaccine to be administered.

- Elementary.....936-347-7010
- Middle School.....936-347-7020
- High School.....936-347-7030
- School Nurse.....936-347-7050



GISD BOARD



We Appreciate You!

Elementary –Lisa McKnight

We've gotten half way through the school year. Can you believe it? Our Spring calendar promises to be a busy time. We have TAKS testing looming in the background. Semester 1 is complete and success in semester 2 will see your child on to the next grade level. This is one of several reasons why it is so important to make sure your child is at school and on time each day. Classes begin at 7:50 in the morning. If your child eats breakfast at school, he/she must get here earlier in order to finish eating and be in the classroom by 7:50. It is also extremely important that parents take an active role in helping their child with their homework. In the lower grades, reading a book with your child everyday can make a HUGE difference in their reading abilities. In the older grades, just making sure they do their homework each day and that they have a quiet place to work can be a great help. Please feel free to contact your child's teacher whenever you have questions about their progress or their homework. It takes both the parent and the teacher working together to give a child the best possible education. Let's all dedicate the remainder of this year to working as a team for your child's future!

Pre-K/Kindergarten:

Pre-K and Kindergarten have been busy since returning from the holiday break. We are working on letter sounds, reading sight words, and learning our numbers 0-20!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the board members for donating their time to our school!

Thanks



3rd Grade:

Third graders are busy building their multiplication "fact burgers" in Math. We are having so much fun doing this and cannot wait to go eat our burgers at Chili's when we are finished. We are also enjoying our first novel, Stone Fox. As you know, TAKS is right around the corner so we are also busy working hard on these skills! Please continue to read EACH AND EVERY NIGHT in order to meet your AR goal.



Spring Semester Holidays & Events

- February 15th**—Holiday
- February 19th**—Early Release/End of 6 wks
- March 3rd**—TAKS 4th grade Writing
- March 15-19th**—Spring Break
- April 2nd**—Holiday
- April 6th**—TAKS 5th grade Math
- April 7th**—TAKS 5th grade Reading
- April 16th**—Early Release/End of 6 wks
- April 27th**—TAKS 3rd & 4th grade Math
- April 28th**—TAKS 3rd & 4th grade Reading
- April 29th**—TAKS 5th grade Science
- May 18th**—TAKS 5th grade Math re-test
- May 19th**—TAKS 5th grade Reading re-test
- May 27th**—Early Release /LAST DAY

1st Grade:

First grade has been studying all the affects of this wintery weather we've been having in East Texas. We have been learning all about snowflakes, how to tell temperature on a thermometer and beginning our unit on Penguins.

Along with all of these fun activities, the students are doing really well with their AR reading. Please make sure your child is reading every night! This will help with their fluency, which makes for better comprehension of the story and this all added together makes for a better reader!

4th Grade:

Fourth graders will be benchmarking the week of February 1st. Please encourage your student to have good attendance that week so that we can gauge what areas your child needs extra help in before the TAKS tests. We are about a month away from the writing test which will be on March 3rd. Thank you parents for your continued support!



2nd Grade:

Second Grade is moving right along. We are learning to sound out multisyllable words. We are adding and subtracting two and three digit numbers. We are also starting to read story passages and answering questions to get us ready for the "big" TAKS next year. We are eagerly awaiting the arrival of Spring, because we are ready to go outside and enjoy the sunshine. We are studying the seasons and we decided that we are glad that Winter is almost over.

5th Grade:

We have been hard at work and trying to get back into the swing of things again. It's time to get even more serious about the TAKS test and we are now TAKSercising regularly to get in the best shape yet. This means even more new skills and concepts, more stories and questions that are formatted like the actual test, and lots more practice, practice, practice. The test itself will be in late April and we want to be prepared!

Elementary Citizens

Alexa Nunnaly, Seth Hillis, Kaden Jernigan, Jay Polk, Peyton Chancellor, Gerardo Hidalgo, Jonathan Green, Ethan Gillis, Brooklyn Patton, Canyon Holmes, Cord Hillis, Will Weeks, Jacey Mullins, Hope Piazza, Savannah Tinsley, Catalina Zoyolquila, Toby Fleming, Brielle Johnson, Hunter Amos

Middle School–Allan Metcalf

It is almost February ! Middle School students are buckling down preparing for TAKS testing. We are tutoring, using strategies and soon will be taking mock tests to prepare for success. Each eighth grader has to take a reading, math, social studies, and science TAKS test. Students who do not pass reading and math tests must be tutored and retake the test...if they are unsuccessful the second time then a third administration is required. We are working hard to NOT have students in this second and third administration. After school tutorials have started for some reading and math students.

Girls and boys basketball continue for a couple more weeks. The first middle school track meet is February 22nd.

We have had a great year thus far. Thanks for all the support from parents. Please continue to be involved and encourage your child. We will accomplish the most with your child when parents, teachers, and administration all work together.

Mrs. Schaeffer:



The 8th graders have just completed a project where they designed their own web site with several links to information about themselves. It was not necessarily the easiest project they have taken on but it turned out to be really neat. Now they are working on different aspects of Microsoft Office Word and learning a lot of the tricks and tips involved in using this program.



The 7th graders from last semester are now with Coach Farek and I have a whole new set of smiling faces to enjoy daily. These lucky students are getting to learn the basics of the binary language as well as the difference between a bit and a byte. They will also soon be editing an advertising flyer as well as learning to put a signature line on an e-mail.



Mrs. Hammer:

The MS FCA would like to thank Coach Allen for being our guest speaker for the month of January. We REALLY ENJOYED her message.

The 7th grade science students are studying cells. Students will be able to explain diffusion, osmosis, photosynthesis, cellular respiration, and mitosis.

The 8th grade science students will learn more about how desirable traits collect in a population and how organisms interact with their environment.

Mrs. Lloyd:

I would like to congratulate all of the citizens of the Month on the Middle School and Elementary campuses. Please drop by the foyer of the elementary/Middle School and take a look at our Wall of Honor. I would like to congratulate all of the Honor Roll students. Keep up the good work!

Lot Crew members will attend the education/public safety meeting for this month. I am very proud of their hard work.

The Explore test (pre-ACT test) will be given for 8th grade students on February 3rd. There are a few spots left for the testing session. The cost of the test is \$7.50. Please send your money if you would like for your child to participate in this testing session.



Allysa Horton, Jordan Henderson, Katie Sensabaugh

Mrs. Kimbrough:

Seventh grade students have begun a study of poetry. Their first assignment was different and interesting because they were asked to bring lyrics to a song, which is simply a poem set to music. The students will be writing their own original poems and learning the types of poems, figures of speech found in them, and especially the rhythm and rhyme of poems. FUN!!!

Eight grade reading students are studying Latin roots, prefixes, and suffixes to analyze words. And as always, they are reading for AR points and to earn the AR field trip.

Mrs. Harris:

In history, the 8th graders are learning about the beginnings of political parties and elections.

7th graders are now carving the Alamo. I expect another year of good replicas to be forthcoming!

Mrs. Phillips:

The 6th graders are buckled in and ready for take off. Half of the year has flown by and we are working even harder the second semester to prepare for TAKS testing this spring. In math, the students are studying systems of measurement using both metric and customary measurements. They just finished studying Japan in social studies, and are currently working on electricity in science. We just started reading The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle and are working on a cruise brochure to compare with Charlotte's cruise.

Congratulations Bluebonnet Voters

Eligible voters are those who:

- Are enrolled in grades 3-5
- Are enrolled in a registered school or are home schooled youngsters frequenting a public library that is registered in the TBA program
- Have read (or heard read aloud) at least five of the 2009-2010 Master List Books.

Visit the Bluebonnet website @www.garrisonisd.com Library Resources. Students that read 15 of the Bluebonnet titles will go on the spring Bluebonnet fieldtrip!

