

**AUGUST 2023**

**VOLUME 1 ISSUE 4**

# **TIGER TALK**

**AUGUST 28, 2023 - September 2, 2023**

***Welcome***

# **BACK TO SCHOOL**

***#MOVING FORWARD***

## Mission Statement: Our Purpose

Our Mission is to provide high quality education in a safe, respectful and inclusive environment that builds a foundation for life-long learning.

## Vision Statement: Where are we going!

Our vision is to develop well rounded, confident and responsible individuals who aspire to achieve their full potential by providing a welcoming, supportive, and rigorous learning environment.

**TIGERS: Teach, Inspire, and Grow Exceptional and Resilient Students**



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

**Another excellent school week has come to an end. This week, I want to discuss classroom management. In what ways does good classroom management contribute to student success? Effective classroom management refers to keeping students organized, orderly, focused, attentive, on task, and academically productive.**

**Three examples of effective classroom management are: (1) Establish and follow guidelines. A teacher's classroom rules are unique to each class, but teachers who are consistent with their rules manage their classrooms best. (2) Be as engaging as possible with your class. (3) Encourage parents to get involved early.**

**#AllIn4Wharton**

**#Accountability Starts With Me**



# The Fundamental 5

are the five critical practices that are at the core of highly effective instruction.

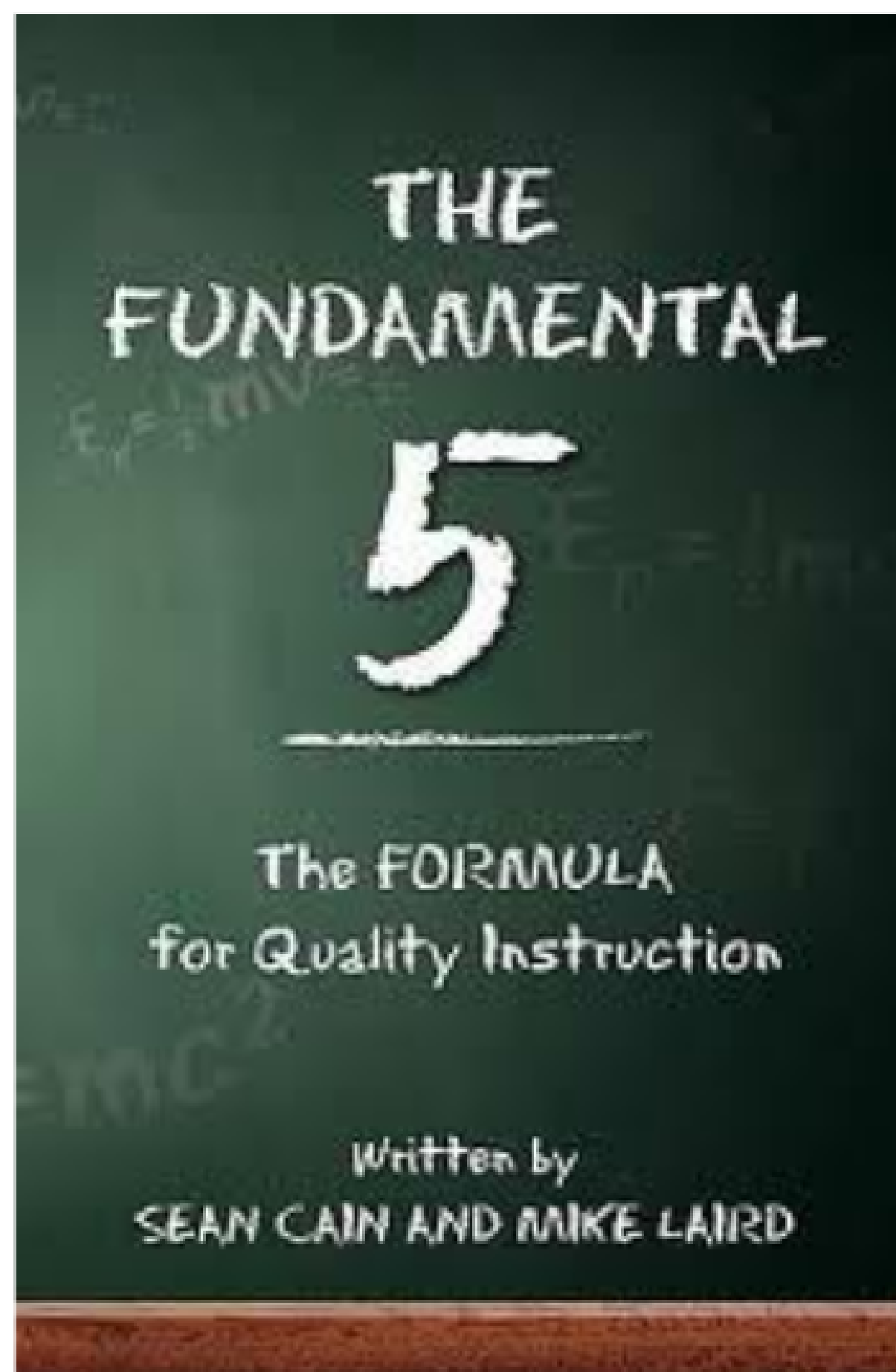
Framing the Lesson

Work in the  
“Power Zone”

Write Critically

Frequent,  
Small  
Group,  
Purposeful  
Talk

Recognize  
& Reinforce



### Framing the Lesson:

- Simply means the teacher gives the student a clear picture of...
  - What will be happening today and...
  - What they will be able to do with the knowledge
  - It goes back to clear expectations: What are you doing, why are you doing it...
  - Represents the **beginning** and **end** of the lesson
  - Objectives should be written in concrete, student friendly language
  - Communicates a clear focus to the student and teacher

### Power Zone:

- Simply teaching or monitoring in close proximity to one student, or a small group of students, or the entire classroom full of students.
- Basically you are wherever the students are
  - On task behaviors increase
  - Discipline issues decrease
  - Student retention of the content increases

### Frequent Small Group Purposeful Talk:

- After every 10-15 minutes of teacher driven discussion, or at the completion of a major instructional concept (whichever comes first) the teacher briefly stops talking and has groups of 2-4 students briefly discuss a **seed question** related to the instruction or instructional activity.
- It is not a long conversation or an unstructured one
- It is a focused microdiscussion lasting between 30 seconds and 3 minutes

### Recognize and Reinforce:

- Nine tenths of education is encouragement
- I know you will do it, I'm proud of you, good, keep going, well done, you can do it, fantastic effort, great work, you are smart
- Make a big deal of the small things
- Start reinforcing the work it takes to be successful

### Critical Write:

- Writing for the purpose of organizing, clarifying, defending, refuting, analyzing, dissecting, connecting, and/or expending on ideas or concepts.
- Most natural and authentic way to increase the rigor
- It's not copying from a book. Neither is it a fill in the blank activity or free writing.
- It can consist of: a simple list, a short comparison paragraph, a quick summary, a mind map, purposeful note taking, a written exit ticket, a formal essay or term paper

# Fundamental 5 Focus of the Week

## Frequent, Small-Group, Purposeful Talk:

After every 10 to 12 minutes of teacher-driven discussion, or at the completion of a major instructional concept (which ever comes first), the teacher briefly stops talking and has groups of 2 to 4 students (hence the term small group) briefly discuss a seed question related to the instruction or the instructional activity.

- **Keep in mind that this is not a long conversation, nor is it an unstructured one.**
- **It is a focused discussion lasting between 30 seconds to 3 minutes.**
- **The structure for this fundamental 5 practice is provided by the teacher in four ways:**
  - Frequency
  - Group Size
  - Seed Question
  - Power Zone



# Instructional Strategy Focus for the Week

## Think-Pair-Share:

- Helps students to think individually about a topic or answer to a question.
- Teaches students to share ideas with classmates and builds oral communication skills.
- Helps focus attention and engage students in comprehending the reading material.

## How to Use Think-Pair-Share:

- Decide upon the text to be read and develop the set of questions or prompts that target key content concepts.
- Describe the purpose of the strategy and provide guidelines for discussions.
- Model the procedure to ensure that students understand how to use the strategy.
- Monitor and support students as they work through the following:

## TPS

- **T** : (Think) Teachers begin by asking a specific question about the text. Students "think" about what they know or have learned about the topic.
- **P** : (Pair) Each student should be paired with another student or a small group.
- **S** : (Share) Students share their thinking with their partner. Teachers expand the "share" into a whole-class discussion.



*Wharton*  
**Independent School District**

## **Wharton High School Fundamental 5 Spotlight Teacher of the Week**

*August 21, 2023 – August 25, 2023*



**Covey Barbee** is our US History Dual Credit, World Geography Advanced Teacher at Wharton High School and also the Social Studies Department chair. He was raised in Wharton and graduated from Wharton High School in 2004. He attended college at Wharton County Junior College and Sam Houston State University. He and his wife Brittany have been married for 4 years and have two children together. He is a Past-Master of Wharton Masonic Lodge #621 and they are members of St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Wharton. His hobbies include smoking brisket, building things (but mostly staring at

unfinished projects) in his garage, and he holds an Extra Class Amateur Radio License for his ham radio hobby. He enjoys talking to other hams locally and around the world. He loves creating new and unique projects for US History and weaving together the story of our American past and how it relates to today's issues. During the week of August 21 – August 25, Mr. Barbee did an excellent job staying in the Power Zone and engaging with his students during his lesson. Mr. Barbee, thank you for all you do at WHS.

## Tiger Tips

- Expectations = As a campus we must raise the level of EXPECTATION! Don't lower your expectations to meet your performance. Raise your level of performance to meet your expectations. Expect the best out of your students and yourself, then do what is necessary to make it a reality (Ralph Marston).



## Mark Your Calendar

- **August 28**
  - Open House @ 6:20 pm
- **September 4**
  - Holiday
- **September 8**
  - Holiday

### WISD WEEKLY ATHLETIC ITINERARY

**Week of August 28 through September 2, 2023**

**Monday: 8-28-2023**

**Tuesday: 8-29-2023**

- WHS Freshman Volleyball vs. Brazosport @ Wharton .....5:00 pm
- WHS JV Volleyball vs. Brazosport @ Wharton..... 6:00 pm
- WHS Varsity Volleyball vs. Brazosport @ Wharton..... 7:00 pm

**Wednesday: 8-30-2023**

**Thursday: 8-31-2023**

- WJH Volleyball @ Royal B Team ...5:00 pm, A Team directly following B Team
- WHS Team Tennis vs. Stafford HS @ Wharton.....5:00 pm
- WJH Cross Country @ Schulenburg Invitational .....TBA
- WHS Cross Country @ Schulenburg Invitational .....TBA
- WHS Sub Varsity Football vs. E.E. Worthing @ Wharton.....5:00 pm  
(Sub Varsity Football Game time, site, and opponent subject to change)

**Friday: 9-01-2023**

**Saturday 9-02-2023**

- WHS Varsity Football @ E.E. Worthing .....7:00 pm



**Wharton High School**

**Open House**

**Monday, August 28, 2023**

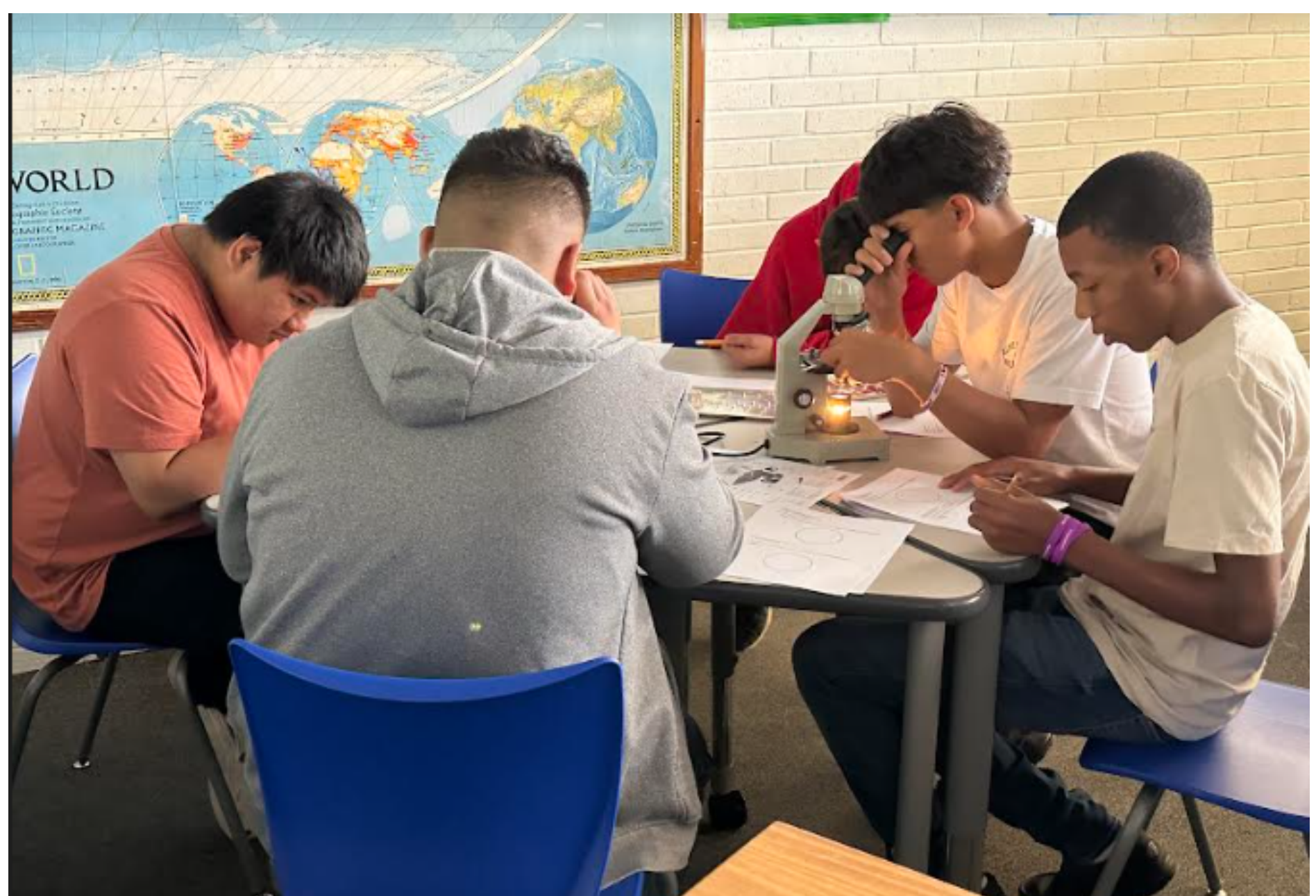
**6:20-7:30 p.m.**

**Please join us for a wonderful opportunity to  
visit your child's classrooms and teachers!**

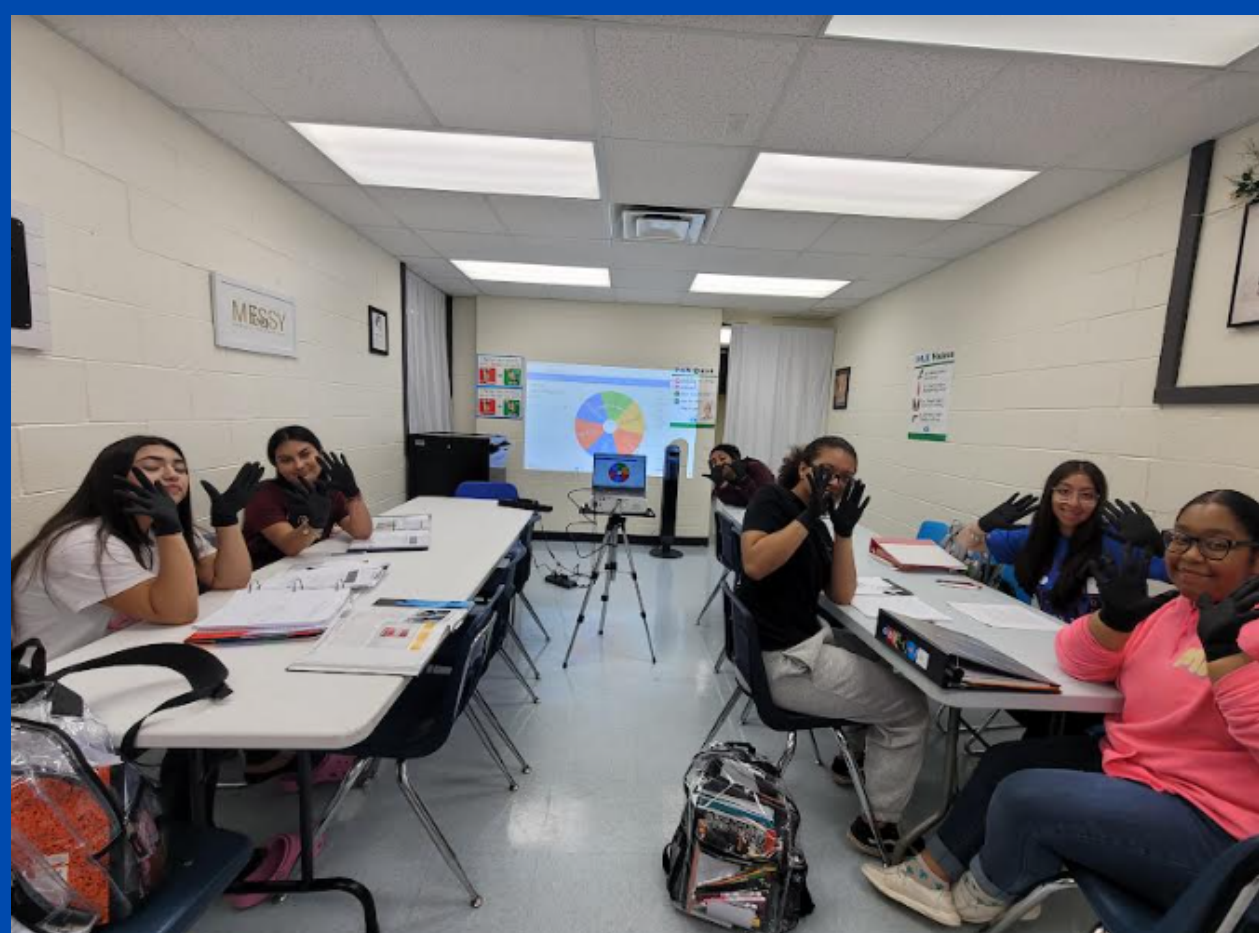
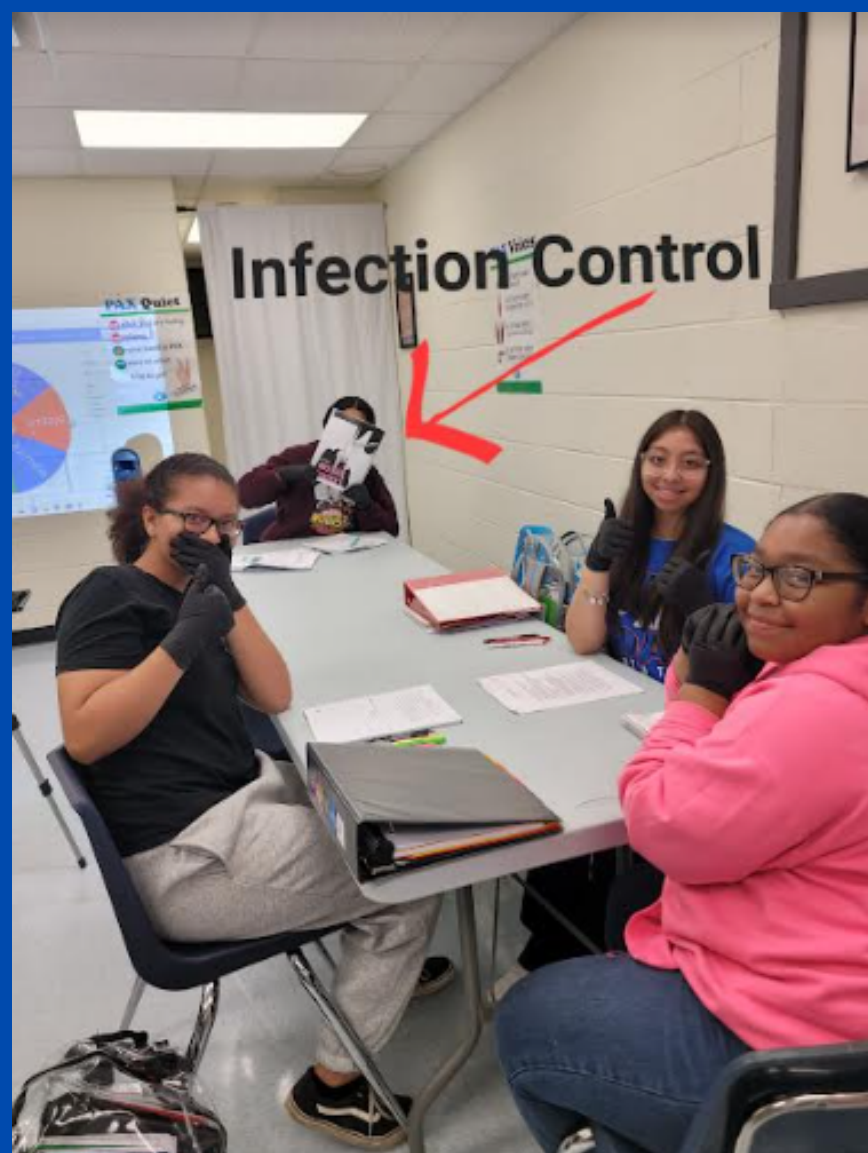
**Parents & Students will move class to class from 6:20 pm - 7:30 pm.**

# Campus Photos

**Ms. Taylor's Biology class performing microscope labs with animal and plant cells**



**Our intro to Cosmetology Class is studying infection control, and has now learned the art of taking off gloves the proper way.**



**Our Cosmetology 1 students have been studying nail enhancements which include manicuring/pedicuring, liquid and powder ( acrylic ) nail enhancements, and light-cured gels. On this day, they were conducting a lab on gel manicure services!**



**Mr. Barbee is leading another engaging discussion...this time it's the tenement housing of the 1800s. Way to go!**



# The JV Tiger offense is 'set and ready' versus Van Vleck!



## Chandler's Motivational Chat

**The future of the world is in my classroom  
today.**

**Ivan Welton Fitzwater**