



Sam Harless

State Representative District 126

August 2022 Newsletter

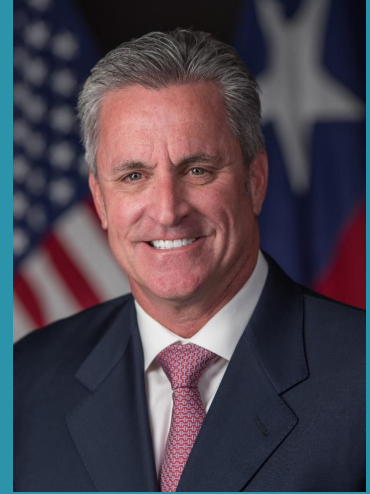


Texas House of Representatives



Texas
House District
126

News
and Information



Interim and Select Committees Hold Final Hearings

Homeland Security & Public Safety - The Homeland Security & Public Safety Committee met in a joint hearing with the Select Committee On Youth Health and Safety on August 8th. The agenda for the hearing includes issues from charges #4 and #5. For the full hearing notice [go here](#).

The committee heard from multiple panels with psychologists, mental health professionals, and professional educators who spoke on the state of mental health and its availability for care in schools and community clinics in Texas. They discussed specific areas where improvement was needed and some of the areas affected by recent legislative changes, such as Senate Bill 11 from the 86th Session.

The Committees heard from the Manager of the Special Populations Division from the Texas Education Agency as well as the Executive Commissioner of Intellectual and Developmental Disability and Behavioral Health Services for the Texas Department of Health Services. They both gave an overview of various state programs and efforts in providing mental health care across the state. There is an increased emphasis in extending these resources into rural areas of the state.

The panel also heard from speakers from UT Southwestern Center for Depression Research and Clinical Care, who discussed current programs like YAM (Youth Aware of Mental Health) and its effectiveness. They and another panelist from Texas Children's Hospital also discussed innovations in Mental Health Program Delivery in Texas.

The final panel of the day testifying before the joint committee spoke about the law enforcement threat assessment monitoring and response. The Chief of Intelligence and Counterterrorism Center from the DPS provided information about the capabilities of the eight fusion centers in Texas and their abilities to monitor and respond to identified threats. The primary fusion facility in Austin is on the campus of the DPS and the other seven are located in major urban areas of the state and operated with local partner agencies. A senior analyst from the TX DPS also provided an overview of the iWatch program, its use, as well as online monitoring efforts of the fusion centers and their level of cooperation with partnering agencies.

Even though asked, none of the major internet or social media corporations, such as Meta (Facebook) Snapchat, Twitter, or others thought it important enough to appear. Associations representing Internet companies such as Technet, NetChoice, and the Entertainment Software Association each had representatives there to speak about their members concerns as well as actions their member companies take to keep their players and others safe while engaging on the Internet. None really stepped up to accept any responsibility for the level of violence or accessibility to younger children on the major platforms and deflected any notion that their members were not actively working to ensure the safety of those using their software or platforms.

Given that the Chairman of Homeland Security & Public Safety, James White, did not seek re-election and resigned his position from the Texas House of Representatives on August 11th, the Speaker of the Texas House will take over the responsibility for completing the report on these interim charges, which should be presented before the beginning of the next legislative session.

Select Committee On Public Health Reform

Chairman Harless and committee members met in Austin on the 4th and 5th of August at the Capitol for a two day hearing, packed with industry and policy experts from across the country. Through out the two day hearing, we provided social media posts on each of the panelists providing testimony, their area of expertise, and focus of their input. Each was selected relative to their experience and area where they intended to testify. The committee tried not to have repetitive testimony to save on time.

Chairman Harless also invited Representative Brian Harrison, who represents Ellis and Henderson counties, to sit in on the committee due to his experience in public healthcare. Representative Harrison previously served as Chief of Staff for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

During the spring and summer this year, we met with numerous stakeholders, experts, and healthcare advocates to identify specific areas for attention. This first hearing and those testifying reflected the input we received from different areas of the healthcare industry, as well as other committee members.

The first hearing focused on the aspects of the interim charges relating to the "access and affordability" components. We collected a number of renowned public policy experts and stakeholder groups for testimony for our first hearing. Our focus was to get a good cross section of the medical and health care industry landscape in Texas and search for solutions to issues affecting so many Texans across the state. Our Committee Clerks searched for and found a number of public policy experts who provided testimony that detailed a number of issues, as well as different perspectives, from across the healthcare landscape. Each was selected relative to their experience and the committee tried not to have repetitive testimony.

While the healthcare system in our state involves a large number of stakeholders, there is no single "bad actor". Many of the problems we face are "intertwined" in a highly competitive and seemingly lucrative industry. As the Chairman outlined in his opening statement that we are searching for solutions to access and availability that plaque so many Texans dealing with rising healthcare costs.

Our second hearing is planned for October 3rd, where we will have a full day that focuses on the remaining charges before the committee, outreach and enrollment to those eligible for Medicaid or CHIP, and examining the various impacts of delayed care on the state's health system.

Texas Conservative Coalition Healthcare Project Article - [here](#)

See full committee charge here: [Select Committee on Public Health Reform Charges](#)

Follow this link to watch the recording of the hearing: <https://house.texas.gov/video-audio/committee-broadcasts/87/>. The hearing was held on August 4th & 5th, so there are individual videos for each day and they are listed as "Health Care Reform, Select".

Operation Lone Star

Governor Abbott launched Operation Lone Star in March 2021 to respond to a rise in illegal immigration. In May, Governor Abbott issued a disaster declaration that now covers 48 counties, mostly counties along the border. The disaster declaration includes the Department of Public Safety, which

or near the border. The declaration directed the Department of Public Safety to “use available resources to enforce all applicable federal and state laws to prevent the criminal activity along the border, including criminal trespassing, smuggling, and human trafficking, and to assist Texas counties in their efforts to address those criminal activities.” The following month, the Governor opened Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) facilities for detaining arrested persons under Operation Lone Star. The challenges of securing our southern border and controlling the flow of illegal drugs and weapons and border crossings are immense.

The DPS [Border Wall and Operation Lone Star Summary Page is here](#)





OPERATION LONE STAR



Dashboard As of August 25, 2022

Activities in the Operation Lone Star Area of Interest

	Criminal Arrests	Criminal Trespass Arrests	Felony Charges	Federal/Other Charges	Migrant Apprehensions & Referrals	Illegal Entries Deterred	Bailouts
TOTAL	19,414	4,977	16,802	1,513	300,847	25,991	2,690

	Marijuana Seizures (lbs.)	Cocaine Seizures (lbs.)	Meth Seizures (lbs.)	Heroin Seizures (lbs.)	Fentanyl Seizures (lbs.)	Fentanyl Lethal Doses	Currency Seizures (USD)	Firearms
TOTAL	20,871	3,313	11,020	77	284	64,472,061	\$11,344,991	1,111

Statewide Operation Lone Star Activities

	Marijuana Seizures (lbs.)	Cocaine Seizures (lbs.)	Meth Seizures (lbs.)	Heroin Seizures (lbs.)	Fentanyl Seizures (lbs.)	Fentanyl Lethal Doses	Currency Seizures (USD)	Firearms
TOTAL	39,524	5,312	36,030	345	1,481	335,983,891	\$34,117,127	5,395

Operation Lone Star (OLS) began on March 04, 2021. All numbers reported for Operation Lone Star are unverified and unofficial. Numbers reflect combined reporting from Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS), Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD), and Texas Military Department (TMD). Numbers are approximate and subject to change. Data includes instances where DPS assisted other agencies during the event. Criminal arrests, including criminal trespass arrests, include United States Citizens and illegal migrants. Number of felony charges are placed on individuals arrested for criminal activity during the reporting period. Multiple charges may be placed on an individual during any arrest incident. Charges include Texas Penal Codes 20.05, 20.06, 20.07, 20a, 30.05, 31.07, 34.02, 37.09, 38.03, 38.04, 46, and 71.02; Texas Health and Safety Codes 481 and 483; Texas Transportation Code 545.421; United States Code Titles 8 USC, 18 USC § 922, 18 USC § 1546, 18 USC § 1956, 18 USC § 1960, 21 USC § 801-971, 26 USC § 5861, 26 USC § 7206; and all warrants. Federal/other charges could include subjects arrested with federal warrants, e.g., DPS initially detained but turned over to a federal agency, etc. Illegal Entries Deterred represents the number of subjects who crossed into the U.S. and then crossed back into MX after encountering law enforcement, as well as those who were in the process of crossing or who had staged in MX to cross but ceased the attempt upon encountering law enforcement. Data may include activity that occurred in OLS Area of Interest as defined in the OLS Operations Order and OLS Fragmentary Order as the Gulf of Mexico coastal region and all the DPS South Texas and West Texas Regions. Statewide Operation Lone Star Activities reflects numbers across the state of Texas, including the Operation Lone Star Area of Interest. Operation Lone Star Area of Interest numbers are a subset of Statewide Operation Lone Star numbers. A Fentanyl Lethal Dose is 2mg based on DEA reporting. TPWD personnel deployed for OLS from June 28, 2021, through August 11, 2022. Migrant numbers provided by TMD from March 12, 2021-August 25, 2022, may include instances where DPS assisted in referring to United States Border Patrol.

Stash House Events

Number of Stash Houses Events	Migrant Referrals from Stash Houses
171	2,008

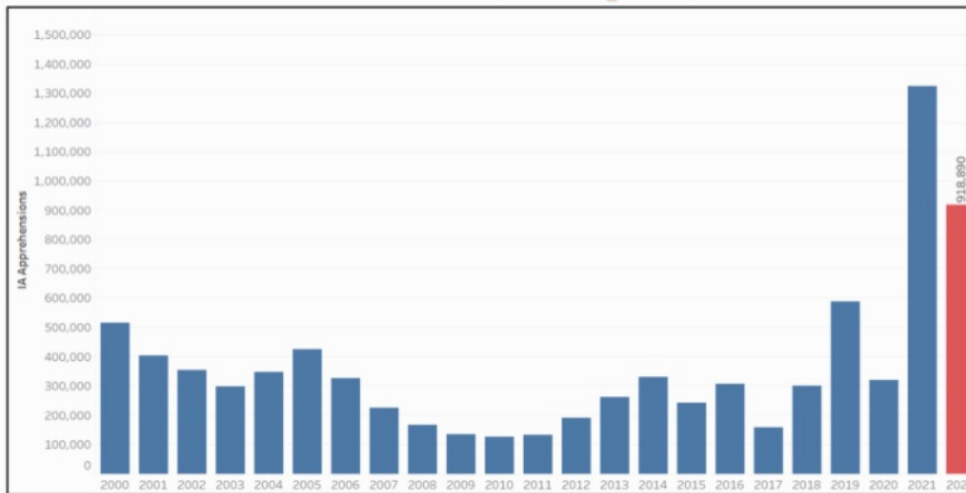
A stash house is a home or building used to smuggle people or drugs. One (1) stash house event could involve multiple stash house locations. The number of migrants rescued and referred to USBP from stash house events are a subset of OLS Area of Interest numbers.

Processing Facilities – Val Verde & Jim Hogg Counties

Subjects Processed	Subjects Currently in Custody
4,821	823

The reporting period for criminal migrant processing numbers is July 20, 2021-August 24, 2022. Numbers were derived from Texas DPS arrest information captured by the facility processing centers in Val Verde and Jim Hogg Counties and information provided by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice Briscoe and Segovia Units.

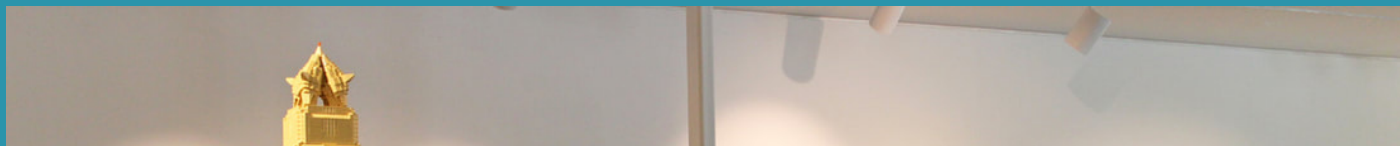
IA Apprehensions in Texas Sectors by Calendar Year CY 2000 – CYTD 2022, as of August 24, 2022



- * This chart compares apprehensions during CYTD 2022 compared to apprehension data for complete calendar years since CY 2000.
- * Most apprehension figures are based on publicly available data from the Customs and Border Protection (CBP) website.
- * August 01–24, 2022 apprehension figures are based on Operation Border Star reporting and are preliminary, unofficial, and subject to change.
- * Texas Sectors include the Rio Grande Valley, Laredo, Del Rio, Big Bend, and El Paso Sectors. The El Paso Sector covers a portion of Texas and the state of New Mexico

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Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts





June 4 – September 3, 2022

This summer the Pearl will be bursting with color and creativity as it showcases works of art by some of the most talented LEGO® brick artists in Houston and across the country.

No Limits: The Artistry of Bricks features more than 20 works that elevate the toy to the realm of contemporary art. Our goal is to introduce visitors to art and architecture in a language they understand, while also demonstrating the potential of imagination and the power of creativity. Some pieces in the exhibition hang on gallery walls; others are 3-dimensional and reach over 7 feet tall. Engineering, math and problem-solving all come into play to create these works of art.

Among the amazing pieces in this exhibition are:

- Chrysalis by Michael "Moto" Kanemoto, a contestant on LEGO® Masters FOX Season 2
- Battle of the Alamo by Adam Bell
- Houston by Houston Brick Club
- Mr. Tiger and Mr. Frumble's Pickle Car, two works by Jonathan Lopes
- Rainbow Castle by Timothy Howell
- San Jacinto Monument by Robert Roche
- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. by Dr. Gregory Jonason
- BB-8 Droid by Steven Laughlin

...and many more!

The Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Admission is free!



Mixed Media Autumn Creations

4 week course Ages 5-8

Members: \$120 Non-Members: \$140

9/12-10/3 Mondays, 10-11 a.m.

9/14-10/5 Wednesdays, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Come learn the principles of art by exploring a variety of different mediums. Students will create pieces inspired by Autumn and the nature of the world around us.

Register now at pearlmfa.org

Visit the Pearl Fincher Museum Website

ESD 9 Monthly News



Total Run Numbers:

EMS - 2652

Fire - 710

"Let us take the time to remember all those that paid the ultimate sacrifice on 9/11". Never Forget!"

Hurricane Season is here, so take advantage of these important websites for weather updates.

www.noaa.com and www.weather.gov

Eddie Cruz
Public Information Officer
Cy-Fair Fire Department
281-656-3420 Office
346-306-6165 Cell
eddie.cruz@cyfairfd.org

ESD 9 - Cy-Fair Fire Dept

ESD 11 Monthly News



ESD 11 Update - By Jerry Thomas

"I see your ambulances everywhere!"

As the Community Engagement Manager, I have the privilege of interacting with individuals, groups, and different organizations on a very routine basis. I can attest I hear this repeatedly from people I encounter. - Jerry Thomas

ESD 11 Ambulance Service Anniversary

And just like that, it's been a year since we began providing 911 ambulance service to the citizens and visitors of our district. On September 1st, we celebrate this milestone with each of you.

It has been quite a journey, and we couldn't have done it without the support of our employees, community, commissioners, our partnering hospitals, and surrounding 911 agencies. Our support has been phenomenal, and we will be forever grateful for your helping hand.

We will be providing an Open House for the community in the next few weeks and will be announcing the dates and times. We look forward to you attending and seeing what we have built and have planned for the future. Once finalized, the dates and times will be widely publicized on our Social Media sites and the ESD 11 website. ESD11.com We encourage you to visit the website to learn more about our district and service.

We are excited about the future of the ESD and hope to meet you in person during the Open House or at

We are excited about the future of the ESD and hope to meet you in person during the Open House or at an upcoming event in our community. The comment that continues to be heard across the district is this, "We see your ambulances everywhere!"

Again, we simply say, "Thank you."

The ESD will begin offering Car Seat Checks for the public at our administrative building on September 13, from 4 – 8 pm. The address is 18334 Stuebner Airline, Spring, Tx. 77379. Please visit the ESD website for registration and additional information.

Our response time performance remains exceptional and may be found with other critical information on our website at <https://esd11.com/transparency/>. The data is updated monthly after each regularly scheduled Board meeting.

Should you have any questions, please contact Jerry Thomas @ jerry.thomas@esd11.com or 281 (524) – 7667.






**Tuesday
September 13th,
4:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

Free CAR SEAT CHECK

**Nationally certified car seat technicians
will help you fit and install
your seat correctly.**

APPOINTMENT REQUIRED

 18334 Stuebner Airline Rd, Spring, TX 77379

 carseat@esd11.com

 www.esd11.com

**Contact Us
346-226-8795**



[ESD 11 Website](#)

ESD 16 Fire Service Monthly News



**HARRIS ★ COUNTY
EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT**





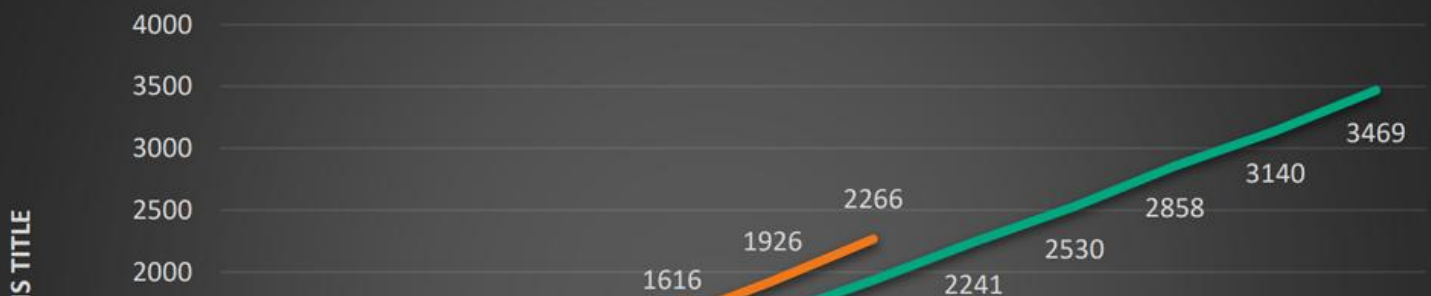
As of September 1, 2022, Harris County ESD 16 has completed the transition with Klein Fire Department to become the direct service provider for fire protection and rescue services in the Klein area.

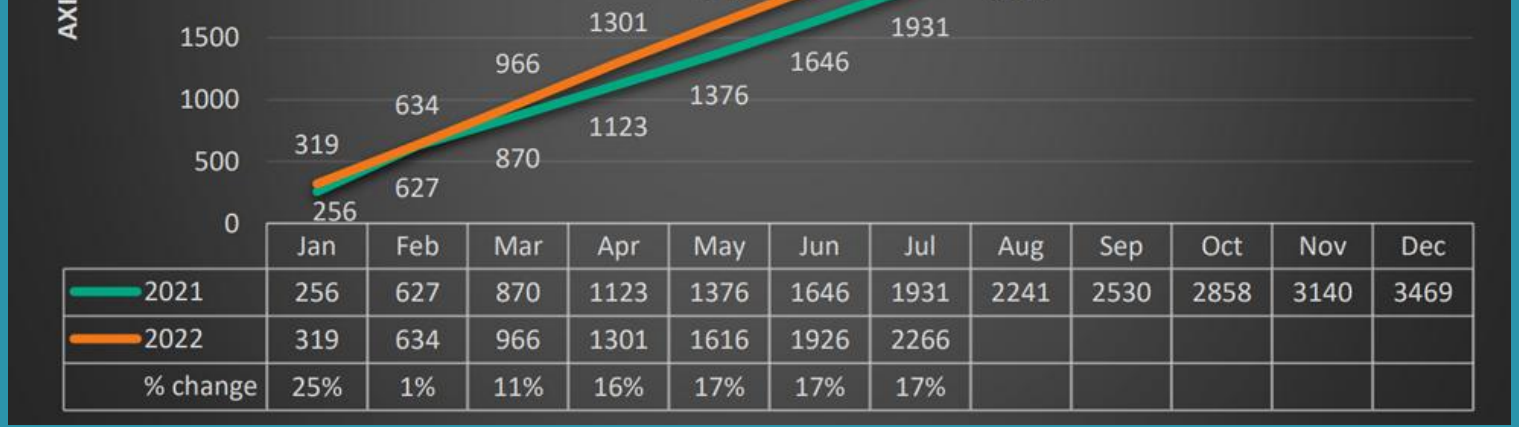
According to Board President Lance Wilson, "This transition has been accomplished as part of the great working relationship we share, and we will continue to provide the best service for the community".

HCESD 16 News

Klein Fire Department saw fire-related incidents in July increase 48% over our busiest month this year. This includes many brush fire type incidents due to heat and drought. We have relied on our working relationships with outside agencies, including HCFMO and Texas A&M Forest Service with the increasing scale and severity of some of the more recent responses. July also saw eight structure fires within our territory and eleven where we provided mutual aid, sometimes with multiple structures threatened or involved.

2021 vs. 2022 Calls





Harris County has lifted the burn ban enacted in June. This has been a result due to the lower rated KBDI average since we began seeing increased rainfall in August. With the rains continuing with regularity over the anniversary of Hurricane Harvey, we are reminded of what kind of weather-related extremes can happen in our area and remain vigilant in preparedness for any emergency.

In August, we graduated Cadet Class 2022-01 with eight new volunteer firefighters. The first week of September begins our next 6 month course, Cadet Class 2022-02. Information and applications for 2023-01 can be found on our website.





The Klein Fire Department is rated ISO Class 2 and provides Fire Suppression, Rescue, and Medical Emergency Assistance to a resident population of 173,549 residents covering the Spring/Klein area and encompassing approximately 49 square miles.

If you have questions about the transition or wish to learn more about Klein Fire Department, please contact the ESD at info@HCESD16.org or visit www.HCESD16.org / www.KleinFire.org

[ESD 16 Website](#)

Schools In Our District



[Klein ISD Website](#)



[Tomball ISD Website](#)



[CyFair ISD Website](#)

Our Schools and COVID

Our School Districts are closely monitoring COVID cases in the staff and student population. You can see the COVID Campus Dashboards for each of our area districts here:

[Klein ISD COVID Dashboard](#)

[Cy-Fair ISD COVID Dashboard](#)

[Tomball ISD COVID Dashboard](#)

[Spring ISD COVID Dashboard](#)

COVID statistics in Texas Public Schools may be found here:
[TEA School Campus COVID Link](#)

Scroll down on that site and you can get Excel reports that are searchable by school district or campus.

Cypress-Fair ISD News



Aug. 26, 2022—Cypress-Fairbanks ISD welcomed students back to 93 campuses Aug. 22, beginning the 2022-2023 school year that marks the district's 83rd year in existence.

The beginning of the year was highlighted by the opening of McGown Elementary School, CFISD's 57th elementary school, located in the Bridgeland community.

"It is wonderful to be able to open this beautiful brand-new campus and welcome all our new Owls," said LauraAnn Novacinski, McGown principal. "This first day of school is special because this first group of kindergartners will be the very first group ever to go all the way through McGown."

A number of other campuses opened their doors to students following a variety of completed renovation projects to update schools and improve learning environments. Safety and security upgrades funded by the 2019 and 2014 bond programs continued to take shape and be a focal point throughout the district. Some upgrades to campuses include additional lockdown buttons, enhanced video intercom systems, added card readers, exterior door numbers and classroom phones.

The first day allowed students and parents to see the overwhelming support for CFISD. School namesakes, Board of Trustees members, CFISD administrators and a number of community members helped welcome students throughout the day. Many visited elementary campuses to serve as Bus Buddies in the afternoon.

"We're excited about getting the school year started," said Dr. Mark Henry, CFISD superintendent of schools. "The first day of school never disappoints. It's exciting to see all the smiling faces. Students are

excited to see their friends and their new teachers. We're going to have a great year!"

Cy-Fair ISD Website

Klein ISD News



Klein's Nitsch Elementary School Recognized By TEA

Nitsch Elementary on West Mount Houston was recently recognized by the Texas Education Agency as one of three schools in Texas for Academic Achievement by TEA Commissioner Mike Morath. On hand to receive the recognition was Superintendent Dr. Jenny McGown and Principal Frank Ward. A host of area legislators also joined me, including Senator Paul Bettencourt, Senator Brandon Creighton, and Representative Harold Dutton in commending Nitsch Elementary staff and leadership for this tremendous achievement.

The TEA Commissioner, Mike Morath, commended Nitsch Elementary for their "noticeable improvement" in state accountability ratings for the first time in two years. Considering they were able to accomplish this feat during a time with an ongoing pandemic, make it all the more remarkable.

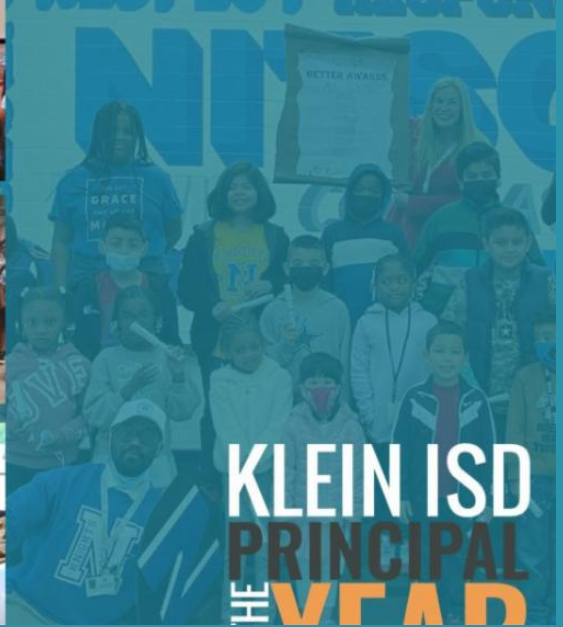
In addition, Nitsch's principal, **Frank Ward**, has recently been named the Klein District's Elementary Principal of the Year. "Mr. Ward is a student-focused leader who consistently supports students and staff by giving his absolute best every single day," said Dr. Jenny McGown, Klein ISD Superintendent. "He expects success, inspires confidence, and relentlessly pursues excellent outcomes for all of his students. Mr. Ward is a blessing to our Klein Family. "

We add our congratulations to Nitsch Elementary's full staff of faculty and educators for their contributions to this outstanding achievement.

Klein ISD Website



FRANK WARD
NITSCH ELEMENTARY



Tomball ISD News





Tomball ISD Celebrates Academic Growth Indicating Full Recovery

Tomball ISD has a lot to celebrate following the release of the 2022 STAAR results. TISD rank among best in the state, indicating learning recovery.

TOMBALL - As 2022 Spring State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) results roll in, Tomball ISD began celebrating its academic growth and learning recovery, despite substantial obstacles faced since 2019.

Tomball ISD's STAAR results (Grades 3-8) lead all surrounding districts across the board in all performance levels and in all subjects, and remain extremely competitive in comparison to similar districts across the state.

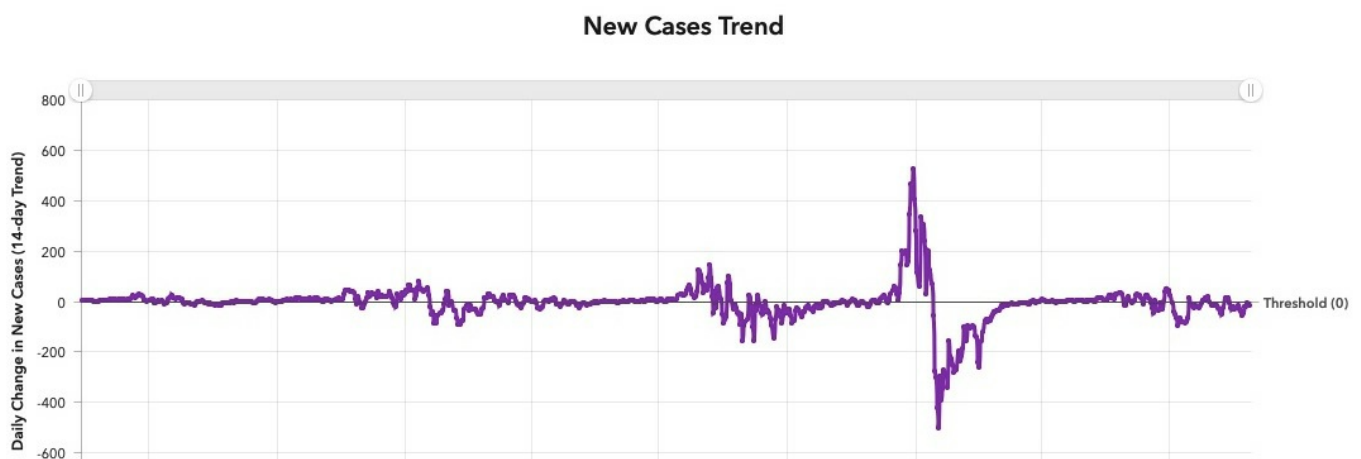
Despite challenges faced statewide, Tomball ISD has restored learning loss in many many areas since 2019 including Reading (Grades 3-8), Social Studies (Grade 8), English II, Biology and U.S. History.

"I am a very proud Superintendent for many reasons but to consider the challenges we have faced in education since 2019, our 2022 STAAR results (Grades 3-8) are exceptionally strong," Tomball ISD Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Martha Salazar-Zamora said. "Not only do we lead all surrounding districts across the board in all performance levels and in all subjects, we also remain extremely competitive in comparison to similar districts across the state. These results demonstrate positive growth as well as validate the hard work put forth by our dedicated teachers and students this past year."

TomballISD.net

Tomball ISD Website

COVID Stats & Info For Harris County





Indicator: 14-day flat or decreasing trend in new COVID-19 cases Harris County, including City of Houston
Threshold: 0 (same threshold Red > Orange > Yellow)

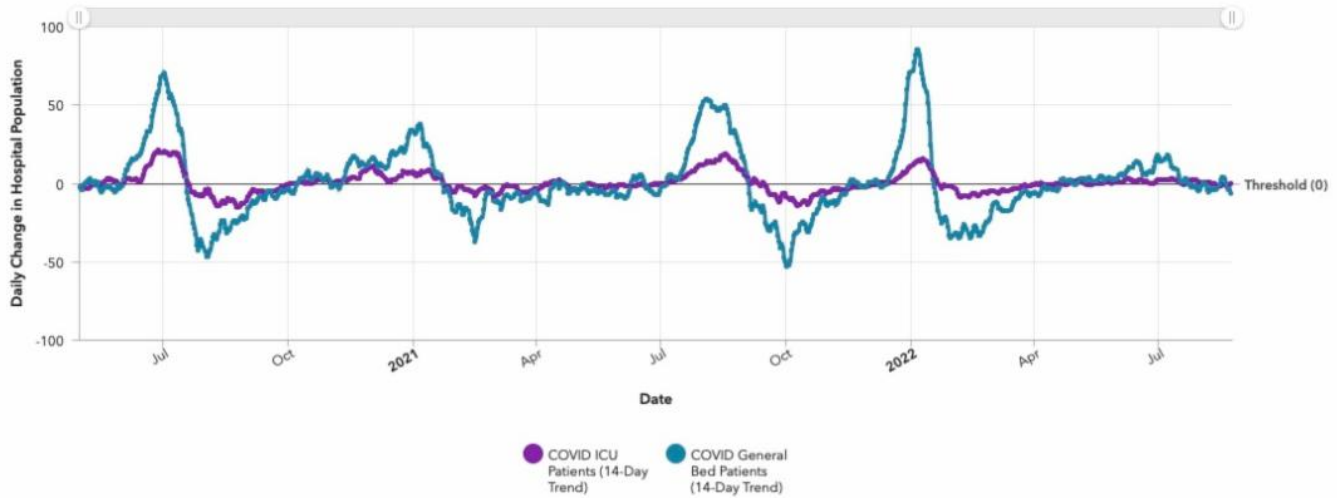
Date Updated: 2022-08-29

Data Source*: Harris County Public Health (HCPH), Houston Health Department (HHD)

*Due to backlogged cases that have increased over time due to delays in test reporting, missing information, and lags in processing, we have updated metrics involving case counts to only include cases that have specimen collection dates within 14 days of the date of reporting.

The chart above provides a reflection of the trend for new COVID-19 cases reported for all of Harris County. The one below is a trend chart for hospitalization in Harris County.

Hospital Population Trend



Indicator: 14-day flat or decreasing trend in COVID-19 hospital population in Harris County.
Threshold: 0 (same threshold Red > Orange > Yellow)

Date Updated: 2022-08-29

Data Source: SouthEast Texas Regional Advisory Council (SETRAC)*

*Data is for Harris County including City of Houston.

Monkeypox in Harris County

New monkeypox cases in Harris County

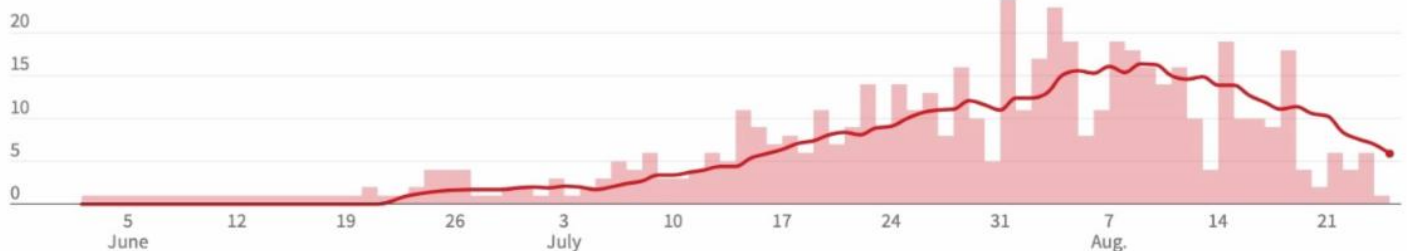


Chart: Ryan Serpico / San Antonio Express-News • Source: [Harris County Public Health](#)

Data as of Aug. 29, 2022

Monkeypox, or MPV has been added to Covid as a current concern for risk for infection in Harris County. Judge Hidalgo's Office released this information at the end of July:

"While 71 cases have been reported in Harris County, including the City of Houston, as of July 27 and the risk of infection is currently low in Harris County, we are creating a strategic response plan to get ahead of MPV. As Judge Hidalgo stated in a recent press conference with Mayor Turner and local public health officials, we're sending this update today to try to chart a different path – *not* to raise alarm, but to proactively minimize MPV transmission through preparedness and awareness.

Mayor Turner and Judge Hidalgo have asked the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to procure and allocate more MPV vaccines and resources to our region. The goal is to vaccinate at-risk communities before transmission grows exponentially, rather than catch up after that happens, as other jurisdictions have had to do. However, that is difficult with the current very limited supply of vaccines to our region. We are working closely with the City of Houston and local health officials to monitor the situation and implement a coordinated response to mitigate further spread."

We have asked the community to take the following steps:

- Limit intimate and sexual contact with anonymous partners
- If you have new/unknown lesions, assume it is Monkeypox and get tested
- Get the vaccine, if you qualify

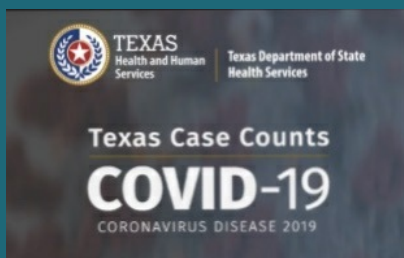
What you can do:

- Spread the word about community resources, including the 1-pager from with Harris County Public Health information on vaccination information.
- Share the MPV hotline numbers for residents who qualify for the limited supply of vaccines let constituents know that providers throughout the County have the ability to test.
 - Residents who do not have health insurance or cannot cover the cost of the test may contact Harris County Public Health or Houston Health Department to get tested.
 - Harris County residents outside of Houston can call Harris County Public Health at 832-927-0707 or visit ReadyHarris.org.
 - City of Houston residents can call the Houston Health Department at 832-393-4220.
 - Current vaccine eligibility can be reviewed at ReadyHarris.org. We plan to expand eligibility as more vaccines are available and Harris County Commissioners Court will be discussing this at the next meeting.

For more information about Monkeypox, or the MPV Harris County Public Health has a webpage [here](#).

These charts and more information can be found on the Harris County COVID Dashboard at www.readyharris.org

For August, Harris County's threat level remained in **YELLOW alert status** - Unvaccinated individuals should continue to mask and physically distance. Level 3 signifies a moderate, but controlled level of COVID-19 in Harris County, meaning a further demonstrated reduction in transmission and the local healthcare system is well within capacity.



Texas COVID Cases Statewide

To see charts reflecting details on Covid and vaccination activity follow this link to the [Texas Covid Dashboard](#)

COVID VIRUS & VACCINES IN TEXAS

Choosing vaccinations are and should always be a personal and individual choice, though data seems to indicate a significantly reduced mortality rate for those who are vaccinated. While numbers continue to improve across the state, we encourage you to take the steps necessary to make your family and home

improve across the state, we encourage you to take the steps necessary to make your family and home safe. Please make an informed choice for you and your family in conjunction with your family medical professionals and do your best to avoid being a contributor to the ongoing challenges we face fighting the spread of COVID. With new variants, there are lots of things to consider when it comes to your health.

To find a vaccine distribution site near you, the state has created this map:

[COVID Vaccine Provider Map](#)

If you are in the eligible tier, to find doses available in your area, check this link:

[Vaccine Dose Availability Map](#):

If you need to find a testing site near you, follow this link:

[COVID Testing Locations](#)

[COVID-19 Resources](#)

[Texas Workforce Commission](#)

The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) continues to explore options to keep the 2021 tax rates as low as possible for Texas employers as Texas and the entire nation continue to deal with the economic disruptions of the COVID-19 pandemic. [Read more about 2021 tax rates in the press release.](#)

TWC Website to Apply for Benefits: [TWC Unemployment Benefits](#)

Texas Workforce TeleCenter - 800-939-6631

TWC has a new Chat service on their website in the bottom right of the screen, called "Chat With Us". This new function will be able to answer most general questions from individual. <https://www.twc.texas.gov>

[Harris County Resources](#)

ReadyHarris Website: <https://www.readyharris.org/#resources>

Harris County Fire Marshal hotline to report businesses who are in violation of the County and State COVID-19 health and safety policies - 832-839-6941

Precinct 4 Commissioner Community Assistance - [Pct 4 Community Assistance](#)

People can sign up to receive emergency alerts from Harris County at: [Ready Harris Alert Signup.](#)

Also, 2-1-1 is a resource hotline set up by Harris County. If someone is in need of resources fast they can call that number and they will be connected to resources in their community. They can also text CV19 to 888-777. This hotline is available 24/7.

[City of Houston](#)

Houston Public Health Dept - <https://houstonemergency.org/covid19/>

[Ready Harris Accessible Alerts](#)

The Harris County Office of Homeland Security& Emergency Management has launched the new Ready Harris Accessible Alerts (RHAA). This new system is providing access to alerts, warnings, and preparedness information to persons who are Deaf, Blind, Hard-of-Hearing, Deaf-Blind, or have low-vision through a new one stop website. To sign up, we encourage members of the community to

through a new one-stop-website. To sign up, we encourage members of the community to visit <https://hct.ahasalerts.com>.

Community members can also text AHAS to (281) 609-9093 to sign up.

The system will send our Ready Harris Alerts with sign language interpreting along with voice and closed captioning in English and Spanish before, during and after an emergency. The RHAA is compatible with video capable devices such as computers, tablets, cell phones and wireless Braille readers. With this new resource, HCOHSEM will also be able to reach individuals with low literacy in English and Spanish. This is HCOHSEM's latest effort to reach the whole community.

Federal Resources / Websites

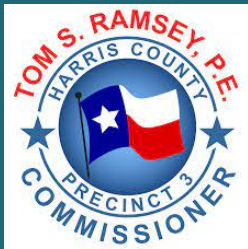
CDC- Center for Disease Control: [CDC Coronavirus](#)

Small Business Administration: [SBA](#)

SBA Paycheck Protection Program - [Paycheck Protection Loans](#)

An SBA loan that helps businesses keep their workforce employed (during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis.)

FEMA Corona Response: [FEMA CoronaVirus](#)



Precinct 3 Commissioner Capitol Project Update

(Thanks To Commissioner's Ramsey's Office
For The Update)

[Visit Precinct 3 Website](#)

Precinct 3 Service Request Link

<https://webapps2.harriscountytexas.gov/servicerequestform/pct-form?pct3=>

Harris County Precinct 3 Road and Bridge

Harris County Precinct 3 maintains the highest level of standards in maintaining over 6,600 lane miles of roadway and associated bridges throughout the area. Maintenance includes road reconstruction, storm debris removal, sign installation, right of way mowing, and more.

Please see the list below for projects that are currently under construction that are in or affect our area, including projects transferred due to redistricting. For questions or comments, [click here](#). To follow their current capitol projects list, [click here](#).

Area Projects in Construction

Cypress Creek Greenway Phases 1 & 2

Project Scope: Construct under crossings along Cypress Creek at Highway 249(North and South Side) and construct pedestrian trails and boardwalks.

Benefits: Help connect portions of the Cypress Creek Greenway together and provide access to the Kickerillo-Mischer Preserve

Phase: Construction

Estimated Construction Cost: \$3.7 million

Estimated Completion: First Quarter of 2023

Flashing School Zone – Phase II

Project Scope: Construction of new school zone flashers for schools in Cy-Fair ISD

Benefits: Provides increased safety elements within the school zone

Phase: Construction

Estimated Construction Cost: \$1.1 million

Estimated Completion: Fourth Quarter of 2022

George Bush Community Center

Project Scope: Construction of a new 2-story community center next to Cypresswood Drive

Benefits: Provide community with a center that will include multiple classrooms, gathering spaces, as well as a large community hall that will be reservable by the public

Phase: Construction

Estimated Construction Cost: \$4.5 million

Estimated Completion: First Quarter of 2023

Gosling Road Bridge over Spring Creek

Project Scope: 2,100' long concrete twin bridge to tie into the 4-lane concrete boulevard to the north and south

Benefits: Improve safety and traffic flow by providing 2 lanes for southbound traffic and completing the mobility connection between Harris and Montgomery Counties

Phase: Construction

Estimated Construction Cost: \$9,377,674

Estimated Completion: First Quarter of 2023

Telge Road Reconstruction – Phase 1 from Tuckerton Drive to Moray View Drive

Project Scope: Reconstruct existing 4-lane concrete roadway, driveway reconstruction and new roadway signage.

Benefits: Increase roadway safety

Phase: Construction

Estimated Construction Cost: \$2 million

Estimated Completion: Third Quarter of 2022

Telge Road Reconstruction – Phase 2 from Moray View Drive Drive to Wyman Gordon Way

Project Scope: Reconstruct existing 4-lane concrete roadway, driveway reconstruction and new roadway signage

Benefits: Increase roadway safety

Phase: Construction

Estimated Construction Cost: \$2.6 million

Estimated Completion: First Quarter of 2023

Tall Pines Subdivision Recovery and Resiliency Improvement Project

Project Scope: Improve roadside drainage and pavement throughout the subdivision

Benefits: Provides improved drainage throughout the subdivision to reduce flooding and improve road quality for safety

Phase: Construction

Estimated Construction Cost: \$3,583,622

Estimated Completion: Fourth Quarter of 2022

Creek/North Harris County area since 1974, the Houston Northwest Chamber is actively engaged as a liaison with state, local, and federal leadership to promote the area on a variety of issues.

www.HoustonNWChamber.org

Houston Northwest Chamber
of Commerce



Greater Tomball Area Chamber of Commerce

Transportation and Mobility Committee

2nd Tuesday of each month

Meeting Location:

29201 Quinn Rd.

Tomball, Texas 77375

Upstairs Conference Room

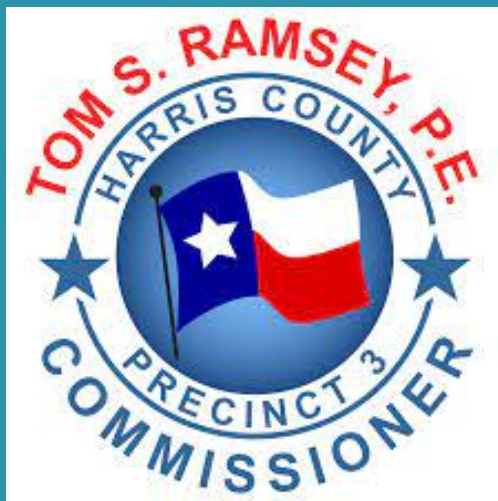
Tomball Government Affairs Committee

Cy-Fair Chamber of Commerce Transportation\Government Affairs Committee

The committee meets the 1st Thursday of each month to discuss governmental issues that confront their Cy-Fair area. They meet at the Chamber offices located at 8711 Highway 6 North, Ste. 120 Houston, TX 77095.



Cy-Fair Chamber of Commerce



Harris County Pct 3 and Pct 4 Public Safety Forum

Meets at:
Glorious Way Church
11611 Champions Forest Dr
Houston, TX 77066

Local representatives from criminal justice and government agencies make presentations and

Local representatives from criminal justice and government agencies make presentations and discuss issues important to the community.

The button below provides a link to sign up for our alerts and lists.

Public Safety Forum Signup

Visit our House of Representatives Website

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