



Home of the Tigers

Leonard ISD
A Texas Recognized School District
Superintendent Brad Maxwell
#1 Tiger Alley
Leonard, TX 75452

Visit us on the web
www.leonardisd.net

Please support our local businesses - they support our school.

Parents and Community Members of LISD SCHOOL DISTRICT

Please watch for school buses



It's Coming 2018
Tiger's Tale Yearbook

Order your yearbook now. →

Hint The theme for the 2018 Tiger's Tale yearbook has been selected and the possibilities are endless. - **Order Yours Now! \$50.00 if purchased before Jan. 1, 2018 \$60.00 after Jan. 1, 2018**



We currently have a few 2017 yearbooks left for sale. The price is \$60.00. Hurry before they are all gone! Contact Nancy Longino at 903-587-3556 ext 627 if interested.

On the Trail of the Tiger *Prowling with Pride*



BACK TO SCHOOL

Volume 10, Issue 1

October 6, 2017

Leonard Independent School District

Microsoft® Office Specialist Certification Helps LHS Students Develop Workforce Skills

Leonard Independent School District will partner with parents and the community to create life-long learners who are academically and socially prepared to be productive citizens. We are proud to provide a safe, respectful, learning environment where all children are challenged through stimulating learning experiences to achieve their dreams. At LISD we are investing in the future of our students.

Leonard High School has joined the selective ranks of schools who offer courses in Microsoft® Office. This is the first year LISD will offer Microsoft Office Specialist certification class in its Business class. While LHS has offered a Business Information Management (BIM) course for many years, students continued to struggle to put their knowledge to use in the real world. Leonard encountered the reality that students were generally unable to perform situational tasks that required them to problem solve.

Students can earn up to three certifications, one for each of the applications. The skills students gain while preparing for certification build creativity and self-empowerment and LHS believes this is what learning is all about. "It's not just the certification they get - they're learning to think, to make decisions, to become more innovative and creative to make their projects the best they can," said BIM teacher Nancy Longino. Successful certification carries value in the workforce. Students can show a prospective employer they are highly qualified for the positions they apply for and many local employers agree this certification makes applicants highly attractive. In the business world today almost every industry uses Microsoft Office - construction, law, banking - all of them. When job candidates come in with Microsoft Office Specialist certification, every industry recognizes its value. Preparing the students of Leonard High School for the workforce or college is our main goal and the implementation of this MOS program is going to help prepare them in this area.

Sensing a need in this area for the students to be "workforce ready" and having a lot of feedback from industry people saying our students need to know the software generally used in an office environment to make them attractive to hiring personnel. With the implementation of offering the Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) certification program students could apply the skills they learn and be able to use these skills in the workforce. Students who take the required BCIS 1 course learn the basics of Microsoft Office Word 2016, Excel® and PowerPoint®.

Inside this issue:

LISD Introduces MOS Certification Class	1
Counselor's Corner	2
Welcome back letter from superintendent	3
Tiger Tale's Yearbook	4



Littrell Assumes the Essential Role of High School Counselor at LHS



I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself, my name is Kacie Littrell and this is my first year as high school counselor. I have been the Leonard Junior High counselor for three years and I have taught junior high at LJHS for six years before that. I have been married to my husband, Ryan for four years and I have a 2 ½ year old daughter named Addyson. I graduated from Leonard High School in 2004 and received a Bachelor's of Arts in Psychology from Austin College in 2008. I have a Master of Arts in School Counseling from the University of Texas at Tyler and in May I will graduate with a Masters of Education in Clinical Mental Health Counseling. I love spending time with my family, reading, watching Criminal Minds, napping, all things holiday, and LSU! I am very excited about working with the students at the high school level.

Clearly education is a passion of mine and I look forward to helping students take and prepare for the next step in life after high school graduation. I hope to also serve our student body with help in stress management, suicide prevention, academic guidance, and any mental health questions I can. I want students to know I have an open door policy and look forward to helping in any way I can. I look forward to offering support to the students, staff, families and community. Leonard High School holds a very special place in my heart and I hope to help serve its students to the best of my ability. **Go Tigers!**



2017 Leonard ISD Board of Trustees

Stability, honesty, and a value for strong foundations provide a steady base for our students. We are fortunate and grateful to have these qualities in our LISD Board of Trustees.

- Billy Michael Watson - President
- Jack Bonds - Vice-President
- Scott Blackerby - Secretary
- Robert Damesworth Jr.
- Justin Perry
- Angela Sadler
- James Watson

On the Trail of The Tiger

This newsletter is written and distributed for the parents and patrons of the Leonard Independent School District. Comments, questions, concerns and suggestions may be directed to the Superintendent, Brad Maxwell, at the LISD Admin Bldg., or to Nancy Longino at longinon@leonardisd.net. Please remember that space is limited, therefore we may or may not be able to share your ideas, but we always welcome your input. Special thanks to Mrs. Meghan Hornberger at Leonard High School for her proofing and editing skills.



WELCOME BACK!

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



I would like to welcome all of our students, families and community members to Leonard ISD for the 2017-18 school year. With the beginning of a new year well underway, we are off to a great start! From welcoming our incoming class of pre-kindergarten and kindergarteners to the start of their educational journey to our senior class of 2018, wrapping up their final year with us at Leonard ISD, we have many reasons to be excited. I, for one, am excited to be a part of this school district. We are a district full of wonderful students, staff, parents, and community members. You see, regardless of who we are or what we do, *Everyone Matters* in LISD, which is our motto for the 17-18 school year.

I have had the privilege of being a member of this community and district for many years, first as a student when I walked through the doors of Leonard Elementary School as a third grade student a long time ago, to graduating from LHS in 1990. During my school experiences, I was influenced by a number of great educators along the way. This played a big part in my decision to become an educator. Upon graduating from college, I was hired as a teacher/coach at Leonard Junior High. During this time, I had the opportunity to do what I loved doing – teaching and coaching the young people of Leonard. I felt as if I

had the best job in the world. Getting to make a positive impact on our kids meant a lot to me then just as it does now. Many of those same young men and women back then have grown up and have chosen to call Leonard home for their families today.

After several years of teaching and coaching, I soon found myself heading into administration. I hoped that the impact I was able to make early on in my career, would be multiplied immensely by getting the chance to be a principal and work with all of the students and staff of a campus. I had that opportunity when I became principal of Leonard Elementary School. I spent fifteen years getting to be a part of the early educational journeys of a lot of kids in our community. Not only was that rewarding, but to get to see these kids grow and flourish throughout their years at LISD was indescribable. Getting to work with an amazing staff was icing on the cake. I look back on those days as some of the best in my career.

After my elementary days, I graduated to the high school and once again had the chance to continue to be a part of the educational experiences for many of the same Leonard students I started with early on. However, this time I got to take part on the other end of the route, the final stages before graduation. Having the chance to do this was a fulfilling one for me –

both with the students and staff. I was often asked if there was much of a difference between working at the elementary or high school. My answer was - - regardless of age, they are still kids and they still need to know they are cared for and are important to us all. The old adage is still true today – the way to reach a child's mind is through the heart.

Something else I learned during my own trek was that no one really knows what a day in the life of a teacher is unless you get to experience it firsthand. Watching our teachers and staff day-in-and-day-out made me realize just how fortunate we are in Leonard ISD. Just like I experienced as a student a long time ago, LISD has a great number of educators doing their best each and every day to make a difference in the lives of our kids.

Now that I am superintendent, I get to have the opportunity to lead a district full of outstanding students and staff. I do believe a huge component in the success of our students' education is the importance of parents being active in their kid's educational journey. Whether you have a young student just learning to read, an older kid learning to drive or one in-between, all kids still need to know that Mom and Dad are there for them. All of us at Leonard ISD are here for you and your kids - - - *Everyone Matters.*