



THE BLACK KNIGHTS' SWORD



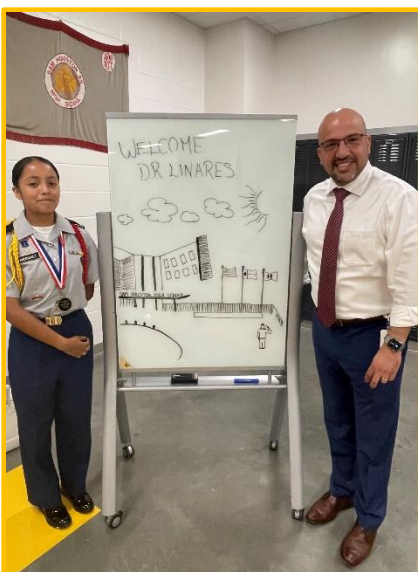
SEPTEMBER 2022

THE RETURN OF THE BLACK KNIGHTS



WELCOME DR. LINARES!

Days before school began, the Black Knights invited Dr. Linares to the battalion for a formal brief explaining the inner workings of the organization. The battalion staff prepared a thirty-minute presentation highlighting where the battalion has been, where it is now, and where it is going this year. Dr. Linares is the new principal, and he has taken strong interest in the Black Knights Battalion.



TOPICS DISCUSSED

- Competition Schedule 22-23
- Planned Fundraising for 22-23
- Planned Recruiting Events 22-23
- Booster Club
- Adopting an Elementary School
- Facility Usage
- Summer Training for 2023
- Boys and Girls State 2023

*Dr. Linares promised to support the August 20th car wash



“TO MOTIVATE YOUNG PEOPLE TO BE BETTER CITIZENS”

SAM HOUSTON MSTC ARMY JROTC

A PROMISE KEPT

On August 20, 2022, The Black Knights conducted another fundraiser car wash to help fund participation in competitions, travel, military ball, and uniform accessories for the battalion. Dr. Linares promised at the staff brief that he would support. He also urged fellow Houston MSTC Tiger staff to support. He delivered on that promise. He along with other administrators and faculty supported the car wash helping the Black Knights hurdle over their fundraising goal for this event. The Tigers' head basketball coach was the first vehicle on the scene and the Black Knights thank him for his support.



Dr. Linares with the Black Knights at Burger King on Irvington BLVD. The cadets were really surprised to see him and other staff show so much support.

Cadet Corporal Roldan competed for Houston MSTC's cross country team earlier in the morning and earned a 3rd place medal. He then promptly made his way to the carwash to get to work supporting his Black Knights battalion. Good Job CPL Roldan!



Assistant Principal Ryan was very proud to support his students and they were equally proud of how clean they made his vehicle that day. Cadets Benavides and Saenz worked very hard to please.

Black Knights JROTC Car Wash

Location: Burger King 4639 Irvington Blvd
Houston TX, 77009
Date: August 20th, 2022
Time: 12 pm-4 pm



The carwash was a function of the booster club for the JROTC teams. The booster club was founded in September of 2021 where parents have taken keen interest in their cadets after school activities. The booster club is looking for new members for the new school year. Please support your JROTC!

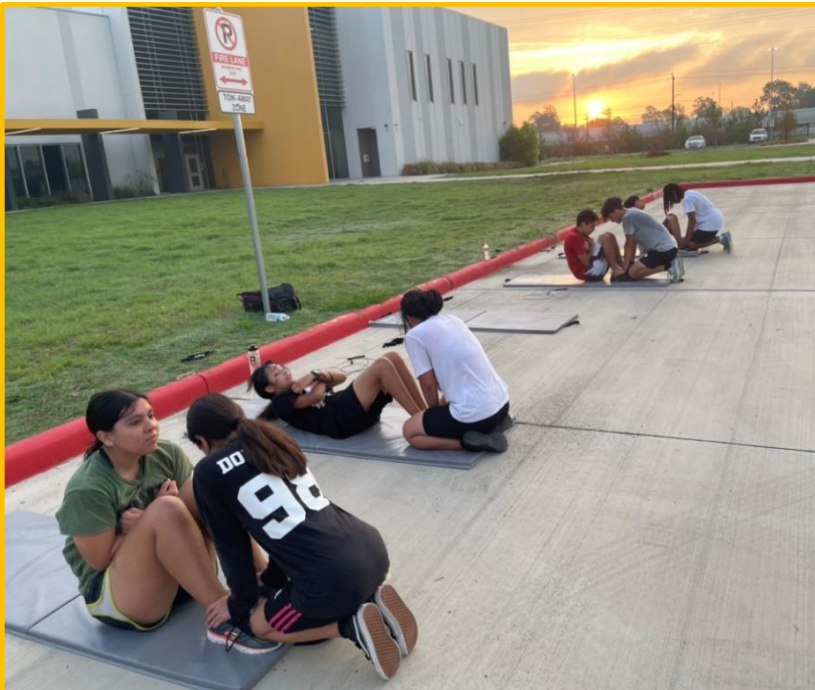
ANNOUNCEMENT: September 17, 2022, the Booster Club will host another fundraiser selling BBQ plates and desserts at St. Borromeo Catholic Church (parking area), 501 Tidwell Rd, Houston, TX. 77022. See you there!

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WHILE YOU WERE SLEEPING...



SUMMER PHYSICAL TRAINING

During the summer of 2022, cadets want to stay active which keeps them around positive people. At 6:10 on weekdays this summer, the physical training team and other cadets arrived to get the day started with a good sweat. Physical training started at 6:30am ending around 7:45am. Parents dropped off their students while it was dark knowing their kids were going to be challenged. That is the life of a cadet in the Black Knights battalion. The booster club supported this effort by providing sports drinks, granola bars, and even cooking lunch for those cadets who stayed to train throughout the day. Several incoming freshmen also attended training as they want to be part of a team and family.

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JROTC ADMINISTRATION PLANNING SESSIONS

After the end of school year transition period, the incoming administration sets the table for the new year over the summer. The staff along with the cadet command team informs the instructors what they want to teach for the 40 weeks of school and prepare the weekly training schedules. The battalion training and operations officer, Jasmine Nava, works directly with the instructors and the district headquarters to make sure the training is realistic, relevant, and engaging. The battalion commander, Erik Jimenez, approves the plan and submits it to the instructors. The executive officer makes sure all staff members are prepared for the first day of school.



THE STAFF

C/Captain Arianna Saenz: Executive Officer, leader of the staff

C/Sergeant Monique Lozano: Personnel Manager

C/Sergeant Krystal Ramirez: Logistics Manager

C/Second Lieutenant Jasmine Nava: Training and Operations Manager

BUILDING THE RESUME

The staff is chosen by senior level cadets and the instructors. Working on the staff is a privilege and is a resume booster for top colleges looking for young and experienced leaders. Staff members must coordinate with instructors, principals, school staff, district level staff, and community leaders. They develop public speaking skills, business writing skills, and interpersonal managerial skills. They do not do this for a grade. They do it to prepare for the future in leadership career fields.



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FROM ACROSS THE POND...



Towards the end of the summer of 2022, retired British Army officer, Major Nick Colvin, was in town to visit the Black Knights. He served alongside Major Ray in Afghanistan in 2019 both serving out of 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, TX. He spoke with drill team members about the importance of education and public service. Cadet Corporal Abraham Perez said to him, “Wow, I’ve never met someone with a British accent before.” Major Colvin and his family were visiting Houston before returning to the United Kingdom and he made it a point to visit the best drill team in the district.



LET'S GET PHYSICAL!

During freshman orientation, 28 freshmen reported they were signing up for JROTC because of the physical training. Cadets will have many opportunities to relieve stress and do different physical activities in class which is a break from the normal classes where they sit for 54 minutes.



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SUPPORTING THE GRIDIRON TIGERS!

Thanks to Coach Brown as well as the football coaches, our Physical Training team had the opportunity to assist the Sam Houston Football team in displaying our school pride during the first game of the year. The game ended in a victorious 28 – 2 against Northside High School. What a way to start off the year, GO TIGERS!

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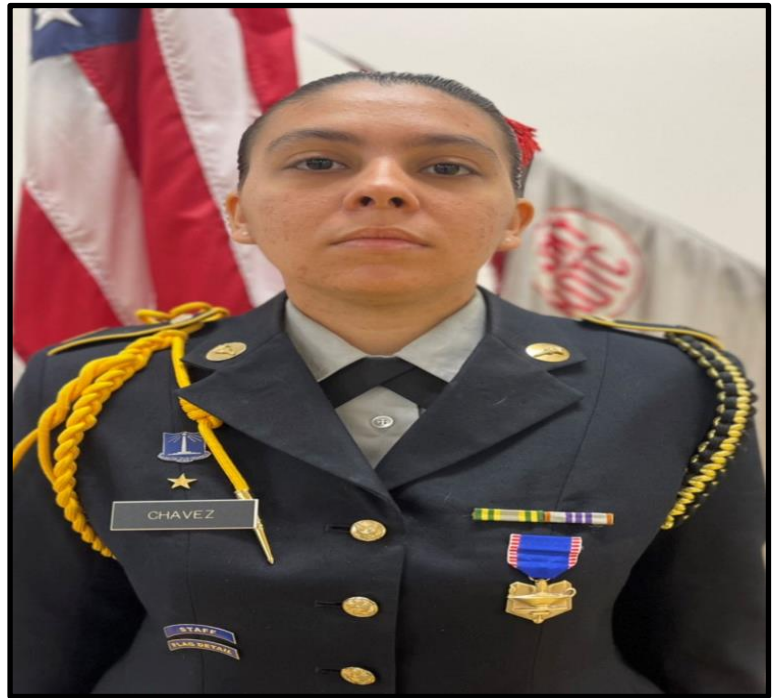
**SAM HOUSTON MSTC
ARMY JROTC**

A WORD FROM THE TOP



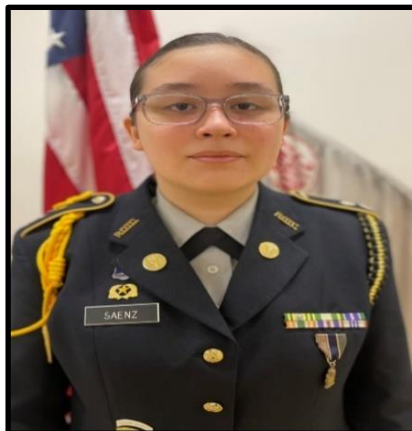
BATTALION COMMANDER JIMENEZ

Hello cadets and patrons, before I begin, I would like to welcome Dr. Linares to the Sam Houston family. It is truly great to have you here. Also, we have had a great start this school year and I would like to thank all the cadets who made it possible. As a senior this year, I promise we will make this program number 1 in the city of Houston. GO BLACK KNIGHTS!!!



**COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR
CHAVEZ**

Welcome back cadets and faculty. I hope summer treated you well. Our cadets were a great help to make the first week possible for everyone. Let us continue to have a great beginning to this school year. Hooaahh!!



EXECUTIVE OFFICER SAENZ

Greetings the 1st Battalion and readers alike, we had an astounding month to start this school year; we must continue this drive to success. Deserving recognition for participation in recruitment efforts and outstanding performance of cadets would be awarded by the first week of October. In addition, one of our upcoming fundraisers we have coming up is the BBQ Plate sale taking place on September 17. Let us recruit as many cadets out there as possible to gather the funds to go to nationals this year and pay for our unforgettable military ball. Our tremendous work will always pay off in the end cadets!!

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