2016 Pink Out
Support for Survivors

story on page 15
This year’s Hillsboro ISD theatrical production, Willy Wonka & The Chocolate Factory, featured a cast of nearly 50 students ranging in age from 3rd grade through 12th grade. The wide range of ages enabled the older students to mentor the younger ones, helping them learn to work as part of a larger group, encouraging memory skills, teaching them how to perform as an ensemble, and supporting them as they learn to breathe through any fears of performing on stage.

The musical tells the story of Charlie Bucket, who receives a “Golden Ticket” and visits Willy Wonka’s chocolate factory with four other children from around the world.

Directed by Hillsboro High School theater teacher Aimee Kasprzyk, the musical was very much student driven, inspiring them to work as a group, and to hone their critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Students took part in all aspects of the production. Those who had not been exposed to musical instruction learned to read music, and they all participated in the set design and construction.

“The 1971 film, Willy Wonka & The Chocolate Factory, starred Gene Wilder, who we lost recently to Alzheimer’s,” said Kasprzyk. “Given the loss of such a great actor, it felt right that we presented a charming, sweet and funny show about the triumph of imagination and the need for good in people to rise to the top.”

Proud of her students, Kasprzyk said, “These kids are amazing and are learning so much, which makes my heart full.”
Good to Go From Head to Toe

In preparation for the school year, the Hillsboro ISD School Health Advisory Council hosted the 2nd annual Good To Go From Head To Toe community event on August 13. This event was designed to help all children and families in the community, especially those in need. Volunteers provided health and safety services, child education and information about local youth programs.

“This year’s event was even bigger and better than the one last year, reflecting the support and dedication of the local business community to the children and families of Hillsboro ISD,” said Angela Boyd, Hillsboro ISD’s Executive Director of Curriculum & Instruction. Services provided included SightFirst vision screening by the Lions Club, child immunizations by Passport Health and free back-to-school haircuts provided by Afresh Salon and Gitz & Glamour.

The primary sponsors included Sonic, the Hillsboro Police Department and Encore. Over 500 bags and backpacks full of school supplies were distributed, made possible by Encore which donate a portion of the funds to purchase the supplies. The Hillsboro Police Department donated Under Armour gift cards to be used toward the purchase of new tennis shoes for the children.

Additionally, information on after-school and supplemental programs was provided by the Hillsboro Library and the local Boys and Girls Club.

The Hillsboro ISD School Health Advisory Council, a group of volunteers made up of parents, teachers and business leaders, headed by Angela Boyd, is already hard at work preparing next year’s event.

HISD Recognized for Legacy of Excellence in Education

The City of Hillsboro’s free public school system began in 1886, marking the start of a legacy of excellence in education for Hillsboro students.

Just ask someone who knows like Will Lowrance, a former Hillsboro ISD (HISD) student, teacher and administrator as well as a past Hillsboro city council member and mayor.

“HISD provides a challenging, nurturing environment for all students, which has been built on a solid foundation of educational excellence since 1886,” said Lowrance.

Lowrance currently serves as chair of the Hillsboro Historic Preservation Commission, which recently honored HISD for its contribution to the preservation of the city’s history at the 7th Annual Historic Preservation Dinner.

HISD’s notable contributions include the integration of two years of college in the school system (1923-1950); quality facilities; 21st century learning environments that produce creative, collaborative, critical thinkers; a reciprocal relationship with Hill College regarding dual-credit courses; and numerous state and national recognitions.

“Today, the district has a focus and goal of providing quality education for all its students,” Lowrance said. “HISD is now known across the region and state as a progressive, innovative and student-engaging district.”
Grooming Leaders at HISD

Hillsboro ISD (HISD) is committed to providing opportunities for students to learn leadership skills they can use and refine throughout their school years and take into college, and ultimately, the marketplace.

CHESS TIME
One way this happens at Hillsboro Intermediate School (HIS) is a daily opportunity to engage in traditional game time by playing chess on an actual board with actual pieces—a departure from today’s more common electronic video games. Every morning before school, students gather around 10 tables to play chess. Four students sit at each table—two play chess while two observe, often offering strategic advice.

The game time, initiated and implemented by HIS teacher Pam Hamilton, encourages interaction, teaches problem-solving skills and stimulates the brain. “The students are also learning to engage in healthy debate about the best game moves, which is a skill that will serve them well throughout school and life,” said HIS Principal Stephanie Tucker.

The students have responded positively to this new way of starting off the day. “Chess is a more complicated sport because you really have to think about what you’re doing, but it’s fun! It’s cool we get to have recess first thing in the morning, while we’re actually working at the same time,” said 5th grader David Shaw.

RESPECT AGREEMENT
Another way pre-K to 12th grade students are learning leadership skills is through the development of a classroom Respect Agreement. Students created a Respect Agreement for each class based on four relationships: student-to-student, student-to-teacher, teacher-to-student and student-to-campus facilities.

Working in teams, they developed the agreements, which fostered teamwork, negotiation, compromise and strategic thinking.

“We believe it’s important for students to understand the importance of respectfully and effectively engaging with others,” said Becky Montgomery, HISD bilingual/ESL coordinator and Restorative Discipline trainer. “This is a skill that will serve them well both in and out of the classroom as they develop into tomorrow’s leaders.”

ATHLETIC TRAINERS
Before the hum of the Friday night lights, during the heat of competition on the field, and after the roar of the crowd fades, the student athletic trainers (ATs) are there, quietly and happily doing an important job that teaches leadership skills.

“Extremely valued members of the Hillsboro Athletic Program, the ATs—15 students ranging from freshmen to seniors—are trained in CPR and certified in first aid,” said HISD Athletic Trainer John “Doc” Robertson. “They also provide pre- and post-game treatments, triage bloody noses and other injuries and bring water to the sidelines.”

Time management and teamwork are two important skills the ATs learn, according to senior ATs Lizbeth Guevara and Anna Barbee. Guevara went on to say that she “believes this experience will help her juggle and prioritize responsibilities in college.”

Barbee’s experience has shaped her career aspirations. “I’ve enjoyed learning to treat injuries, and I plan to be a physical therapist,” she said.

Authentic experiences in and out of the classroom provide opportunities for HISD students to lead and learn.

PEER ASSISTED LEADERSHIP (PAL)
Everybody needs a friend, and that’s what the PAL (Peer Assisted Leadership) mentoring program offers—“friends with good skills,” said Jesse Hayes, HISD P.E. Teacher & Girls’ Athletic coordinator and PAL advisor.

To become a PAL (mentor), a Hillsboro High School junior or senior is first recommended by an HISD teacher, administrator or staff.
member and then they participate in a six-week training class on leadership skills including proper etiquette, confidentiality rules and communication skills.

Each PAL is then assigned a younger PAL (mentee) to meet with weekly. Whether having a conversation or reading together, the older PAL has a responsibility to be a good role model and leader.

Hayes, who is honored to work with the program, said, “In addition to the tangible leadership skills the students learn, they also gain the more intangible gift of the power of helping others, which I hope they carry throughout their lives.”

BAND LEADERSHIP TEAM

Students in Hillsboro High School (HHS) band have ample opportunities to gain leadership skills. From section leaders to drum major, student leaders guide others toward a cohesive production, with the marching and music all in sync.

Another opportunity to gain leadership experience is to be a part of a leadership team that is responsible for organizing equipment, uniforms and fellow band members. The leadership team members, who are selected through an application process, learn teamwork, responsibility and diplomacy.

HISD Band Director Darrington White said, “The students also learn how to balance being both a friend to their fellow bandmates and a leader, which helps develop and nurture maturity.”

Through the process, students are also learning technology skills that will help position them to lead in the increasingly competitive technology-driven marketplace.

WEE PAWS

Another way that HISD seeks to teach leadership skills is through a program called Wee Paws—a club aimed at teaching responsibility through serving the community by caring for adoptable animals. To gain membership to the club, Hillsboro Junior High School (HJHS) students are required to write an essay on what it means to be a responsible leader.

“The club will soon take a trip to the Paw Pals Pet Adoption Center where they will walk and interact with the dogs,” said Betty Cox, HJHS secretary. “I think one of the best ways for students to learn responsibility, compassion and leadership is by understanding the commitment of caring for an animal.”

STUDENT COUNCIL

Student Council, a group of 35 elected and volunteer students, provides an outlet for student expression and opportunities to be involved with school affairs, which cultivates leadership skills.

Through a wide range of projects and activities, student council promotes citizenship, scholarship, leadership, human relations and cultural values—all of which help create well-rounded students who are better prepared to excel in the classroom and beyond. Events hosted by the Student Council include blood drives, food drives, and teacher appreciation projects.

Currently, the HHS Student Council holds the position of parliamentary for District 6. Last year, they held the vice president position and hosted, for the first time in the last 10 years, a Student Council convention for approximately 350 students.

“Student Council offers opportunities for students to learn important skills such as negotiation and conflict resolution, said HHS teacher Damaris Nuuanu. “And they learn the significance of being a positive role model, which is a key leadership quality.”

Through these various programs at HISD, students are being groomed and prepared to effectively lead and powerfully influence others in the classroom, the workplace and in life.

ePORTFOLIO

In lockstep with HISD’s commitment to prepare students to be leaders in the evolving digital marketplace, Hillsboro High School freshman are participating in a pilot program in which they are developing a personal ePortfolio or website.

“The ePortfolio—a personalized, positive digital footprint—will showcase projects they’ve developed, skills they’ve learned, leadership opportunities, and key strengths and accomplishments,” said HISD Director of Instructional Technology Cindy Darden.
REGION 12 SECONDARY TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Michael Chirhart

A day in Michael Chirhart’s high school classroom is filled with learning, engagement, laughter and mutual respect. It’s no wonder the popular biology, anatomy and physiology and environmental science teacher was recently named Region 12 Secondary Teacher of the Year.

Chirhart, a nurse for 18 years before trading in hospital rooms for a classroom, said he knows that teaching is what he’s meant to do. His students affirm that he is, in fact, right where he is supposed to be. “Mr. Chirhart is an incredible teacher. He uses a lot of different teaching techniques in his classroom on a daily basis. As students, we never know what technique he will use, but it always makes the learning interesting, challenging and fun,” said senior Lindsey Freeman.

Senior Christine Santana said, “Mr. Chirhart finds the way you learn best and then teaches you that way so you can be successful.”

Reflecting on his teaching philosophy, Chirhart said, “My primary goal is to bring positivity and energy to the classroom, so the students learn academics, time management, study habits and team work—all skills I believe will serve them well both in and out of the classroom.”

“You might have heard the quote ‘people don’t care what you know—they want to know you care,’” said Hillsboro High School Principal Keith Hannah. “Well, Mr. Chirhart’s students definitely know he cares about them. There’s great mutual trust and respect between him and his students, which makes his students want to work hard and truly engage in class.”

Chirhart, who is honored and humbled to have won this award with having less than five years of teaching experience, is “thankful to everyone who has supported and helped me in the small role I play in our student’s education.”

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Grandparents’ Day
The Young & Old(er) Come Together for Fun
Portrait of a Learner
How HISD is re-envisioning learning experiences and student engagement

In fulfilling the mission of “Preparing Today’s Students for Tomorrow’s World,” Hillsboro ISD (HISD) educators are shifting their focus away from standardized test scores. Instead, they’re capturing the true characteristics of a 21st century learner through a far more refined lens—HISD’s Portrait of a Learner (portrait).

The portrait is an approach to teaching and learning the District Design Team and District Educational Improvement Committee (DEIC) began developing in 2014. It embodies four skills business and industry deem necessary for students to be successful in the 21st century: critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity/innovation.

Each of the skills are supported by a rationale and descriptors that HISD’s Executive Director of Innovative Learning Sheila Bowman said took over a year to complete.

In short, HISD’s Portrait of a Learner depicts one that cultivates creativity and innovation, communicates effectively, collaborates with all stakeholders, and employs critical thinking skills to solve real-world challenges.

“We recognize these skills aren’t innate in students, so teachers must design learning experiences that provide opportunities for students to learn and refine them,” Bowman said.

The portrait was introduced last year to administrators and staff, as well as to the public, and was included in this year’s new teacher induction program.

“We’re now focusing our communication efforts on assuring all stakeholders understand the portrait,” said Bowman. “We want the portrait to be more than words written on a page—we want it to be a lens through which we view learning experiences for our students.”

While the implementation process is ongoing the goal is for the portrait to become part of HISD’s teaching and learning culture to ensure 21st century readiness for all HISD students.

“We’re preparing students for jobs that don’t yet exist,” she said. “Focusing on these skills will ensure they’re equipped to be future leaders of a global community.”

Hillsboro ISD was awarded a $25,000 grant from America’s Farmers Grow Rural Education, which will fund the creation of a Learning Experience (LEx) Lab at Hillsboro Intermediate School.
Every Dollar Counts for HISD’s Students

Hillsboro ISD Education Foundation raises funds to place innovative teaching tools and advanced technology into the hands of the future of our community—our students.

The Foundation’s contribution supports innovative academic opportunities for Hillsboro ISD students.

Every gift counts, regardless of size, and every single dollar stays in the community to support our students.

To get involved today, please:

- **Email or Phone:** Executive Director Katharine Matthys at matthys@hillsboroisd.org or 254-582-8585
- **Donate Online:** Go to www.hillsboroisd.org, click Education Foundation, then click the Donate Now button

THANK YOU, DONORS!
The HISD Education Foundation is grateful to all individuals and organizations for their generous financial support of important, innovative educational initiatives for Hillsboro ISD’s students.
Welcome New HISD Employees!

HISD newest employees chose HISD because...

“I have the privilege to work for a school family that supports each other and does what’s best for kids each and every day.”
—Joseph Diaz,
Hillsboro Intermediate School

“From the moment I walked through their doors, I could tell they had a passion for kids and they made me feel like family! HISD has a desire to see kids grow and achieve their dreams, and I am so proud to be a part of that.”
—Courtney Robinson,
Hillsboro Intermediate School

“I wanted a change and a new challenge. It’s a breath of fresh air and I’m lovin’ it!”
—Tammy Gooden,
Hillsboro Intermediate School

“HISD is a small school district where community and the children are priorities. Hillsboro Elementary School feels like family.”
—Annette Abt,
Hillsboro Elementary School

“I was looking for a school family that would help me grow as an educator!”
—Kellie Mathis,
Hillsboro Intermediate School

“The philosophical approach, in the name of progress, of many districts has taken on the utilitarian idiom of ‘The needs of the many outweigh the needs of the few,’ but HISD and Superintendent Vicki Adams have the nearly antithetical approach that attracted me to this great district; I came, not to silence, but to give just as loud a voice to the ‘few’.”
—Janel Morris,
Hillsboro High School

“I was, and am, extremely impressed with the faculty and wonderful school culture.”
—Annette Straw,
Hillsboro Elementary School

“The district values the importance of supporting teachers in their classrooms, in order to promote student learning.”
—A.J. Pitts,
Hillsboro ISD
Homecoming 2016
Respect and Gratitude for Hall of Fame Inductees

“It may be 20 or 30 years later when you realize the influence you had on someone.”

—John “Doc” Robertson, MEd, LAT, Hillsboro High School Head Athletic Trainer, HHS Hall of Fame organizer

In the case of some of those inducted into Hillsboro High School (HHS) Athletic Hall of Fame on Saturday, October 22, that influence can still be felt almost a century later.

In his video introduction of legendary athlete and coach Earl “Mule” Frazier, renowned Baylor track coach Clyde Hart recalled meeting the inductee and fellow legendary coach when Hart was competing at a junior high school state track meet in Arkansas. Frazier was the race starter at the time, but years later they struck up a lasting professional relationship and friendship.

The respect, the lessons and the relationships—they carry on through the years. Robertson said he thinks Coach Dobie Smith from the 85-86 district championship boys basketball team got “about a thousand hugs and thanks” from his former players and others who saw him at that weekend’s Friday night football game.

Clearly, the gratitude for lessons learned is never forgotten. When Mickey Jackson presented Coach Palma Galiga, he said the perfectionist coach made them repeat the plays until they got it right. “He taught us how to be successful,” recalled Jackson.

And when U.S. Congressman Roger Williams (who played baseball for Merlin Priddy) introduced his former coach, he smiled and said, “We may have hated [how hard he was on us] at the time, but he made us better players for it.”

Like “Bullet” Billy Patterson, who was a passing quarterback before it was cool, the members of the HHS Hall of Fame class of 2016 were ahead of their time. They led by example, they were the best at what they did and they gave much to the community of Hillsboro.

Robertson said he hopes the Hillsboro Hall of Fame will continue to preserve the qualities they embodied to inspire a new generation of Hillsboro athletes.

Earl “Mule” Frazier

Hilsboro High School Honors

1917 State Track Meet
3rd Place Team – 1A (was a one man team)
120 Yard Hurdles – Gold Medal
14.4 (State Record)
220 Yard Hurdles – Gold Medal
300 Yard Dash – Bronze Medal

1918 State Track Meet
1A Team Champion Team Member
120 Yard Hurdles – Gold Medal
14.4 (State Record)
220 Yard Hurdles – Gold Medal
26.4 (State Record)
100 Yard Dash – Gold Medal – 10.4
220 Yard Dash – Gold Medal – 23.4
Long Jump – Bronze Medal

Baylor University Honors

4 Year Track & Field Letterman (1919, 1921-24)
1921 & 1923 SWC Champion
120 Yard Hurdles
220 Yard Hurdles
Team Captain – 1923
2-Time All-American

Hillsboro High School Athletic Hall of Fame

HHS Class of 1918

He History of the Alamo Heights Mascot - In 1926, former head coach Earl “Mule” Frazier led the football team to its first district championship and gave Alamo Heights its mascot, the Mule. Today, the Mule stands for outstanding spirit and support of the Alamo Heights Community, Faculty, Staff, and Students – past, present, and future.
Regional Finalist – 1985-86

Season Record: 29-6
District 15-3A Champions

Front Row: Jeffry Fennell, Kevin Anderson, Daren Johnson, Darren Hayes, Bryan Erwin, Jason Halbert, Dan Williams, Keith Williams

Back Row: Dobie Smith (Head Coach), Johnny Green, Oscar McGill, Billy Lucas, Andrew Fowler, Jason Thornell, Joe Johnson, Steve Hale

Not Pictured: Assistant Coaches – John Grazier & Bob Jones

Inducted: October 22, 2016

Merlin Priddy
HHS Class of 1956
Hillsboro High School

Tri-Captain – 1955
All-State – 1954 & 1955
Super Centex – 1955
All-American – 1955

Texas Christian University
3-Year Letterman – 1957-59
Frog Club MVP
(SMU Game) – 1958
MVP Optimist All-American Bowl – 1960

National Football League
Buffalo Bills – 1960

Coaching Career
43 Years with the Fort Worth I.S.D.
Arlington Heights High School
22 Years as Head Football Coach
9 District Championships – Football
6 Years as Head Baseball Coach
2 District Championships – Baseball
98-17 Record – Baseball
State Semi-Finalist – Baseball - 1960

Hillsboro High School Athletic Hall of Fame

Inducted:
October 22, 2016

Left to right: Dr. David Priddy (Merlin Priddy’s son), Merlin Priddy, and Congressman Roger Williams

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES
“Bullet” Billy Patterson

Hillsboro High School Honors
THSCA All Star Game - 1935

Baylor University Honors
Football, Baseball, & Cross Country
Baylor 1930’s All Decade Team
All Southwest Conference (1937 & 1938)
All American (1938)
East-West Shrine Game MVP (1939)
Baylor Hall of Fame member (1963)
Baylor Ex Students Association President
Baylor University Board of Trustees

NFL Career
Drafted By: Pittsburgh Pirates – 1939
Chicago Cardinals (Bears) - 1939
Pittsburgh Steelers - 1940

Hall of Fame
Hillsboro Chamber of Commerce HOF - 1987
Texas High School Football HOF - 1988
Rio Grande Valley Sports HOF – 1995

Military Service
U.S. Navy
U.S.S. Gambier Bay

HHS Class of 1935
“This writer ranks Baylor’s “Bullet” Bill Patterson as the most underrated back in Southwest Conference history.” – Bernie McCarty

“In all my years of coaching, I guess the boy I wanted most and didn’t get was Billy Patterson.” – Dutch Meyer

“Mechanically the best all-around back in the league was Bullet Billy Patterson of Baylor (And this was the year that Davey O’Brien of TCU won the Heisman Trophy).” – Dallas Morning News

Hillsboro High School Athletic Hall of Fame
Inducted: October 22, 2016

Palma T. “P.T.” Galiga

Hillsboro High School Honors
Head Football Coach
1948-1956, 1955-56
34-54-5

1955 – (12-2)
District Champions
Bi-District Champions
Regional Champions
Quartefinal Champions
State Semi-Finals Champion
State Finalist
District Coach of the Year
Super Centex Coach of the Year
Sportswriters Coach of the Year Runner-Up
12 - Most Wins @ HHS – One Season

1956 – (9-3)
District Champions
Bi-District Champions
Regional Finalist

Career Highlights
Hilltopper Football Coach in HIS History
Career Record: 98-57-5
2-Time Super Centex Coach of the Year
Texas High School Coaches Association
Hall of Honor - 1987

“Coach Galiga emphasized teamwork and execution; he taught us how to win.”
– Merlin Pridy

“Coach Galiga was a perfectionist; we’d run the same play until we got it right. He also taught us to respect ourselves and others – on and off the field.” – Mickey Jackson

Hillsboro High School Athletic Hall of Fame
Inducted: October 22, 2016
Pink Out Breast Cancer

In support of National Breast Cancer Awareness month, the 2016 Pink Out Breast Cancer ceremony was held prior to the October 7 Hillsboro High School football game. Players and cheerleaders, organized by Haley Patterson and Rose Strona of the Hillsboro Independent School District, lined the field to honor women who have been affected by cancer, giving each of them a pink carnation. “It was a beautiful way for the students and the community to show support for the fight against cancer,” said Patterson.

Learning to Follow Their Hoop Dreams

In his inaugural basketball camp held right here in his hometown of Hillsboro, former NBA player and Hillsboro ISD Hall of Fame inductee Michael “Mike” Harris brought area kids a unique opportunity—the chance to learn the game they love from those who have played it at the highest levels.

Joined by seven colleagues—including an Olympic weightlifting trainer—Harris and his team of professionals devoted every second of the week-long day camp in July to encouraging budding players and helping rising stars hone their skills.

“My favorite moments were proving some of the children wrong,” recalled Harris. “Some of them didn’t believe they could do certain things, and I was in their corner telling them, ‘yes, you can.’ It’s truly a blessing to help kids conquer their doubts.”

“I wish every one of our basketball players could have participated in this camp,” said Adams. “The chance to get personal, professional coaching is so rare.”

Hillsboro ISD Athletic Director Joe Adams said he’s so impressed with how the camp was conducted and is certain it will help build the district’s boys and girls basketball programs.

“I wish every one of our basketball players could have participated in this camp,” said Adams. “The chance to get personal, professional coaching is so rare.”

Both Harris and Adams hope to bring the camp back to Hillsboro next summer.