



# THE BLACK KNIGHT'S SWORD



DECEMBER 2021

## A LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE



“To motivate young people to be better citizens.”

## GIVING THANKS

### FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Before the holiday break, the Black Knights and family members came together at the Drill Hall to share a potluck Thanksgiving dinner. 1LT Romero worked closely with the Booster Club parents to assemble team members to enjoy a night of family and friends giving thanks for all the Black Knights have accomplished this year. The Black Knights are motivated for the new year and all of the opportunities that awaits. With family and friends as a support base, the sky is the limit for the historic battalion. Much more to come...



Black Knights enjoying good food and fun



**1LT Romero, MAJ Ray, 1SG Martinez serving Cadets in the chow line**



**Mr. Adam Obregon (Drill Team Coach) and family enjoying the family gathering**



**Left: Cadet Command Sergeant Major Sandoval serving the meat**  
  
**Right: Dominic Ray and Kim Benavides serving delicious food**



# THE HOLIDAY SHUFFLE



**Merry Christmas from the Black Knights! We are currently selling Christmas Baskets filled with goodies in the common area of the cafeteria. Gift baskets are \$5, \$10, and \$20. JROTC will also sell these from B152 and B156. Custom made baskets will be made upon request. Cadets will deliver baskets to classrooms upon requests.**

**Get yours today and send someone you care about a basket filled with cheer for the season.**

# Do You Even Lift, Bro?



Part of the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps curriculum is “**Benefits of Physical Activity.**” JROTC is also a Physical Education credit which fulfills the graduation requirement. Cadets were briefed that every Tuesday will be a day in the weight room where they will learn “**HOW TO TRAIN**” using light weights and other gym equipment to build their own culture of fitness. Cadets were informed that **safety** in the weight room is our top priority. Second to that, cleanliness is the second priority. The Black Knights will leave the weight room clean after usage keeping in line with high standards of the program. The long-term goal is to teach cadets how important it is to stay physically fit even into the post-high school years and Sam Houston MSTC has the facility to conduct this this training. #CULTUREOFFITNESS



On November 14, 2021, the Marksmanship Team competed in Match #2 against all HISD JROTC programs. The Senior Navy Instructor from Booker T. Washington was the official for the match at Sam Houston and the “Stealth Knights” were outstanding. Cadets Sofia Cortez, Abraham Perez, Ben Benavides, and Marco Montes are the team members. Results of the competition will be posted in mid-December.



# Sunday / Fun Day



The JROTC District Headquarters received free tickets for cadets to attend the Houston Texans vs New York Jets NFL game at NRG Stadium for November 28, 2021. The instructors chose four worthy cadets to attend the game, award a free t-shirt, and give a free meal while at the game. Cadets 1LT Romero, C/SGT Jasmine Nava, C/2LT Dakota Chavez, and Cadet Angelita Brown were chosen for their overall performance as students and cadets meaning they are high achievers in the classroom across the board and they are exemplary leaders within the JROTC program. It was a great game despite the Texans losing.

## PROMOTING THE BEST



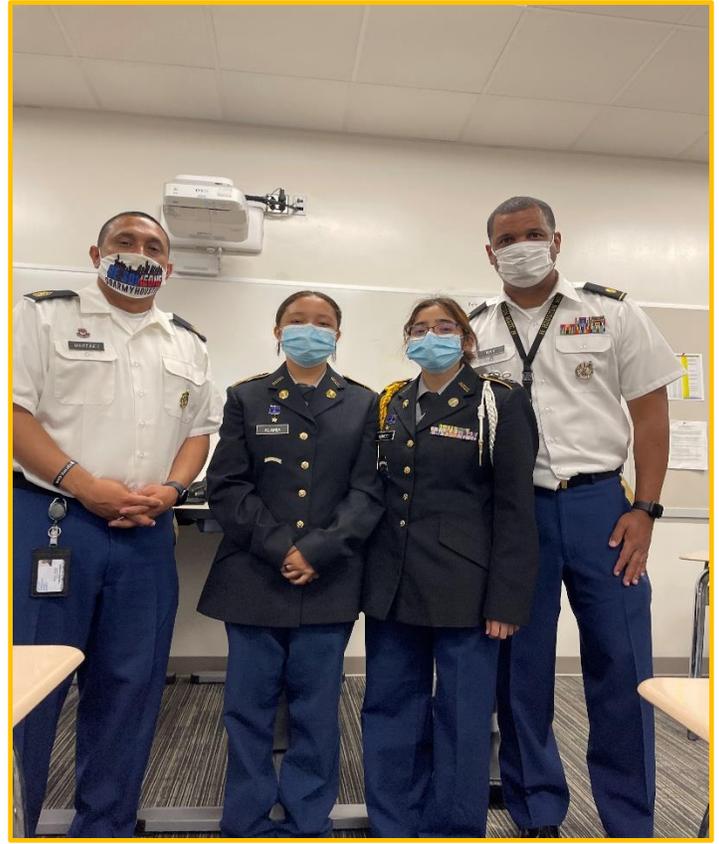
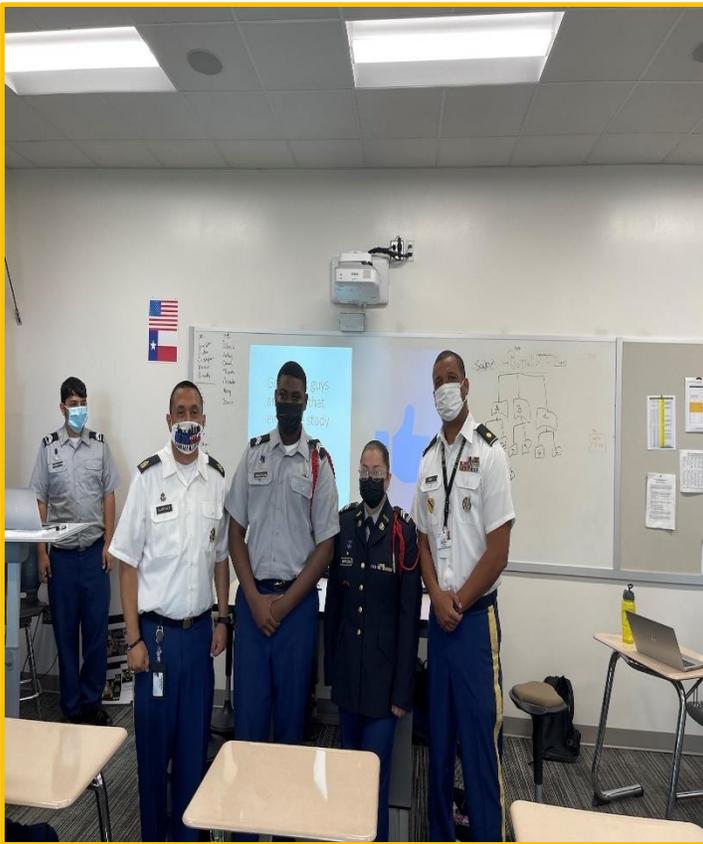
Izacc Rodriguez promoted to the rank of Cadet Sergeant First Class



Jada Olagoke promoted to the rank of Cadet Sergeant



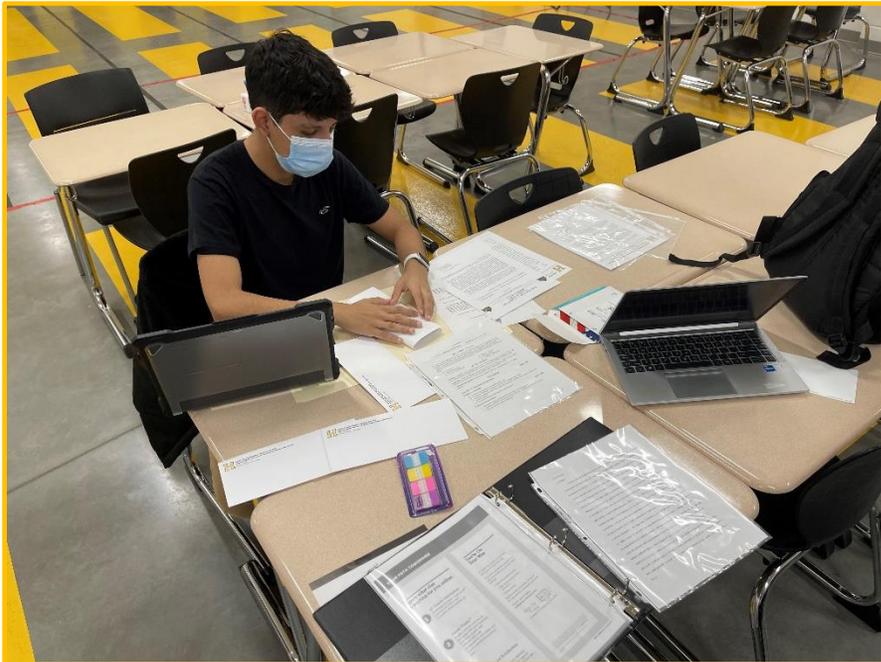
Zurady Chavez promoted to the rank of Cadet Corporal



**JaMarion Wilkerson promoted to the rank of Cadet Sergeant**

**Kathleen Alema promoted to the rank of Cadet Sergeant**

## Military Service Academy Opportunity



**The Honorable Sheila Jackson Lee, U.S. Representative for the 18<sup>th</sup> Congressional District covering Sam Houston MSTC**

**West Point Academy is the U.S. Army's college graduating Army Officers annually for Active-Duty Service**



**C/MAJ Erik Jimenez has applied to the Military Academy at West Point and he competing to earn an appointment recommendation from his congresswoman. It is a lengthy process for aspiring high school juniors. Erik wants to attend West Point and major in Engineering / Robotics. Wish him luck!!**

## A WORD FROM THE TOP



**“Remember cadets, we are a family at heart. Think of JROTC as a home away from home. We do our best to teach you and prepare you for life so do your best. For those who aren’t part of JROTC, we are still willing to lend a helping hand. If anyone needs our help, don’t be afraid to reach out, no matter if you are a student, teacher, or school staff. We are here to support our school. *GO BLACK KNIGHTS!*”**

**“In life we will take losses. They could be competitions, games, items or even people. But in order to grow and become better people, we cannot dwell or wallow in our losses and our past. We must learn from them and adapt.”**



### XO's Corner

**“JROTC staff, remember to keep up the Hard work and set an example for our underclassmen. We are the foundation of JROTC and must continue our legacy of excellence.”**

- Parent Booster Club Meeting – Monday 6, 2021
- Upcoming Staff Meeting - Wednesday 8, 2021
- JROTC Christmas Party- Wednesday 15, 2021
- Last Day of Christmas Baskets – Friday 17, 2021
- Friday 17, 2021 START OF WINTER BREAK !!!

# THE LEGACY CONTINUES

## THE TOP CADET OF THE SEMESTER



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**Cadet Aviles promoted to the rank of Cadet Corporal**

Out of the 170 plus cadets within the JROTC program, Yamileth Aviles is the top cadet for the first semester. As a 9<sup>th</sup> grader, she took on the challenge of having a language barrier and found ways to excel not only in JROTC but academically having close to a 4.0 grade point average (**OUTSTANDING!**). Despite the language barrier, she joined the Drill Team expertly learning all commands on par with her peers who have no language barrier. The team of course recently won 1<sup>st</sup> Place at the District's "Fall Classic" Drill Meet and she was a solid contributor to the success of the team. During a one-mile walk/run in class back

**Let's all cheer Cadet Corporal Aviles. She deserves it!**





