# BISD FAMILY CONNECTS

#### ----- FAMILY NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY BISD COMMUNICATIONS -----

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Next issue March 23!

### FORMER BOOT CAMP STUDENT TRINITY WILSON RETURNS TO SHARE POSITIVE MESSAGE



Trinity Wilson attended Bastrop Middle School in the late 1990s. She admits she was a troubled teen looking for stability and routine. When she was sent to the Bastrop County Juvenile Boot Camp, she was overwhelmed by the environment and the structure. Looking back, it was just what she didn't know she needed.

"My first day was a shellshock, but the lessons I learned there have resonated with me all my life," Wilson said. Now a physical therapist in Central Texas, Wilson recently came back to the boot camp that shaped her.

"Coming from a troubled upbringing, this was the only place where I found stability. I knew what was to be expected, and this place helped give me the confidence to believe in myself and to never give up," she said.

Wilson shared her life story to nearly 20 students assigned to the boot camp, showing them that even though they had made a poor decision that landed them there, that decision doesn't have to define their lives in a negative way. In fact, it can be just the opposite. Her boot camp experience provided the structure, reassurance, and reason she needed to change the direction of her life.



"Kids come into the program with so much on their shoulders. They just need someone to believe in them," she added.

Jerome Reese, director of the program, stressed that going to boot camp isn't meant to be punishment. Instead, it is meant to be a restart for students to ensure they can return to their home campus and be successful.

Wilson's primary message for students experiencing challenges or going through a difficult phase in their lives is, "Life happens, and you're not always in control. But no matter what life throws at you, you will always have the power of choice."

The Bastrop County Juvenile Boot Camp (BCJBC) is a non-profit organization which provides behavioral and educational services for court-ordered adolescent males and females between the ages of 10 to 16 years old. These services are provided through a cooperative effort supported by Bastrop County, Bastrop Independent School District, Smithville Independent School District, Elgin Independent School District, Cen-Tex Regional Juvenile Services, City of Bastrop, City of Elgin, City of Smithville, and the City of McDade.

#### SEL UPDATE

#### Self-care tip

The sun has made an appearance a few times this week, and just in time for March's self-care tip. This month, make an effort to get out in the sun to absorb some Vitamin D. <u>Vitamin D</u> is a natural anti-inflammatory and also supports immune system health. Interestingly, a <u>Vitamin D deficiency</u> can present itself in much the same way depression does, with symptoms like feelings of sadness and hopelessness. Health professionals recommend <u>10-30 minutes</u> of sun each day to maintain a healthy level of Vitamin D in the body.

#### What are Students Learning?

Elementary students will begin learning the basics of managing emotions, while Intermediate and Middle School students will take a deeper look at how strong emotional reactions impact things like decision-making and stress. High School students will start to explore ways to be helpful. Families looking to engage their students around these topics can ask questions like:

- What are you learning during SEL time this week?
- What are some clues your body might give you when are having strong emotions?
- What are some ways that strong emotions impact your ability to make decisions?
- What are some ways you can be helpful at\_\_\_\_\_ (home, school, community)?

#### VOLLEYSTARS REGISTRATION OPEN FOR 5TH & 6TH GRADE



Bastrop ISD is offering a volleyball league for fifth and sixth graders. Registration is open until March 4 at noon. Don't miss out, register today.

To download a flyer with more information, click here.

REGISTER - https://bisdtx.ce.eleyo.com/courses/category/57/beyond-the-bell-community

# BISD 🖄 🎔 P-TECH

### P-TECH FAMILY INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS - MARCH 7 & 10

8th graders and their families are invited to attend an informational meeting about the PTECH program.

- March 7 at 10 am & 1 pm (virtual)
- March 10 at 6 pm (in person; pizza served) at the Service Center, 906 Farm Street

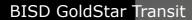
<u>Click here</u> to register for the 8th grade family informational meeting.

Applications for both P-TECH Academies are now being accepted!

You can apply in one of two ways: <u>Click here to complete the online application</u> or <u>Click here for a downloadable application</u>

If you download the application, you'll need to print it, complete it, including necessary signatures, and hand it in to any middle school or high school counselor.

## GOLDSTAR TRANSIT OFFERS NEW INCENTIVES





GOLDSTAR TRANSIT A Member of the STA Family



# TRANSFER APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

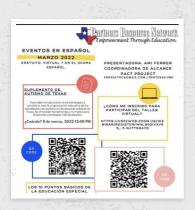
Bastrop ISD is now accepting applications for the 2022-23 school year for **In-District Transfers** and **Out-of-District Transfers**. If your child is currently attending a BISD school on a transfer, you must complete a new application by. **THE DEADLINE IS MARCH 31, 2022.** 

The electronic transfer application is available at <u>https://www.bisdtx.org/transfer</u>.

If you need a paper transfer application for 2022-2023 school year, please email Carolyn Hoeflien at <u>choeflein@bisdtx.org</u>. For questions, email Laura Baker, Director of Student Services,

#### **COMMUNITY RESOURCES**









PARTNERS RESOURCE NETWORK -EVENTS IN SPANISH BASTROP COUNTY FOOD RESOURCES SPRING FEST - SAVE THE DATE

#### COLLEGE PLANNING FOR FAMILIES WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Looking for a college experience for your child with special needs? Allison Schaberg, Special Needs Financial Planner from Consolidated Planning Group, offers answers to families considering the best option for their student who is neurodiverse or has a disability when transitioning out of high school.



COLLEGE PLANNING -FAMILIES W/ SPECIAL NEEDS



#### CONTENTS OF THE IEP WORKSHOP

## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

March 4: Maintenance Workers Appreciation Day March 7-11: School Social Workers Appreciation Week March 8: BISD Board of Trustees Meeting 5:30 pm, Jerry Fay Wilhelm Center for the Performing Arts March 9: Student Holiday/Staff Development Day March 11: #SELday March 14-19: Spring Break





## **CONNECT WITH US!**

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