

SAM HOUSTON MSTC  
ARMY JROTC



# THE BLACK KNIGHTS' SWORD



**JANUARY 2023**

## **JROTC PROGRAM ACCREDITATION**



**Annually, HISD and or Cadet Command conducts a thorough inspection of each high school JROTC program to ensure quality assurance and control. The higher command inspects primarily by questioning cadets and examining their Cadet Portfolios.**

**“TO MOTIVATE YOUNG PEOPLE TO BE BETTER CITIZENS”**



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In December, the office of the Director of Army Instruction (DAI) inspected the logistical operations of the Black Knights as the first portion of the Accreditation. Captain (Ret) Chapman inspected Cadet Krystal Ramirez to verify that her operations were in line with Cadet Command policies and procedures. Her assistant, Cadet Sergeant Elizabeth Rigney, was on hand to assist in the inspection.

CPT Chapman examined the clothing room, arms room, and storage room and he was pleased with what he found. SGT Ramirez earned an excellent rating from the DAI's office, and she is only a sophomore. She conducted herself as a young professional and was able to explain her role and responsibilities to the battalion perfectly.



The JPA inspection requires the entire staff to make sure the program is following guidelines. Cadet Captain Arianna Saenz, senior, leads the staff in the out brief to CPT Chapman following his inspection. CPT Chapman gave a few pointers that will help the logistics operations grow which helps the battalion excel at its mission which is helping young people become better citizens.

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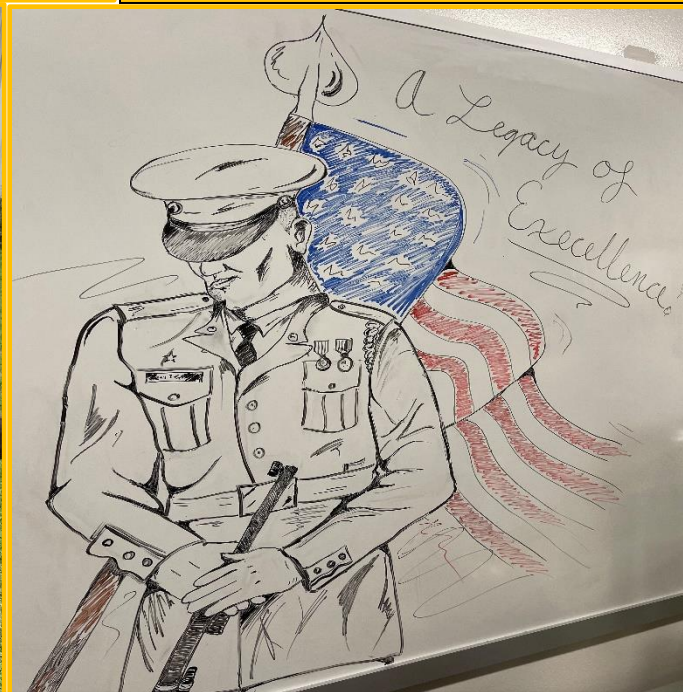
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# PROGRAM MANAGERS

The JROTC staff is comprised of students with high academic achievement credentials who are not only building solid resumes, but they are learning how to manage people and systems. The annual JPA inspects several criteria:

- **Continuous Improvement Plan**
- **Service-Learning Project**
- **Cadet Portfolios**
- **Battalion Color Guard**
- **Individual Cadet Knowledge**
- **Logistical Operations**

The staff prepares the agenda in the summer for the inspection that takes place in the late autumn. Many hours of training and coordination are required to be successful.



Left: Army Instructor from Kashmere High School, Master Sergeant McAneny, provides additional training for the battalion color guard to pass the inspection. The Black Knights thank him for his expert training.

Right: Cadet Sergeant Yamileth Aviles drew a mural on the classroom board to bring a touch of class to the inspection and Sergeant First Class Barry Page accented her work for effect. Excellent artwork...

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# CHAMPIONSHIP PEDIGREE



**Top: The Silent Knights train 7:30-8:20am three days per week**  
**Right: Silent Knights winning 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in matches #1 and #2**

A	B	C
school	Team	scc
Sam Houston MSTC	Lady Black Knights	271
Pleasanton	Lady Eagles	259
TMI	TM 2	245
Lake Hamilton	Rabid Wolves	244

A	B	C
school	Team	score
Lake Hamilton	Max Pack	298
Sam Houston MSTC	Black Knights Prime	295
Central Catholic	Striker 1	293
Pleasanton	Eagles	292
Coconino	Team A	259
Sam Houston MSTC	Black Knights Secondary	257

## MCALLEN HS NATIONAL PHYSICAL FITNESS INVITATIONAL

In November, the Black Knights physical fitness teams competed in a national competition and the results are in. The Lady Black Knights placed first place while the Black Knights male primary team placed second. The secondary male team also placed sixth. There were over 50 female teams and over 80 male teams and the Black Knights were up to the task.

Individually, Cadet Sergeant Yamileth Aviles was the top performing female for all females while Cadet Sergeant Angelita Brown was second. For the males, Cadet Corporal Diego Roldan placed first nationally. The Black Knights PT team will be in action in February and March.

**WISH THEM GOOD LUCK!**

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## **MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL**

Members of the armed drill team participated in a church play to celebrate the holidays with family and friends. Led by coach Adam Obregon, Cadets Christian Hernandez, Katherine Alamia, Elizabeth Rigney, Sabrina Obregon, Yamileth Aviles, and Allan Echeverria played out the nativity scene and shared their love with the community.



## **BOOSTER CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY**

After a long first semester of winning competitions and earning good grades, the Black Knights family closed out the school year with the annual Christmas party where the great booster club provided a happy dinner for the cadets in a safe environment. The Black Knights are gearing up to dominate the second semester in competition and the classroom.

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### REACHING BACK

At the annual Christmas party, several recently graduated cadets returned to talk with their former classmates. Graduates Estevan CompeanGarza and Leticia and Felicia Romero all came back to wish well upon the cadets and inform them on what awaits them after high school.

**ESTEVAN:** In October, Estevan enlisted into the United States Army as a generator mechanic earning a \$40,000 cash bonus. He was home on leave from basic combat training and he stopped by to meet with his former Army instructor and reunite with cadets. He is a former member of the male physical fitness team and a former class leader in the program.

**LETICIA and FELICIA:** They are twins who served the battalion well. Leticia is now a freshman at Texas State University on a full scholarship majoring in communication design. She is enjoying the college life. Felicia is working locally in Houston and is starting a family. She served as the executive officer last year and the color guard commander.



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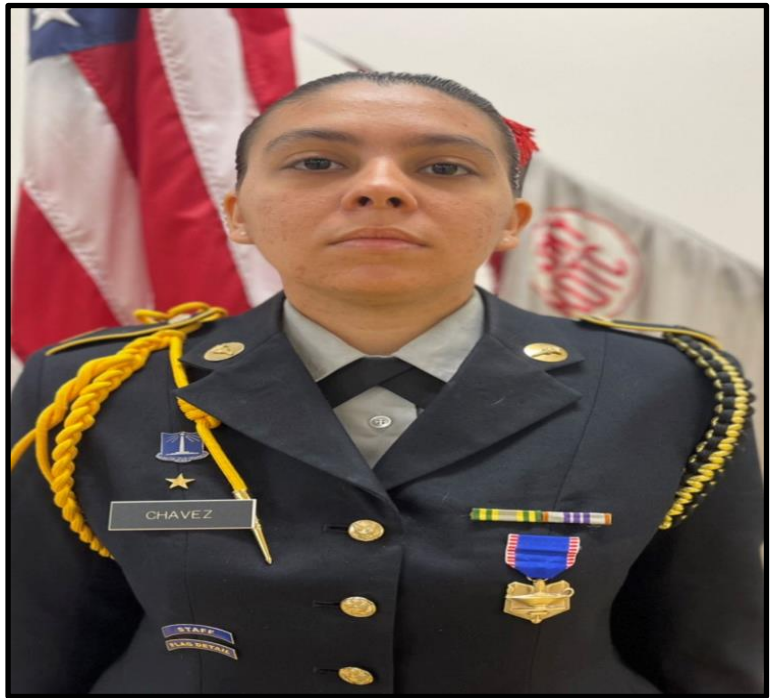
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**A WORD FROM THE TOP**



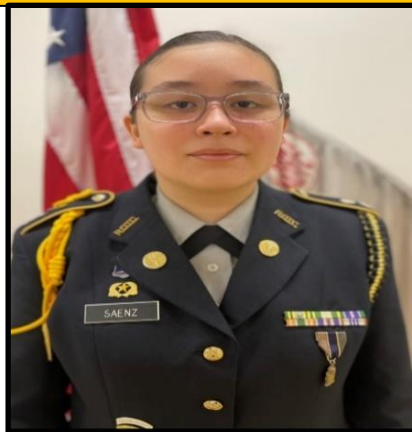
**BATTALION COMMANDER JIMENEZ**

Hope everyone had a fantastic break! As we return to school, I must urge everyone to stay focused and keep a strong effort going back to school. We are halfway through the year and nearly at the finish line. Our cadets have also been working hard and preparing for upcoming competitions. Time to bring home more trophies! Remember to keep your head up and finish strong. **GO BLACK KNIGHTS!!!**



**COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR CHAVEZ**

Welcome back everyone, I hope y'all had a wonderful holiday and break. I would like to acknowledge the cadets and former cadets that have put in their effort into the program and to their community. The cadets have put in their best effort into having the battalion as polished it could possibly be with the preparations done before hand and continuing to keep it that way with the new generation of cadets. Let's continue to put in our best assessment. HOOAAH!



**EXECUTIVE OFFICER SAENZ**

Happy New Year cadets and readers alike! As always, we are lively this January! We will be supporting the Veterans of Foreign Wars on the 14th and 15th. In addition, selected cadets will be teaching lessons in preparation for Superior Instructor throughout this month. Brigade competition at San Antonio will be on the 21st and marksmanship competition with the American Legion will be held on the 24th, good luck teams! Military Ball is approaching faster than you think! Look forward to an update on the elegant ball this month for how you can attend.

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