

Counselor's Corner



August Core Value:
Responsibility

Important Dates

Thursday, August 7th

Meet the Teacher 4:30-5:30pm

Bring your school supplies!

Tuesday, August 12th

First day of school!!!

August 12th – Sept. 30th

GT referral online window open

Online GT referral ONLY: <https://gt.fortbendisd.com/>

**See page 3 for more information*

Monday, August 25th

First National Elementary Honor Society (NEHS) meeting for students during 5th grade Enrichment time to practice for the Induction ceremony

Tuesday, August 26th

National Elementary Honor Society in-person Induction Ceremony at 8:30am in the cafeteria (breakfast celebration to follow)

Looking Ahead...

Friday, September 5th

FIRST "Student of the Month" breakfast celebration
Invites will be sent out to select students

Week of September 8th

"No Place for Hate" paper applications go out for 3rd-5th graders

Friday, September 12th

NEHS membership due via RevTrak

Mrs. Hsu's contact information:

Email: angela.hsu@fortbendisd.gov

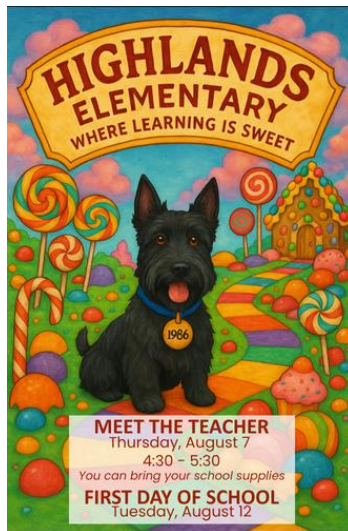
Phone #: 281-634-4164

Highlands ES Counseling website:

<https://www.fortbendisd.com/Domain/8212>

Mrs. Hsu's Counseling Corner Schoology Group:

VNB3-9KWJ-KZZP5



Quaver Ready

Responsibility is doing what you're supposed to do and owning your actions.



RESPONSIBILITY

Our theme this year is **"Learning is Sweet!"** We want the students to see hard work, perseverance, and support in his/her learning journey will yield sweet rewards. We hope everyone had a wonderful first week of school!

"Meet the Counselor" virtual meeting

Please come attend the event virtually via Teams on **Thursday, Sept. 4th from 4:00 – 4:30pm.**

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 230 710 685 484 7

Passcode: Vz6Zg3Pu

During this presentation, I will talk about individual and support group counseling in a school setting and other services I provide to you and students as the school counselor. Our GT COG (Champion of GT), Mrs. Minne Cheng, will also talk about GT traits in a child, our GT program, and the GT referral & testing process. We can't wait to see you!

Meanwhile, you can refer to **page 3 for more GT information.**

Spirit Stick and "Student of the Month" Winners

As part of our MTSS (Multiple-Tier Support System) to encourage behavior positively, we have amazing incentives for our students. **We are grateful for PTO** for funding our Spirit Sticks that students earn by showing the Core Value of the month. Students are recognized by their peers or classroom teachers! Then, ONE student per classroom is chosen as the "Student of the Month". **See page 4** for more information.

Dear Parents & Guardians,

My name is Angela Hsu, and I am the school counselor at Highlands Elementary. The elementary years are a time when students begin to develop their academic self-concept and understand how they learn and build confidence in their abilities to be successful at school. It's also a time when students develop decision-making and communication skills in addition to character values. As students grow and learn throughout the elementary years, they acquire and develop attitudes towards self, peers, school, social groups, and families.

Elementary school counselors are educators uniquely trained in learning strategies, child development, self-management, and social skills. As an elementary counselor, I implement a comprehensive school counseling program to support student success. This includes classroom guidance lessons that align with the Fort Bend ISD Profile of a Graduate, focusing upon knowledge, attitudes, and skills students need to acquire in support of academic, social/emotional, and career development. These skills serve as the foundation for future success.

For the 2025-2026 school year, guidance and social emotional lessons will include the following topics:

- Character Education (This year's traits: Responsibility, Kindness, Respect, Fairness & Justice, Positivity & Gratitude, Perseverance, Creative & Unique, Leadership, Confidence, and Cooperation)
- Friendship/Getting Along with Others
- Bully & Cyberbullying Prevention
- Internet and Social Media Safety (3rd-5th grade)
- Safe vs. Unsafe Touches and how to get help // Child Abuse Prevention
- Mental Wellness
- Assertiveness Skills to Support Student Safety
- Conflict Resolution
- College and Career Readiness Exploration
- Understanding Differences and Embracing Race & Culture (in support of "No Place for Hate")
- Transition to Middle School (5th grade only)
- Reducing Test Anxiety/Coping with Stress (Grades 3-5)
- Now That You're Ten (Delivered to 4th grade and 5th grade by the Fort Bend County Sheriff's Department to educate students about Texas laws that affect children once they turn age 10)

I look forward to seeing your child during my guidance lessons in Outclass and classrooms. If you have additional questions or would prefer your child not participate in specific lessons, please contact me at angela.hsu@fortbendisd.gov or 281-634-4164.

Sincerely,

Angela Hsu

M.Ed. in Counseling
Counselor for Highlands Elementary
Licensed Professional Counselor

Gifted and Talented Testing

Students eligible for fall evaluation

- Currently enrolled FBISD students in grades K-11.
- Students who are not identified for gifted and talented services in FBISD in any content area.

Referral

- The online referral window will be available beginning **August 12, 2025**, on the [GT Home Page](#).
- To submit a referral, the parent/guardian must use the online referral app. Use this link to access the [GT Online Referral App](#).
- Referrals must be submitted online by the **September 30, 2025 deadline**. Exceptions will not be made.
- Parent/guardian must consent in the [GT Online Referral App](#) to have the student tested if a staff member referred the student.

Assessment

- The cognitive abilities test used is the [CogAT](#). Subtests administered are Non-Verbal, Verbal, and Quantitative.
- The testing window is **November 3-14, 2025** (for all grades except 2nd - please see the [2nd grade Cognitive Abilities Testing page](#) for more information).
- Students will be tested during school hours.
- Teachers must complete a School Rating Scale in the GT App for referred students.
- Parents are asked to complete a Home GT Behavior Observation Form in the GT App as part of the referral or consent to test process.

2nd Grade Cognitive Abilities Testing information:

<https://www.fortbendisd.com/Page/124596>

- All 2nd grade students will take this test. The testing will happen during **Oct. 27 – Oct. 31**
- The classroom teacher and/or the campus counselor will administer the test.

More information on the Gifted and Talented Program in FBISD:

<https://www.fortbendisd.com/gifted>

More questions about GT process, identification, and notification? **Please attend the virtual “Meet the Counselor” on Thursday, September 4th from 4:00-4:30pm.**

Join the meeting now

Meeting ID: 230 710 685 484 7

Passcode: Vz6Zg3Pu

Spirit Sticks and “Student of the Month”



What are Spirit Sticks?

- This is our 8th year implementing the school-wide student incentive program to recognize students showing any of our 10 Core Value character traits this year. It aligns with FBISD’s Profile of a Graduate, because we want all of our students to be a servant leader, problem-solver, life-long learner, and become a caring adult. It is our campus-wide initiative for positive behavior.
- When students receive these, he/she can put it on a keyring. It can be put on his/her backpack. We want them to show off their accomplishment!

How does my child/children get one?

- **Spirit sticks** – Students will have to earn these. There are only 2 given to each Prekindergarten teacher and 3 to each kindergarten – 5th grade teacher for each month! Teachers will look for students going above and beyond to show creativity, responsibility, kindness, gratitude, etc. In some classrooms, students get to vote for their peers that show the Core Value of the month.

Are there other ways my student is rewarded for good behavior?

- Yes! Your student can also be nominated as THE “Student of the Month”. We have a breakfast celebration in the library or cafeteria once a month to honor these students. The student and family will receive the invitation as a hard copy and through email.
- We also have our school-wide Scottie Bucks that students can earn for good behavior during transition times in the hallways, morning and afternoon dismissal, and random acts of kindness.