

# BOBCAT VIEW

| Challenging All To Succeed |

## HHS Calendar

Dates to remember for April/May:

April 10 - HHS Band Boosters meeting. Election of officers.

April 13 - Band solo/ensemble contest.

April 19-21 - HHS FFA Rodeo; Hope Fair Park Arena; Old Timers' Night on Thursday.

April 19 - Student art show, 3:30-5 p.m.; HHS Parent Center.

May 1-3 - ACT Aspire for 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> grades.

May 2-4 - Senior finals, with makeup on May 4.

May 10 - Spring Bands Concert.

May 11 - Graduation, Hempstead Hall; HHS alumnus Wesley Brown is commencement speaker.

May 25 - Last day of school.



## Marchers Show 'Can Do' Spirit

Some 55 Hope High School students proved on March 9 that “can do” spirit is alive and well in this generation by taking on a 14-mile walk to commemorate the Bataan Death March of World War II and not leaving behind a single student.

Sponsored by the HHS unit of the Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps as a ribbon award event for cadets, the Hope cadets were joined by other HHS classmates, and the first group completed the 14-mile route in just under five hours.

The entire group had completed the route and returned to the HHS campus by 2 p.m., a full hour ahead of the schedule for the walk. “It was good to see the smiles and joy of the students completing their goal to finish,” ROTC instructor Master Sergeant Arthur Mickles said. “Even though this was an educational event, it became personal for a lot of students.”



A quick turnaround from a planned Saturday event pushed the schedule back a day based upon a weather forecast that called for thunderstorms.

“The cadets had been anticipating the march, and I didn’t want to disappoint,” MSgt. Mickles said. “We expected 40 and there were 55 students that actually participated.”

He said the students faced their personal obstacles and conquered them. “Students were suffering from blisters, sore feet, leg cramps... but, they refused to give up,” MSgt. Mickles said. “Some said their parents didn’t think they could do it and they wanted to prove them wrong. It is a lesson that I will include in next week’s curriculum regarding goals. Students can achieve anything they set their minds to if they’re willing and motivated to accomplish their goals. Pushing through the obstacles gives them a sense of accomplishment.”

The march along a route on U.S. Highway 67 between Hope and Prescott honors the thousands of American and Filipino soldiers who were force-marched by Japanese troops more than 70 miles as prisoners of war in the Bataan Death March during World War II.

During the main body of the march some 2,500 Filipinos and 500 Americans either died or were summarily executed along the way. Of the 54,000 prisoners who ultimately made it to POW Camp O’Donnell, 26,000 Filipinos and 1,500 Americans died in captivity from starvation or disease.

“I truly want to thank everyone that has supported our AFJROTC event,” MSgt. Mickles said.

## ‘Active Shooter’ Drill Offers Insights

Hope High School went dark and on lockdown for about 15 minutes Thursday as administrators, faculty and staff participated in an “active shooter” scenario drill. No students were on campus during the course of the drill.

HHS Principal Bill Hoglund said the intent of the drill was a test of new campus wide security measures and an experience for campus personnel.

“What I wanted for us to take away from this is that the important thing is to first protect your students and yourself,” Hoglund said in a post-drill briefing.

He said electronic security measures installed this year provided a rapid response mechanism, as well as a shield for the campus by “locking down” the entire campus. Each exterior doorway on campus has been tied to the system, and cannot be opened without an electronic key fob. Hoglund said should an intruder be discovered on campus, once the campus goes to a “lockdown” status, none of those key fobs will work.

“Our school resource officers will be in the building moving directly to the trouble,” he said. “No-one else will be able to get inside the building.”

Hoglund said that during a “lockdown,” campus administrative personnel will not remain in the main office, but will seek safe shelter elsewhere.

Teachers were reminded that they need to emphasize awareness of surroundings to students in the event of a genuine “lockdown.”

HPSD Facilities and Transportation Director Maurice Henry said he was pleased with the drill.

## Bobcat View...

Bobcat View is a publication of Hope High School intended to inform parents of events and activities on campus, and to promote parental involvement.

Questions or inquiries for further information may be directed to the HHS main office at 870-777-3451 during regular school hours.



## HHS Joins ‘Walkout’

Students at Hope High School walked away from their third period classes Wednesday with the accommodation of administrators as part of a national movement among high schools to honor the deaths of 17 individuals in the Feb. 14 mass shootings at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla.

“This is a teachable moment for our students if they do decide to walk out,” HHS Principal Bill Hoglund said Feb. 14 prior to classes. “They may walk out to honor students, they could be protesting gun violence, or they may want restrictions on gun sales. All of these are valid. As a Government and Politics teacher, I don’t care what their basis is, I just want them to have a reason.”

Most of the HHS students gathered at Hammons Stadium on the HHS campus, while others gathered in student common areas.

“This was for the 17 kids that died in Florida; I felt bad for the students and the families of those that lost their lives,” Chiara Phillips said.

Jamaya Parker wanted to show “respect.”

“They lost their lives for no reason,” Parker said.

“I thought about the 17 people that were taken in Florida and I felt bad for their families,” Alan Castro said. Austin Coronado agreed.

“I feel bad for all the families; and, I wanted to show support,” Coronado said. The needless loss was also a common thought among HHS students.

“I have all this time and they don’t have any left,” Joanna Arechiga said.

“I wanted to give my time to them.”