



# The Hog Herald

Vol. 2 Issue 1

August 2002

Newsletter for the Texarkana Arkansas School District Community

## “Welcome Back to School” Issue!

### Lease on Life

*Letter from our Superintendent*

### Welcome Back!

There is nothing like the beginning of school! The crayons are all sharp and the paper is blank. We want to fill our paper this year with wonderful experiences for students, parents, teachers, staff, and administrators. Each year brings a fresh start and an opportunity to do great things.

Our teachers and administrators have been “going to school” throughout the summer. The district hosted a three-day Leadership Seminar that was co-sponsored by Southwest Arkansas Co-operative and the Arkansas Leadership Academy. Teams from each school learned, played, and planned for continuous improvement, continuous learning, customer service, and data-driven decisions. In addition, our staff has attended numerous training opportunities throughout the state and nation.

We're excited about creating a fabulous learning experience for our students. We want to partner with our parents and the community to create a rich learning environment that allows every student to reach his or her potential. We will be forming several workgroups this year that will focus on continuous improvement in areas such as technology, assessment, and data collection. We look forward to working with all of our volunteers, not only for school improvement, but also for mentoring students.

Come join the fun and excitement for a great 2002-2003 school year!

Sincerely,  
**Dr. Kathy Lease**

### TASD Leadership Seminar provides a support network

“What a neat idea!”, “This has been fun!”, “I’ve never looked at it that way!”, were just some of the comments heard from teachers, parents, administrators and business community members as they met during June 26-28 for the TASD Leadership Seminar at the Beech Street First Baptist Church. The seminar enabled participants to advance the systemic change process in classrooms and schools.

The purpose of the TASD Leadership Seminar was to provide a district-wide support network that will assist teachers in their collective efforts to serve TASD students with the best teaching and learning practices available.

The principles from the books *Who Moved My Cheese?* and *Fish!* were used to look at the climate and culture of the schools and their representative communities.

Kathy Sapaugh, curriculum coordinator for TASD, was pleased with the event and commented, “It met all of our high expectations! We knew that with the focus being *Who Moved My Cheese?* and *Fish!*, people would have fun and enjoy the



**Mary Beth Gage, teacher; Kristi Jones, parent; and Alisha Stevens, parent, representing the Kilpatrick team, brainstorm for ideas on school improvement.**



**CHMS Principal, Kiril Jones, waits to hear final instructions on the correct way to build a barbell.**

process of team planning for school improvement. We also knew that, given the time and the opportunity, a group of teachers, parents, and community partners could be highly productive, and were they ever! In fact, at least one of the school's leadership teams has already met at their school on their own time to further develop plans for the opening of school with a positive ring. We are on an ultimate high!”

**New TASD Web Address**  
**[www.tasd7.net](http://www.tasd7.net)**

TASD supports Character First initiatives: Visit [www.character1st.com](http://www.character1st.com)

*Preparing Lifelong Learners for a Changing World*

# Hog Happenings

## 3rd Grade Algebra at CHE



Pam Burke, AHS math instructor, teaches algebraic linear equations to Laura Elrod's College Hill Elementary third graders.



CHE student, Preston Valdez, works on an algebraic equation. Valdez commented on the algebra session, "(Algebra) helps me with my reading, and it helps me with my adding. It gets so exciting that I want to keep doing it!"

## Students participate in school board meetings



TASD Board Meetings are held every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Education Center. Minutes of each board meeting are posted on the web site.

During each school board meeting, schools are asked to present an Instruction Report. Each school has a designated month in which it presents to the board the curriculum and instructional activities that take place within the school.

Shawn Smith, CHE librarian, presents the CHE instructional report to the board with the aid of CHE students during the May 23 school board meeting.

## Announcing new TASD logo

The Texarkana Arkansas School District unveils the new district logo. The new logo will replace the "Hog in the Blocks" insignia on all printed and electronic school district material.

After several meetings with TASD administration and leadership team, the consensus was to make certain the "Running Razorback" along with the letters "T" "A" be prominently displayed within the TASD logo.

Thus, the new logo was born.



The mission statement, "Preparing Lifelong Learners for a Changing World", will be used as a tag line when appropriate along with the new logo.

## Announcing new TASD Handbook

The new Texarkana Arkansas School District Student/Parent Handbook for the 2002-2003 school year has been published.

In years past, a separate handbook was printed for elementary, middle school, junior high and high school. Now, families with children attending different schools will have one general handbook.

The handbooks will be given to the youngest child within each family to be taken home and reviewed by the family. Parents will be required to sign the TASD7 Parent-Student Statement of Responsibility Form for each child after reading the handbook.

The Student Parent Handbook is now on-line at [www.tasd7.net](http://www.tasd7.net) and on CD Rom.

## Big Bad Wolf Trial at Union



The Big Bad Wolf, Kevon Henderson, serves as his own legal counsel and cross examines Iggy the Piggy, Julie Davis, as the jury looks on during the play at Union Elementary. The play was directed by Judy Hoofman and presented by the 4th grade class.

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# Hog Headlines

## Trice presents Benchmark winning ways to the Arkansas State Board of Education

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Four Texarkana Arkansas elementary schools received monetary awards totaling \$13,885. This money is in response to the Measuring Performance Honors awards formula designed to reward schools in their efforts to do well on the Primary Benchmark, which is part of the Arkansas Comprehensive Testing Assessment and Accountability Program (ACTAAP).

The Texarkana Arkansas School District elementary schools receiving the cash awards were College Hill Elementary, \$2,281; Fairview Elementary, \$2,519; Union Elementary, \$3,219; and Trice Elementary, \$5,866. The money is funded through a



**Dr. Kathy Lease, superintendent; Janet Cole-Carter, Trice 4th grade teacher; and former teacher, Sonya Freeze, wait their turn to present their Benchmark power point presentation to the Arkansas State Board of Education.**

Walton Family Foundation grant. Teachers and administrators of the elementary schools voted on how they will use the money.

Trice Elementary's performance was exemplary. Trice's extremely high score in the MPH awards formula prompted the Arkansas State Board of Education to ask Trice instructors to present a power point presentation at their May board meeting regarding Trice's methods in reaching their Benchmark performance goals.

2003 Benchmark testing dates are located in the TASD Student/Parent Handbook.



**Carrol Selph and Patricia Baker chant a cheer during Trice's Benchmark Friday pep rally before the Benchmark testing week. The pep rally involved the whole school and was designed to inspire the 4th graders on their quest to conquer the Benchmark.**

## Fairview Elementary to begin fine arts-based curriculum

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Fairview Elementary received the nod from the Texarkana Arkansas School Board to proceed with plans to develop a fine arts-based curriculum for their K-4 students. Principal Jan Harris and her staff presented to the board on Tuesday, April 23, proposing a five-year plan, which included the transition to an arts-based curriculum. Funding for the project will come through grants, donations, and fund-raisers.

Research indicates that students learn through a variety of learning styles. Those who participate in the fine arts have better concentration levels, more self-confidence, and perform higher academically.

"Fairview has consistently looked for ways to use the arts to increase student achievement. We have participated in the ArtSmart program through Texarkana Regional Arts & Humanities Council (TRAHC) for the past three years, and we now have the desire to take learning to a new level by implementing an arts-based curriculum," says Fairview principal, Jan Harris.



**Oscar Diaz at Fairview Elementary plays the Orff Instrument as part of the arts-based curriculum.**



Ruth Ellen Whitt, TRAHC executive director stated, "We at TRAHC applaud Fairview Elementary's commitment to tapping the proven potential of the arts for engaging and grouping outstanding students. TRAHC shares your goal of achieving educational excellence and TRAHC has resources which we are willing to share to help you achieve your goals."

Fairview has begun the necessary steps to begin their arduous, yet rewarding, journey in transforming their school into a fine-arts curriculum based elementary.

**Rachel Sangalli at Fairview Elementary plays the violin all the while concentrating on the proper way to hold the violin and bow.**

# Texarkana Arkansas Razorback Football Schedule

## Varsity

Date	Opponent	Place	Time
9/6	Texas High	Away	8:00
9/13	Liberty Eylau	Home	7:30
9/20	Fort Smith Southside	Home	7:30
9/27	Pine Bluff*	Away	7:30
10/4	El Dorado*	Home	7:30
10/11	Benton*	Away	7:30
10/18	Fairview*	Away	7:30
10/25	Watson Chapel**	Home	7:30
11/1	Lake Hamilton*	Home	7:30
11/8	Sheridan*	Away	7:30

## Junior Varsity

Date	Opponent	Place	Time
9/5	Texas High	Home	7:30
9/9	Fairview	Home	7:00
9/12	Liberty Eylau	Away	7:00
9/16	Hope	Home	7:00
9/23	Open		7:00
9/30	Magnolia	Home	7:00
10/7	El Dorado	Home	7:00
10/14	Bradley	Away	7:00
10/21	Magnolia	Away	7:00
10/28	El Dorado	Away	7:00



## Razorback Homecoming

**Oct. 25, 2002**  
**Razorback Stadium**  
**Kick off 7:30 p.m.**

\*Conference Games \*\* Homecoming

## 9th Grade

Date	Opponent	Place	Time
9/5	Texas High	Home	6:00
9/12	Liberty Eylau	Away	5:30
9/19	Ashdown	Away	7:00
9/21	Magnolia (B Game)	Away	11:30
9/26	Magnolia	Away	7:30
10/3	Fairview	Home	7:30
10/10	Pine Bluff	Home	5:00
10/17	El Dorado	Home	7:00
10/31	Hope	Home	7:30

Magnolia B Game will be played on Saturday a.m.

## 8th Grade

Date	Opponent	Place	Time
9/5	Texas High	Away	5:30 (B)
	Texas High	Away	7:00 (A)
9/12	Liberty Eylau	Home	5:30
9/19	Ashdown	Away	6:00
9/21	Magnolia (B Game)	Away	10:00
9/26	Magnolia	Away	6:00
10/3	Fairview	Home	6:00
10/10	Open		
10/17	El Dorado	Home	5:30
10/31	Hope	Home	6:00

Magnolia B Game will be played on Saturday a.m.

## Texarkana Arkansas School District

### Board of Directors

Jesse Buchanan, *President*  
 Ray Nelson, *Vice-President*  
 Shelby Brown, *Secretary*  
 Jimmy McCauley  
 Don Nelson  
 Darryl Pickett  
 Johnny Toombs

### Administration

Dr. Kathy Lease, *Superintendent*  
 Russell Sapaugh, *Deputy Superintendent*  
 Kathy Newton, *Business Manager*



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**Texarkana**  
**Race for the Cure**  
**October 19, 2002**