

Good morning, it's October 22, 2012, and welcome to Panther News.

I'm _____, _____th grade.

Tomorrow, the 7th grade class will be going on a special field trip to "Washington on the Brazos." This location, which is near Brenham, is the birthplace of Texas.

It was founded when Texas was still a part of Mexico, and the town became the site of the Convention of 1836 and the signing of the Texas Declaration of Independence. The delegates ... people who wrote, and signed the document ... declared independence on March 2, 1836.

Their constitution was adopted on March 16. The delegates had to run away, along with the people of the town of Washington, to escape the advancing Mexican Army. The townspeople returned after the Mexican Army was defeated at San Jacinto on April 21.

Good morning, I'm _____, _____th grade.

The TCCC-RYSS Gala is over. It was held this past Friday night at the Houstonian Hotel.

It was a great night with many people coming together to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of TCCC-RYSS, and raise money for our education and community programs.

Artworks by our high school students and digital artworks by our middle school students were on display. They were an important part of the auction activities to raise money. We are proud of your contributions.

Congratulations, TCCC-RYSS!

Good morning, I'm _____, _____th grade.

Tonight is the final Presidential Debate between President Barack Obama and Governor Mitt Romney. It will be held at Lynn University, Boca Raton, Florida ... 8:00pm. They will talk about foreign policy.

Try to watch this last and important debate with your parents so you can decide who should win the Presidential Election.

Even though most of us can't vote ... yet ... it's important to know about this election and the individuals who are trying to become our next President.

Good morning, I'm _____, _____th grade.

While we were at home this past Thursday and Friday, our teachers were having what's called in-service training here at RYSS.

They were working with a Region 4 representative to be more prepared for the STAAR exams so they can prepare us to do well.

These exams ... STAAR, State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness ... are more rigorous with their questions. What does this mean? The questions will demand careful attention and comprehensive/complete performance.

Good morning, I'm _____, _____th grade.

The “R” in STAAR represents the word, “Readiness”, and this is why these exams will be more complex/complicated ... probably, more difficult ... because they will require that we know our subject content very well so we will be ready for the next grade level.

To be ready for the next grade level ... pass our STAAR exams ... will require hard work from us and our teachers. We will need to be very serious, and work together to make sure that we know our subject content.

So, let's think STAAR as we study, and do our work in the classroom. The only way to move to the next grade level is to pass STAAR ... take it seriously!

Good morning, I'm _____, _____th grade.

Mr. Bonilla's "Blood Drive" is this Thursday, October 25 from 8:30am to 2:00pm in the TCCC-RYSS library. Let your family members and friends know so they can donate blood. They have to be at least 16 years old.

Blood is essential for life. It carries oxygen and nutrients throughout the body, fights infections, and helps heal wounds.

Donating blood may be one of the most important things a person will ever do. In the United States, someone needs blood every two seconds because of an accident or a disease.

Good morning, I'm _____, _____th grade.

“Communities in Schools” is very active on our campus. To give you an idea of what will be happening:

Today: Math Tutoring – Math Unit Review. Homework Completion. Math Enrichment – Culinary Arts, “Spaghetti”. Homework Completion. Physical Activity – “Just Dance Presentation”, “Flag Football”.

Tuesday: Science Tutoring – Science Unit Review. Homework Completion. Science Enrichment – “Design a Parachute”. Homework Completion. Fine Arts/Arts and Crafts – “Thanksgiving Drive Posters”. Health and Wellness – “Just Dance”/Practice Day. “Thanksgiving Drive Baskets”, Healthy Food Choices for Donations and Ideas.

Wednesday: Reading Tutoring – Vocabulary Review. Homework Completion. Reading Enrichment – “Around the World”. Homework Completion. Physical Activity – “Knockout”, Soccer.

Some quick announcements:

First basketball practice will be held by Mr. Martinez for grades 6 through 8, girls and boys this Wednesday at 4:10pm and Friday at 1:40pm.

Basketball tryouts will be held for grades 9 through 12, girls and boys this Thursday at 4:10pm. Students who cannot make the tryouts should notify Mr. Montelongo before this Friday.

There will be a Student Council meeting in Mr. Valle's classroom, today at 4:10pm. It is mandatory, which means, if you are a member, you have to be there.

We are very excited about this! The PANTHER NEWS team will visit the KUHF/PBS and NPR studios on the University of Houston campus, November 5. We will have more about this in a later broadcast.

And more quick announcements:

Mr. Brown's Math Club meetings and practice for competitions are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:20 to 7:50am in room 80A. Students, grades 6 through 8, are encouraged to join.

The Robotics team is building robots from Lego pieces. If you are interested in making some cool robots, and then competing, please talk with Mr. Sanchez in room 322.

We continue to ask for composition submissions so our fellow students will have an opportunity to read them "live" on PANTHER NEWS. Teachers, please submit your students' compositions to Mr. Chambers so we can then contact the student writers for our broadcasts.

PANTHER NEWS is looking for student newscasters. Represent your school, worldwide. Please talk with Mr. Chambers in room 331.

And more quick announcements:

Wear your ID badge at all times while on campus.

Respect each other as you pass by in the hallways. Stay to your right, and NO BULLYING, please!

If you see trash in the hallways of our buildings and anywhere on our campus, please pick it up, and throw it in a garbage can.

Don't think homework, think preparation or prep. Our school is the College **PREP** Academy. This means that your teachers are preparing you to graduate, and go to college for a better future. So, help your teachers with this preparation by doing your homework.

Make sure that you have your planner with your books and school supplies so you can organize your day and week.

Lunch Menu:

Today: Ground Beef and Macaroni or Chicken Quesadilla, Steamed Brussel Sprouts, Diced Carrots, Sugar Cookie.

Tuesday: Steak Fingers and Gravy or Oven Fried Chicken, Sweet Corn, Baked Beans, Spanish Rice, Wheat Bread.

Wednesday: Beef and Bean Burrito or Taco Salad Bowl, Shredded Lettuce and Tomato, Salsa, Sherbet Cup.

We have a special guest this morning, Ms. Candy Torres. She works part time with our Information Technology Department.

Ms. Torres has an interesting background: real-time planning engineer to support the International Space Station in NASA Mission Control Center; software support for Space Shuttle program flight engineers in NASA Mission Control Center; and professional technical staff supporting a satellite project.

Welcome!