Beaming stadium lights, the consistent beating of drums, and the smell of fall fills the air. Students dawn painted faces and spirit gear, still feeling the enthusiasm from the pep rally earlier in the day. Parents hold signs of support, and cheerleaders line the field to welcome the football team to the electrifying atmosphere. Half-time brings new entertainment as the band and drill team take the field to wow the crowd. Hours of practice from the week come down to just minutes. The scoreboard beams as our

PHOTOS BY MATT CORNELIUS

WHY WE LO

Texarkana athletes take the field to fight for a win. These are the memories that make high school special. Students, parents, and players have waited over 250 days since the end of the last football season, and Friday Night Lights has finally arrived.

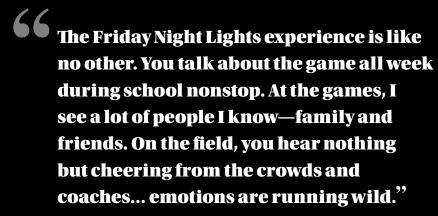






As I approach the podium, I always have butterflies fluttering in my stomach; however, the moment I lift up my hands to start the beginning of our show, a new feeling emerges—confidence. I tune out the crowd, and all I can hear is the band playing their hearts out. As I step off the podium and hear the cheers from the crowd, I have a feeling of pride."

—Derek Murphy, Liberty-Eylau High School Band



2022 FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE TISD TIGERS

—Omarion Reese, Texas High School Football





FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS 2022 | TEXARKANA MAGAZIN

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THE MISSION of Texarkana ISD, a culturally diverse and premier learning community, is to develop and empower every individual by providing innovative and varied opportunities to lead and excel in a global society through strong family, community, and staff partnerships.



TISD's STEM program begins in elementary school, then continues into middle and high school, encouraging students to pursue careers in engineering. Over 2,300 students are enrolled in STEM and 10% of students go into engineering careers.



TISD offers the Franklin Covey Leader in Me
Program to instill leadership and life lessons to
students beginning in elementary school. Other soft skills programs include teaching students lessons in banking and finance, interpersonal studies, professional communication and more.



PROGRAM » includes 153 high school courses that can be taken, which provides around 459 academic college semester hours available to students.

TISD's partnership with Texarkana College provides students with the ability to take Dual Credit courses, offering collegiate credit hours, all on the Texas High School campus. These courses allow students to earn their associate degree and high school diploma simultaneously.

The total savings for a student who has completed 1-2 years of Dual Credit classes during high school is estimated to be \$20,000 - \$30,0000/year.

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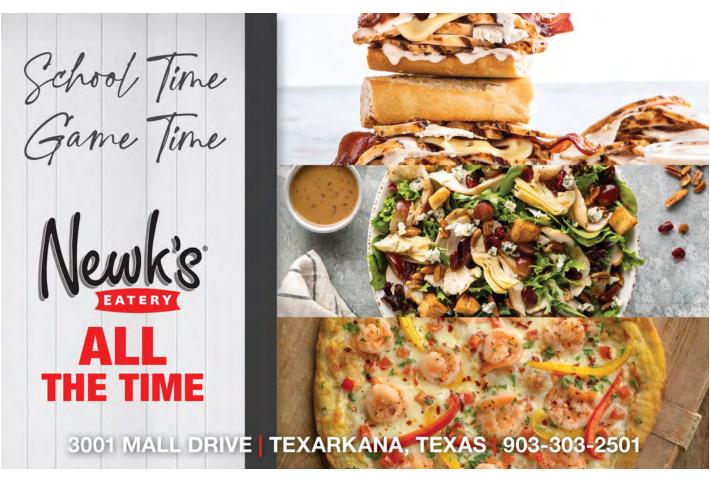




The Texarkana Arkansas School District Athletic Department welcomes new Head Football Coach and Athletic Director Trey Outlaw. From Monticello, Arkansas, Outlaw attended Arkansas State University. While attending Arkansas State University, Outlaw played football for five years and obtained a Bachelor of Science in Physical Education, a Master of Science in Educational Leadership, and an Education Specialist Degree in District Level Leadership.

Outlaw is the former assistant head coach/defensive coordinator at El Dorado High School. Before coaching at El Dorado High School, Outlaw served as athletic director and head coach at Bearden High School, defensive coordinator at Wynne High School, defensive coordinator at Gosnell High School, varsity assistant at Brookland High School, and varsity assistant at Barton-Lexa High School. Outlaw is "very excited and humbled to be the athletic director and head football coach of a program with as much history and tradition as Arkansas High." His number one goal for this season and seasons to come "is to get the program back to where it was when it was the flagship program of Texarkana and the State of Arkansas." Outlaw is married to his wife, Brittney, a North Heights Elementary School teacher.







Cheerleaders get the full experience of Friday Night Lights. The atmosphere we get to experience is unbeatable. We get the band, the game, the fans, all of it. It's impossible to stand still at games because all I want to do is jump around and scream because that's the only time it's acceptable, and everyone is doing it. Having a team to get behind and a community supporting it is what makes Friday nights so special. My favorite part personally is the adrenaline and excitement from everything going on around me."

-Ava Keyes, Pleasant Grove High School Cheer



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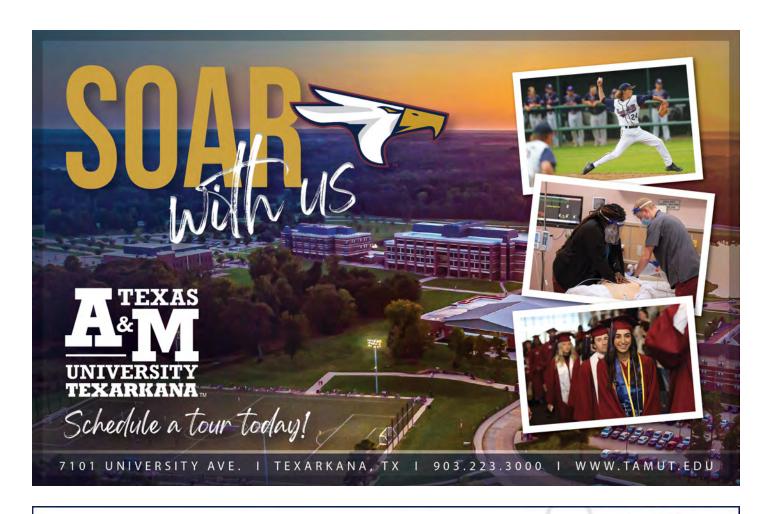


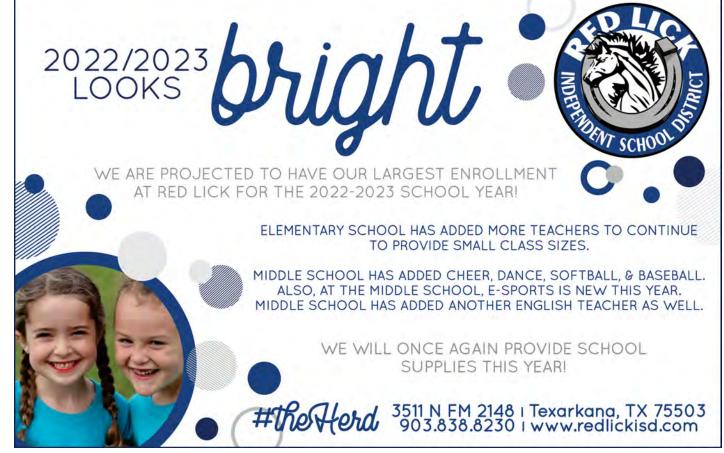


66 I can always hear my heartbeat when we get ready to go out on the field. As soon as the music starts, we skip on the field with the biggest smiles and pointed toes. Once the music stops and everyone in the stands claps, I suddenly feel like I am on top of the world. We come back for the fourth quarter. We scream and shout for the team no matter the outcome. When the game ends, we always line up with the football boys and cheerleaders on the track. We come together and wave our fingers in the air singing our alma mater. There is no greater feeling than Friday Night Lights!"

-Ainsley Richardson, Arkansas High School Redline













Pleasant Grove Independent School District welcomes Jay Sutton as the new director of bands. Sutton has ten years of teaching experience. As the assistant band director, Sutton began his career ten years ago in Texarkana Independent School District. Sutton has been the director of bands and fine arts department chair at Redwater High School for the past seven years. The Redwater High School Band earned multiple UIL Sweepstakes Awards under Sutton's direction, including two-time UIL State Marching Band Championship finalists in 2019 and 2021.

Sutton is a native of Texarkana and a graduate of Pleasant Grove High School. He was a Pleasant Grove High School Pride in Motion Band member. Sutton earned a Music Education Degree at Henderson State University. Sutton is married to his wife, Kim, and they have two little boys, Reid and Ben. Kim is a family nurse practitioner, a Pleasant Grove High School graduate, and a former Pleasant Grove High School Pride in Motion Band member.

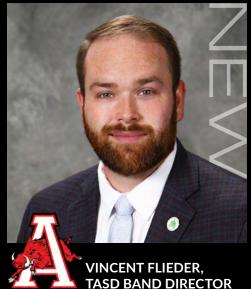
"I am extremely excited to be back home in Hawk Nation," Sutton said. "There is no denying the incredibly high-achieving programs that Pleasant Grove ISD already provides. I am ready to push the band program to the levels of so many other things in this district. It is sort of a surreal experience to be back inside these walls that helped me develop my love for music and band, and I can not wait to get started in my new role here."

Sutton has high hopes this year and goals for the Pleasant Grove High School Pride in Motion Band to be seen as "one of the best in the state. "We have a lot of work to do," Sutton said, "but I know with all of the support from our administration, faculty, staff, and community, we can definitely achieve that goal."









The Texarkana Arkansas School District proudly announces new Head Band Director, Vincent Flieder. Flieder was previously the assistant band director and music teacher at Arkansas High School.

"I am very excited to be taking on the director of bands position," Flieder said. "It is a big task being the head of a program, especially one as renowned as the Arkansas High Razorback band, but it's one that I am very honored to be trusted with. The staff I have are one of the best in the state, and the students are definitely top notch."

Flieder graduated from Texas High School and attended college at The University of Arkansas at Monticello. Before Flieder joined the Texarkana Arkansas School District, he was the band director and music teacher at Maud Independent School District. Flieder also served as the junior high band director, assistant band director, high school choir director at Hope Public School District, and high school choir director at Chapel Hill Independent School District in Tyler, Texas.

"I plan to keep pushing forward to create even more opportunities for our students to learn, grow, and thrive," Flieder said. "I also want to create a culture where our students know that we have a place for them to be themselves and be supported and loved. AHS (Arkansas High School) is already known for being a powerhouse with its programs, but I want to go further and make sure that there is no doubt that we are the top band program in the area."

Flieder is married to his wife, Bonnie, the theatre director at Texas High School.



