

Superintendent Monica Simmons'

October Newsletter

October 1, 2023

Dear Jacket Community,

We are welcoming you into the month of October and, hopefully, we can welcome cooler temperatures as well! The weeks are flying by quickly, and as I visit schools, students are engaged and learning, and schools are celebrating progress made. It brings me joy to see all the great opportunities our students have. We have successfully completed one full six weeks of school and there have been so many accomplishments already. Elysian Fields ISD is truly a great place to be!

Thank you for a great Homecoming Week in Elysian Fields ISD. This was a great time for our students, staff, and alumni to come together and celebrate. I am always in awe at the amount of Jacket Pride on display during Homecoming Week. It is my hope that throughout the year, we can stay unified and supportive of each other. It truly does take a village.

I encourage you to be involved in your child's educational experience through a variety of ways, including participating on campus and district committees, PTO, and volunteer opportunities which will allow you to stay connected with teachers and administrators at your student's school. Our partnership is vital for the success of your student.

Throughout this school year, we will celebrate the achievements of our students, acknowledge their growth, and provide ample opportunities for them to shine both inside and outside the classroom. From academic achievements to artistic endeavors, from sports triumphs to community service initiatives, we are committed to fostering an inclusive and supportive atmosphere that nurtures all talents.



As we continue on this educational journey together, I want to express my sincere gratitude for your trust and support in our school and educational community. Together, we will make this academic year one of growth, learning, and academic achievement.

Our vision in Elysian Fields ISD is that we are preparing students today for success tomorrow. That is so powerful to me. We want all of our Jackets to be able to excel in whatever positive thing they choose to do after high school. Whether it is college, the military, a high-skill job, or even entrepreneurship, we want the best for all students after graduation.

We are The Best Little School District In Texas!
Continue to DREAM BIG in all that you do!

Pictured: Donna Lovelace and Mrs. Simmons with student Makenzie McMullen

Celebrations



"Great leaders don't set out to be a leader....
They set out to make a *difference*."

Our Campus Leaders



High School Principal
Shay Thompson



Middle School Principal
Martha Lovaasen



Elementary Principal
Kelly Cordray

September Honors

At the September board meeting, **Travis Heath** received a Certificate of Excellence for his enrollment and participation in the Kilgore College Firefighter Program. He is excelling and his instructor had so many wonderful things to share about his efforts.

Amanda Ware received a Certificate of Excellence for being a dual credit course instructor for ETBU. She instructs our students in English 1301 and English 1302 and we are so very thankful and appreciative of her dedication and wisdom.

Deanna Anders received a Certificate of Excellence for her willingness and ability to help teacher's master technology. She co-taught a technology professional development training for teachers at the beginning of the school year and has a way to inspire staff and students to learn technology.



Shay Thompson & Travis Heath



Shay Thompson & Amanda Ware



Martha Lovaasen & Deanna Anders

FIRST EFHS JACKET BAKE OFF



First Place- Tyler Bass
Second Place- Janiyah Anderson
Third Place- Noah Ramirez

Student Ambassadors

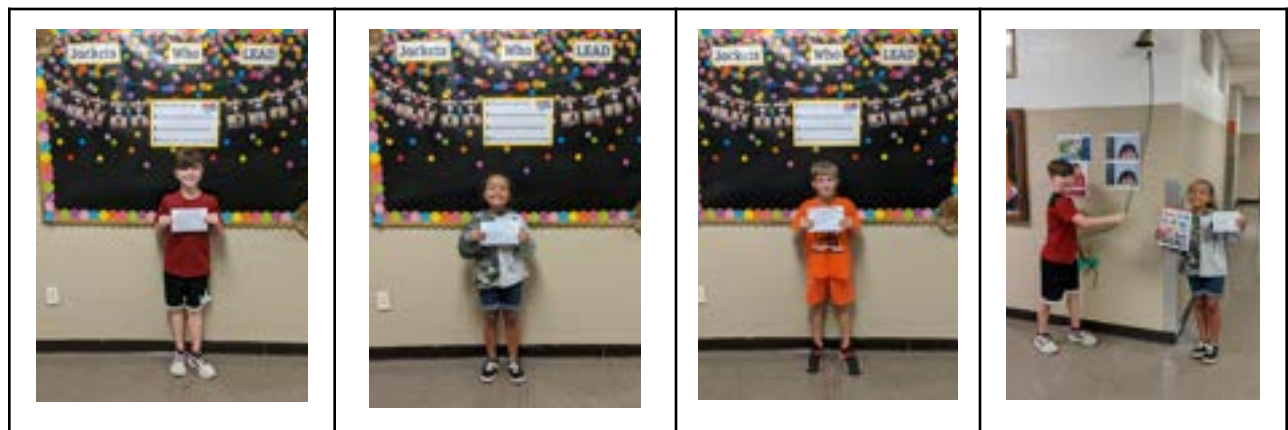


3rd Grade- Liam Alexander and Layla Pippen

4th Grade- Hunter Malmay and Paris Marshall

5th Grade- Jeremiah (JJ) Thompson and Hannah Myhre (Not Pictured)

Positive Referrals



The positive office referrals keep coming! Our elementary students are showing their good character and leadership skills daily! We love how these students lead the way for others. Some of these students have received more than one positive office referral! We are so proud of them for all they do every day to lead the way at Elysian Fields Elementary School! Go Lil' Stingers!!!

2023 DISTINGUISHED JACKET



Mrs. Anna Williams and Mrs. Faye York with family and friends at the ceremony.
Picture provided by Addison Marie Photography

During the pre-game activities at Elysian Fields High School Homecoming, the 2023 Distinguished Jacket award was presented to sisters—**Mrs. Ann Williams** and **Mrs. Faye York**.

Ann Carter Williams graduated from Booker T. Washington in 1963. She was employed at Elysian Fields High School for 40 years before retiring in 2022. Mrs. Ann's daughter is also a graduate of Elysian Fields. Mrs. Ann is a member of Elysian Fields Baptist Church where she serves on the Usher Board.

Faye Carter York attended Booker T. Washington High School and worked at Elysian Fields High School for 46 years before retiring this year. All of her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren either attend or graduated from Elysian Fields. She has been a faithful supporter of all activities for many years. She is a member of Elysian Fields Baptist Church where she is a member of the choir.

A certificate was presented to Mrs. Williams and Mrs. York by Superintendent Monica Simmons, and their names will be added to a plaque on the Distinguished Jacket wall in the high school.

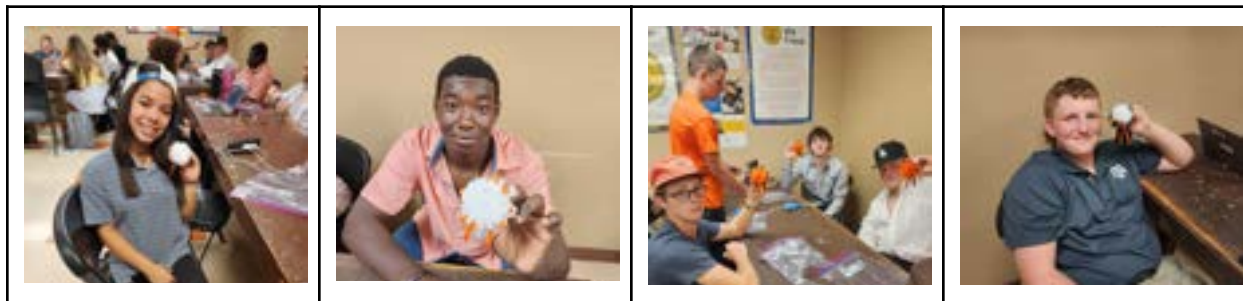
2023 Homecoming Queen



Homecoming Queen Baylee Vickers escort Jax Parker and father Ronnie Vickers
Picture provided by Addison Marie Photography

Senior Baylee Vickers was named the 2023 Homecoming Queen before the homecoming game on Friday, September 15.

Making Mums



Spirit Week



Farm Bureau Athletes of the Week



Aug. 21-25: Nunu Kennedy- Football- Nunu had a great kickoff return to set up his long receiving touchdown and led the team in tackles in the game vs. Atlanta.

Aug. 28-Sept. 1: Allison O'Brien- Volleyball- Allison leads the team in Assists and Aces, 2nd in digs and blocks, 3rd in Kills. Allison also is a cheerleader, junior class officer and 3rd in her class.

Sept. 4-8: Aiden Humphrey- Cross Country- Aiden has had the fastest 5K times on the team for the past three weeks and continues to improve.

Team Spirit



The middle school volleyball teams were introduced before the varsity game and stayed to cheer for the high school girls while they played.

Learning is Fun



The forestry class has been learning about tree volume and wood products.

Rocking with Pete the Cat



Miss Boston's class read all about our friend Pete the Cat this week, and they also earned a popcorn party by receiving lots of compliments on their straight and quiet lines in the hall! Mrs. Fort's class also got in on the Pete the Cat action!



Mrs. Bueton's second graders have been working on writing and identifying base ten form, expanded form, word form, and standard form. This activity tied them all together.

Learning from Alumni

EFHS Alumni and Comcast Solution Engineer Krystin Lantz visited with my UIL Computer Science class to explain building networks and how the internet really works! Students learned about fiber optics, redundancy and routers, packets, dns servers, and so much more! We were so lucky to have her come speak to our students and give them an insight to careers with computer science.



AR Vending Machine



These scholars earned a token for the elementary book vending machine! We ❤️ to instill a love of reading in our scholars! #ReadLeadSucceed

Artists of Every Age

There is an abundance of creativity taking place in the high school art studio! Students learned about contemporary Pop Artist Romero Britto and then chose a current Pop Culture icon that they felt represented their generation. All work is being displayed in the halls of the high school.

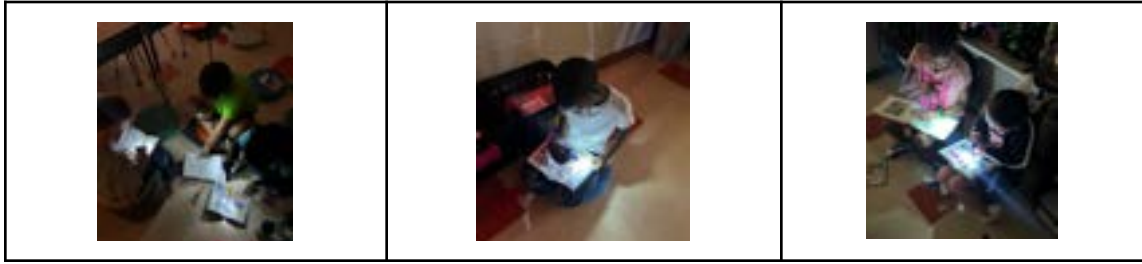


During the first six weeks each grade level at the elementary school created space art using a variety of mediums! They focused on cool and warm colors and how colors compliment each other.

PreK - 1st grades worked on craftsmanship as they used crayons to color their space kitty pictures. 2nd grade used construction paper to design robots, 3rd grade drew aliens and practiced shading and blending with colored pencils, 4th grade used construction paper to create rocket ships and then added background details with oil pastels, and fifth grade created space scenes using crayons and watercolor paints!



Reading with Flashlights



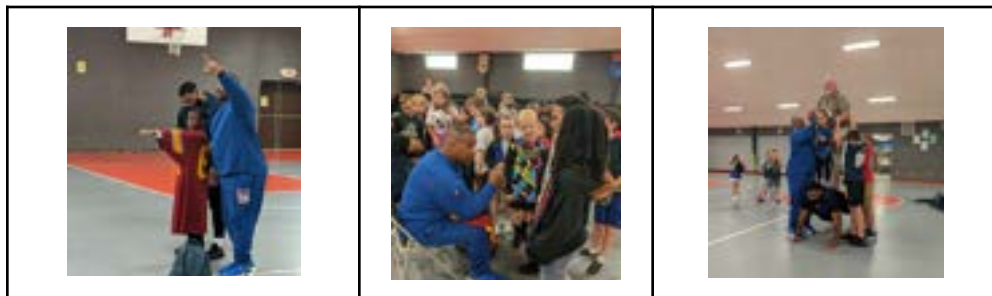
During the Read-a-Thon, students “brightened” their day with “Flashlight Friday.”

Colorful Accessories



Elementary students enjoyed expressing their creativity by making bracelets.

A Visit from Keith Davis



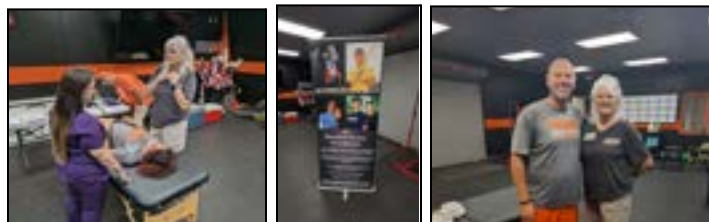
Students enjoyed a visit from motivation speaker Keith David who encouraged students and gave them several inspirational messages.

6th Grade Math



Students in Mrs. Lightle’s class learned to work with decimals on a flip chart.

Heart Testing



The Brandon Goynes Foundation offers affordable heart testing for ANYONE--students & adults.

Athletes Reading at the Elementary (Football, Cheer and Volleyball)



Friday Night Lights



Celebrating the USA

Students created posters and wearable art to showcase their American spirit! They got to show off their work in an assembly!



See You at The Pole led by the High School FCA Leaders



What a fantastic end to a great month at EFISD!

With Jacket Pride,

Monica Simmons

EFISD Superintendent



UPCOMING EVENTS

- October 2 - School Custodian Appreciation Day
- October 2 - Board Meeting at 6pm
- October 4 - Elementary Fall Pictures
- October 5 - Safety and Security Meeting at 9 am and Flu Shot Clinic
- October 6 - Early Release at 1 pm
- October 6 - Varsity Football at Harmony
- October 9 - No School (Columbus Day)
- October 9-13: National School Lunch Week
- October 10 - Guest Speaker Damon West and High School Senior Pictures Day
- October 11 - Progress Reports Issued and Fields of Faith at 7pm at Jacket Stadium
- October 11 - Texas Educational Human Resource Day
- October 13 - Community Parade and Pink Out Day
- October 13 - Varsity Football vs. Daingerfield (Home)
- October 14 - Jacket Fall Bash (Movie Night)
- October 17 - Volleyball
- October 19 - Kona Ice at the High School
- October 20 - Varsity Football at Hughes Springs and Elementary Fire Drill
- October 21 - Hocus Pocus Night at 6pm
- Oct. 23-27: Red Ribbon Week
- October 24 - Elementary Family Night "Reading Unders the Stars"
- October 25 - Student Ambassador Meeting
- October 26 - Elementary Lockdown Drill
- October 27 - End of 2nd Six Weeks and Elementary Fall Fun Day
- October 27 - Varsity Football vs. New Diana & Chili Cook-Off

