

CASTLE HILLS



FIRST BAPTIST SCHOOL

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Castle Hills School Family –

Verb – a word that conveys
action or state of being.

In teaching kids to master the writing process, one of the first parts of speech that we teach students to use in the writing process is the VERB. Verbs (past, present and future tense) are the action words that make a paper come alive. Castle Hills is alive with action – past, present, and future. Let me “*verbalize*” how God is at work on this campus on behalf of the nearly 400 boys, girls, and teens that will soon be back in our halls.

Past Tense: Castle Hills students completed a year to remember in 2010 - 2011!

- The Castle Hills’ seniors that walked the stage at commencement were 100% college bound and 70% received academic and service college scholarships. Graduates of the Class of 2011 received, on average, scholarship awards of \$27,500.
- 40 students accepted Christ as Savior on campus this past year.
- Castle Hills Eagle Choir won the TAPPS state championship, being recognized as the best 1-A choir in Texas.
- Regional First Place medals were brought home by Eagle students in Science Fair, Art Festivals, Speech Meets, Spelling Bees, and Math Olympics.
- Athletic highlights include making playoffs in the first season of football, Middle School Girl’s Volleyball team placed 1st in the Independent Schools Athletic League winning the District Championship, Varsity Girls’ and Boys’ basketball teams advanced to the playoffs (with the Varsity Girl’s team only one game short of State Final Four), we had a State finalist in track, and we are back in the baseball business again.
- We took three mission trips to Mercedes, Texas, and were involved in piles of community service across our area highlighted by Eagle students leading 45 people to Christ and touching hundreds and hundreds of lives through volunteerism and ministry.
- Through the generous support of so many like you, we funded \$120,000 in Financial Aid Scholarships for CHFBS students, \$35,000 toward our Computer Technology Fund, \$17,000 toward our new Athletic Sports Complex, \$10,000 toward our Playground Project Fund, and \$3,000 toward our Teacher Resource Fund.

Present Tense: Great Things are being accomplished right now!

- This summer, we have been searching for the brightest stars in the teaching field to join our faculty. Our superintendent has signed on new leaders to the Castle Hills teaching faculty, including a Math department chair, a Bible department chair, an English department chair, 2 new lead teachers in the Elementary school, a SOAR director and an additional principal.
- New student enrollment is the largest percentage in over 10 years. We expect total enrollment to be up 20-25% on the first day of school.

Castle Hills First Baptist School...

Leading students, in partnership with families, to know Christ and to make Christ known.

- We have broken ground on Phase 1 of our new Athletics Sports Complex. Trees have been extracted, dirt work has been done and grass and irrigation come next.

Future Tense: The 2011-12 school year will bring the best changes yet on campus!

- School leaders will present action plans to raise academic standards and student achievement across all grade levels. Secondary teachers will focus and adjust curriculum requirements to exceed college prep expectations in all core subjects.
- We will begin Phase 1 of our “front to back door” Technology Project. New computers should be in place across campus before the beginning of the second semester.
- A campus wide theme will be unveiled that focuses on increasing the “life on life” influence of faculty members in students’ lives, as well as, deepening relationships among the student body in every class.
- A “College Prep” course will be introduced to junior and senior classes to increase our effectiveness in producing college ready students, college/university admissions success, and acquisition of financial scholarships and grants for our graduates. We will see measurable improvements in college entrance testing and the kind of community service our students need to distinguish themselves with the universities they pursue.
- While athletic and fine arts departments experienced notable improvements in the past year, all departments will be guided and evaluated by three benchmarks to further improvement and excellence, including priorities to:
 - Promote work ethic – we will out-practice and over-prepare for our opponents
 - Pursue passion – through the demonstration of school spirit and Eagle pride
 - Preserve godliness – overcome adversity through character and positive attitude
- A new Parent Partnership Policy will increase the participation of parents in their kid’s education through five hours of volunteering, classroom observation, and attending five parent meetings annually. Parent participation is a key ingredient to creating the best school in South Texas – maybe the galaxy!

Welcome back to the *Eagle Family Experience!* We fully expect the coming year to be our best ever. The past is behind us and the present will be past us in just a moment. We are fixed on the goals before us in working together for a greater future for your kids and teens. Let me assure you, the best is yet to come!

See you at the mandatory **Parent Orientation on August 18 at 6:30 p.m. in the Worship Center.** We cannot wait to see your kids and teens back on campus! Enjoy these closing weeks of rest and relaxation with your family.

For Kingdom Education,



Michael Pinkston, M.Ed.
Superintendent of Schools