



# SMOKE SIGNALS

## Newsletter of Santa Fe ISD

VOLUME VI ISSUE IV

DECEMBER 2018

**SANTA FE ISD PUBLIC RELATIONS...FROM THE DESK OF PATTI HANSSARD,  
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES:**

I wish to exchange and share heartfelt seasonal greetings as we all look forward to the holiday break. We are very proud in SFISD that we see evidence of sharing every day. Teachers share their knowledge, skills, talents and love with their students. Students share their voices and their talents. Also, students, staff and parents share their resources. I have come to know this community and district as caring and supportive when it comes to tragedy or need. Because of our wealth, I believe that we have a responsibility to share with others, and I believe that sharing is the heart of the "HOLIDAY SEASON." I am proud to see evidence of sharing every day in our district.

In this brief message, I would like to make a gift of wishes for you and your family.

I wish you the knowing that your chosen work has meaning and significance.

I wish you peace and understanding.

I wish you patience and serenity in all things.

I wish you surprising, unexpected kindness, and goodness in abundant measure.

I wish you courage for the journey that is your life.

Finally, my wishes end where all things begin: I wish you love, joy, giving and sharing!

Merry Christmas, happy holidays and warm wishes for a great New Year!



As in every community, there are families in Santa Fe that are economically challenged. For many years, Santa Fe ISD has connected families in need to those that want to help. This year we are providing gifts for 405 students in the district. Our district social worker, school counselors, and others in the Holiday Program Team, work with local businesses, churches and individual donors to purchase specific gifts for our students.



*"I would like to thank the family that adopted me and my children for Christmas this year. The smile on the face of my children is the greatest gift I could receive. Thank you for making Christmas happen for us!"*

*"You have put a smile on my children's faces and warmth in our hearts. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!"*





Each year, House Members are invited to select a constituent to imagine and create a visual representation of what makes your Texas House District special. This artistic endeavor – in the form of an ornament – will decorate a majestic 23-foot, Texas-grown Christmas tree that will stand in the House Chamber of the Texas Capitol during the holiday season. Now in its tenth year, the district ornament project has proven to be a fun, educational, and much-anticipated experience for the Capitol's thousands of holiday visitors. Representative, Dr. Greg Bonnen (pictured here) chose Santa Fe High School Art Students to create the ornament. The District is honored to have the opportunity to be represented and become a part of Texas history.



"SFHS Thespian Society members went to the Hobby Center in downtown Houston to see our very own Cameron Redwine in his first professional production. He was a part of an offstage ensemble in *Beauty and the Beast*. As a thespian troupe we are here to support one another, and watch each other prosper into many things greater than ourselves. So say we all!"  
— Haley Tucker



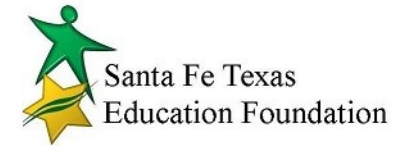
In September, the Santa Fe High School's Culinary All-Stars won the 2018 People's Choice Award at the Santa Fe Chamber of Commerce Taste of Santa Fe event. Students made hot wings with peppered mango! In this photo, the students are receiving their trophy from Chamber board members.





## Mainland Rotary

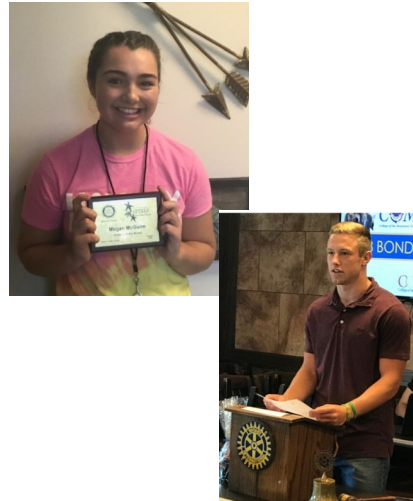
Galveston County Mainland Rotary, in cooperation with the Santa Fe Texas Education Foundation, recognizes two Santa Fe High School Students of the Month during the school year.



### September Students of the Month

**Miranda Trigo** plans to attend the University of Houston and major in Pre-Med. Miranda has played softball all 4 years, has been involved in Student Council and PALS.

**Colton Scott** plans to attend Texas State University and major in Construction Management. He has played football all 4 years in High School, is also a member of Student Council and National Honors Society.



### October Students of the Month

**Megan McGuire** is currently undecided on where she will attend college for a major in Political Science. She has been involved in Student Council, Interact, Science Club and theater.

**Austin Lamb** will attend Prairie View A&M and major in Psychology. He has played football all 4 years.



### November Students of the Month

**Jacob Bishop** will attend San Jacinto College or Texas A&M Galveston and major in Maritime Engineering. He has participated in a Space Project and is involved in Project Graduation.

**Braylea Miller** will attend College of the Mainland. She has been in cheerleading all 4 years.



### December Students of the Month

**Alexis Nichols** will attend Texas State, will major in Communication disorders to become a Speech Pathologist. She is in Student Council and National Honors Society.

**Hunter Farris** remains undecided on where he will attend college to major in Chemical Engineering. He played football all 4 years and also is participating in shot put and discus.



## SFISD Employees of the Month

### September

**Shannon Davidson**  
Wollam Elementary

**Kari Thomas**  
Kubacak Elementary

**Lynda Janice**  
Santa Fe Jr. High

**Danielle Hildebrand**  
Santa Fe High School

**Seth Krampota**  
Transportation

**Gary Gray**  
Maintenance and Operations

**Poppy Razor**  
Custodial

**Martha Delfin**  
Nutrition Services

**Walter Braun**  
Administration

### October

**Eva Dilbert**  
Wollam Elementary

**Shannon Schulze**  
Kubacak Elementary

**Gabriela Sanchez**  
Santa Fe Jr., High

**Katy Hebert**  
Santa Fe High School

**Steven Shaffer**  
Transportation

**Randy Epler**  
Maintenance and Operations

**Belinda Garcia**  
Custodial

**Robin Lackey**  
Nutrition Services

**Mathew Seese**  
Administration

### November

**Amber Collins**  
Wollam Elementary

**Dede McLaughlin**  
Kubacak Elementary

**Charissa Messinger**  
Santa Fe Jr. High

**Jonathan Burns**  
Santa Fe High School

**Billie Wright**  
Transportation

**James Goolsby**  
Maintenance and Operations

**Adalgisa Grullon**  
Custodial

**Jenny Vanderhoef**  
Nutrition Services

**Kari Kovacevich**  
Administration

**Charles Layton**  
Police Department

### December

**Kendra Pain**  
Wollam Elementary

**Angela Kennedy**  
Kubacak Elementary

**Kristen Pfaff**  
Santa Fe Jr. High

**Joseph Hawkins**  
Santa Fe High School

**Marlayna Smith**  
Transportation

**Marvin Janicek**  
Maintenance and Operations

**Poppy Razor**  
Custodial

**Maria Trevino**  
Nutrition Services

**Randie Martindale**  
Administration

**Jennifer Smith**  
Police Department





The Santa Fe TX Education Foundation Grant Award Parade visited campuses and awarded 17 Grants for Great Ideas to classrooms totaling \$34,800

The new projects include:

Library Books  
DNA Model Kit  
Rotary Motion Sensor Lab  
Robotics Program  
Seismograph  
Anemometer  
Wind Turbine  
Pilot Mentor Program  
Classroom Libraries

Photos of grant patrol will go here



*Love, Laugh, Learn*

Thursday, February 7th  
Cocktail Hour 6:00 P.M.  
Dinner & Program 7:00 P.M.

Nessler Center/Wings of Heritage  
2010 5th Ave. N  
Texas City, TX

9th Annual Santa Fe Education  
Foundation Gala

For information please contact:  
The Foundation (409) 925-9080 or  
Jodi.Gidley@SFISD.org



☒ Yes/I will support SFISD students & classroom grants!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please select your level of support below.

**Distinguished Partner at \$8,000+**

1 reserved, priority table for 8 ★ Special MC recognition ★ Full-page program listing ★ Logo & link on website ★ Invitation to SFISD grant awards ★ A free team in our May 4 Fun Run

**Platinum Partner at \$5,000**

1 reserved, priority table for 8  
Company table signage  
Full-page program listing  
Name & logo on website  
Invitation to SFISD grant awards  
Free team in our May 5 Fun Run

**Diamond Partner at \$2,500**

Reserved seating for 4  
Half-page, program listing  
Company table signage  
Invitation to SFISD grant awards

**Gold Sponsor at \$1,000**

Reserved seating for 4  
Company table signage  
Quarter-page program listing

**Silver Sponsor at \$500**

2 event tickets  
Quarter-page program listing  
Name & logo on website

**Bronze Sponsor at \$250**

2 event tickets  
Program listing

**Individual tickets are \$50** Number you are purchasing: \_\_\_\_\_



☐ Check here if you would like to donate your unused tickets to SFISD employees. Indicate the number of tickets you wish to donate here: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check here if you would like to be invoiced.

Please make payment to:  
Santa Fe TX Education Foundation  
PO Box 747, Santa Fe, TX 77517 or  
at sfisd.org/educationfoundation



# Santa Fe

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## University

*Our mission is to Prepare  
ALL members  
of the Santa Fe  
Independent School District  
learning community to  
Achieve and Succeed  
through innovative  
strategies and  
collaborative relationships.*

## What is TRIBE University?

TRIBE "U" is a unique program that gives Santa Fe ISD and community members a first-hand look inside the operations of the school district. Sessions will be held throughout the year. Enrollment is open to any parent, business leader, and/or community member within Santa Fe ISD.

### What will we do?

Sessions will include information about different aspects of public education including:

- ◇ School and Student Safety
- ◇ Curriculum, Instruction, and Accountability
- ◇ School Finance (Local, State, and Federal)
- ◇ Personnel Selection and Recruitment
- ◇ Tour of Facilities and Campuses
- ◇ District Committees & Responsibilities
- ◇ District Special Programs and Special Services
- ◇ School District Policy (Legal & Local)
- ◇ Community Partnerships/Education Foundation

### Sessions:

January 16 <sup>th</sup>	School District Finance (Legislative Priorities)
February 13 <sup>th</sup>	School District Policy (Legal & Local)
March 20 <sup>th</sup>	District Committee & Responsibilities/Community Partnerships
April 17 <sup>th</sup>	Personnel Selection and Recruitment/New Elementary Staffing

\*All sessions will be held at the Cowan Education Center  
4133 Warpath  
Santa Fe TX 77510  
from 6-7 PM

### For more information:

Visit our Santa Fe ISD website at [www.sfid.org](http://www.sfid.org) and click on the Tribe "U" link on the homepage.  
Patti Hanssard, Asst. Supt. for Human Resources & Public Relations at [patti.hanssard@sfisd.org](mailto:patti.hanssard@sfisd.org)



Click to see progress on the 2016 Bond for the new elementary school and the new attendance boundaries.



Click HERE to link to district calendar

**SANTA FE ISD**

## **SAFETY MATTERS**

Safety is our highest priority, and we continue to work diligently to provide a safe and supportive learning environment for our students and staff. Safety Matters is a weekly publication that provides specific information on topics of safety around the district.

Click to review the archives of these newsletters.



JOIN US FOR

## PARENT COFFEE TALKS AND TRAININGS



### Elementary School Sessions



Let's  
Talk

**Date & Time:** Friday, Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:30AM

**Location:** Cowan Administration Building

**Presenter:** Elementary Counselors

**Topic:** Bullying & Peer Conflict

**Description:** This session will discuss ways to identify bullying and how to differentiate between peer conflict and bullying.

[SIGN UP HERE](#)

**Date & Time:** Monday, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> at 5PM

**Location:** Cowan Administration Building

**Presenter:** Michelle Grassmuck

**Topic:** Literacy at Home

**Description:** This session will include strategies to use with your child when reading at home.

\*\*\*Students encouraged to attend with parents!

[SIGN UP HERE](#)

**Date & Time:** Thursday, Jan. 17<sup>th</sup> at 5PM

**Location:** Cowan Administration Building

**Presenter:** Shannon Davidson

**Topic:** Reading is a Conversation!

**Description:** Parents can learn to read with their children while also engaging in conversation about the text. This session will provide tools for parents to feel more confident at home to support their children as readers.

\*\*\*Students encouraged to attend with parents! [SIGN UP HERE](#)

**Date & Time:** Thursday, Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> at 5PM

**Location:** Cowan Administration Building

**Presenter:** Jamie O'Gorman

**Topic:** Math on the Go!

**Description:** This session will include ways to incorporate math into our busy everyday lives in a fun and engaging way!

\*\*\*Students encouraged to attend with parents!

[SIGN UP HERE](#)





JOIN US FOR

## PARENT COFFEE TALKS AND TRAININGS



## Junior High and High School Sessions

**Date & Time:** Friday, Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> at 9AM  
**Location:** Santa Fe High School Library  
**Presenter:** Kimberly Pruitt  
**Topic:** How to Help Your Child Cope with PTSD  
**Description:** This discussion will include ways for parents to identify and help their students cope with PTSD.

**Date & Time:** Friday, Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> at 9AM  
**Location:** Santa Fe Junior High Library  
**Presenter:** TBD  
**Topic:** Charitable Works  
**Description:** This talk will allow parents the opportunity to give back to the community through programs within the district.

**Date & Time:** Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 9AM  
**Location:** Santa Fe High School Library  
**Presenter:** SFHS Wellness Counselors  
**Topic:** Emotional Coping  
**Description:** Parents will learn ways to aid students in emotional coping skills, including training in EFT (Emotional Freedom Techniques). [SIGN UP HERE](#)

**Date & Time:** Monday, Oct. 22<sup>th</sup> at 5PM  
**Location:** Santa Fe High School Library  
**Presenter:** Amanda Wagner & Teachers  
**Topic:** It's a Marathon, Not a Sprint: How to build stamina and fluency in a young reader  
**Description:** This session will focus on book clubs at the high school, including the rationale behind book clubs and what parents can do at home to support this project. [SIGN UP HERE](#)

**Date & Time:** Tuesday, Jan. 15<sup>th</sup> at 5PM  
**Location:** Santa Fe High School Library  
**Presenter:** Amanda Wagner & Teachers  
**Topic:** Writing is Writing, right?  
**Description:** This session will focus on the difference between the writing process and writing to learn. [SIGN UP HERE](#)

**Date & Time:** Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at 9AM  
**Location:** Santa Fe Junior High Library  
**Presenter:** Katie Casey  
**Topic:** Study Tips and Test Preparation  
**Description:** This talk will explore ways for parents to teach their students to use best study habits and practices. [SIGN UP HERE](#)

**Date & Time:** Friday, Oct. 26<sup>th</sup> at 9AM  
**Location:** Santa Fe Junior High Library  
**Presenter:** Lee Anne Aluotto  
**Topic:** How to Recognize Substance Abuse  
**Description:** This group will focus on ways to prevent, recognize, and get help for someone suffering from substance abuse. [SIGN UP HERE](#)

**Date & Time:** Friday, Jan. 25<sup>th</sup> at 9AM  
**Location:** Santa Fe High School Library  
**Presenter:** Beth Yorlano  
**Topic:** College Check List  
**Description:** Information on college preparation and a question/answer session will give parents the tools they need to help their students. [SIGN UP HERE](#)

**Date & Time:** Friday, May 24<sup>th</sup> at 9AM  
**Location:** Santa Fe High School Library  
**Presenter:** SFHS Guidance Counselors  
**Topic:** Internships, Endorsements, and Career Goals  
**Description:** Parents will be equipped with knowledge about graduation plans and continuing education throughout the summer. [SIGN UP HERE](#)

**Date & Time:** Friday, Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> at 9AM  
**Location:** Santa Fe High School Library  
**Presenter:** Beth Yorlano and Katie Casey  
**Topic:** Suicide Prevention  
**Description:** Understanding the signs and identifying suicidal ideation, along with supportive resources, will be the topic of this session. [SIGN UP HERE](#)

**Date & Time:** Tuesday, Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9AM  
**Location:** Santa Fe Junior High Library  
**Presenter:** Dr. Linda Hart  
**Topic:** Fighting Anxiety and Building Self-Esteem  
**Description:** This discussion will supply parents with different tools to help support positive mental health. [SIGN UP HERE](#)

Let's Talk



JOIN US FOR

## PARENT COFFEE TALKS AND TRAININGS

All-level Sessions

Let's  
Talk

**Date & Time:** Tuesday, Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5PM

**Location:** Cowan Administration Building

**Presenter:** Cindy Maseo & Jennifer Hulse

**Topic:** Positive Behavior Supports in the Home

**Description:** This session will provide parents with strategies for positive behavior support in the home.

[SIGN UP HERE](#)

**Date & Time:** Thursday, Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> at 5PM

**Location:** Cowan Administration Building

**Presenter:** Donna Brown & Chrissy Healy

**Topic:** Boxing up homework with a busy schedule.

**Description:** Come learn how to make a homework box that houses all school supplies for on the go families. Other ideas to create a homework space in your home for kids will also be shared. [SIGN UP HERE](#)

**Date & Time:** TBD

**Location:** Cowan Administration Building

**Presenter:** Jennifer Macauley & Harold Payne

**Topic:** Better Conversations

**Description:** This session will provide parents with tools and tricks to enhance communication with each other and with their children.

## Tech Talks

**Date & Time:** Thursday, Nov 8th at 5PM

**Location:** Cowan Administration Building

**Presenter:** Gina Covington & Microsoft®

**Topic:** OneDrive & OneNote

**Description:** This session will demonstrate Microsoft tools used by students in the classroom. Parents will also learn how Microsoft can help at home and at work.

[SIGN UP HERE](#)

**Date & Time:** TBD

**Location:** Cowan Administration Building

**Presenter:** TBD

**Topic:** Family Access

**Description:** Parents can learn how to check student grades and navigate the Family Access system.

**Date & Time:** Tuesday, Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5PM

**Location:** Cowan Administration Building

**Presenter:** Kathy Oliver & Gina Covington

**Topic:** Improving Reading and Writing with Technology

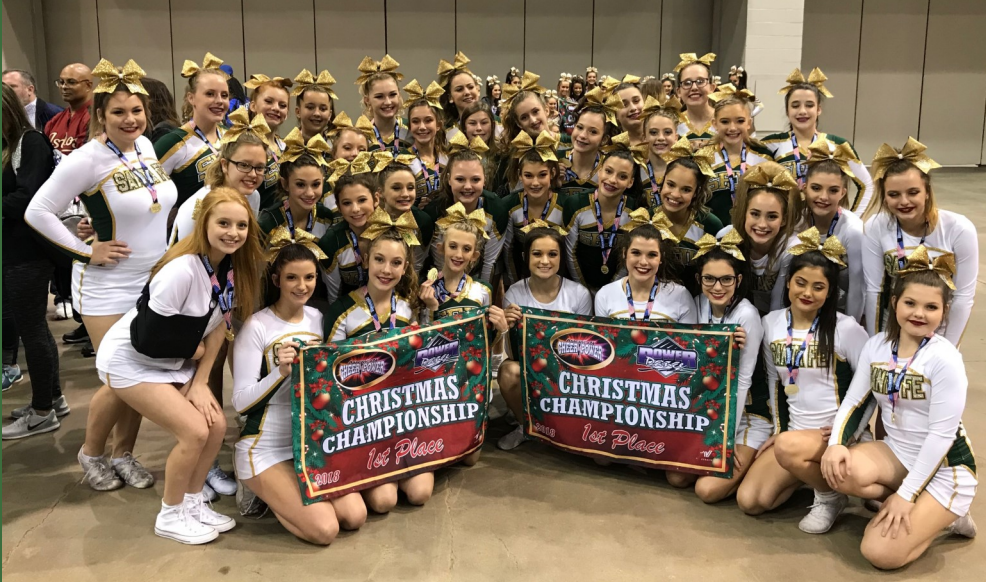
**Description:** Parents can learn to read with their children while also engaging in conversation about the text. This session will provide tools for parents to feel more confident at home to support their children as readers.

[SIGN UP HERE](#)





Congratulations to the Santa Fe JH and HS Cheer Programs for winning their Division and taking First Place at the Cheer Power Christmas Championship at NRG on Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup>!



For more news, visit these links:

[www.sfisd.org](http://www.sfisd.org)

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