

Texas ranks 2nd in the number of 2020 National Blue Ribbon Schools!

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Thu, Jan 28, 2021 at 7:49 PM



Something to celebrate!
Texas ranks 2nd in the number of 2020 National Blue Ribbon Schools.

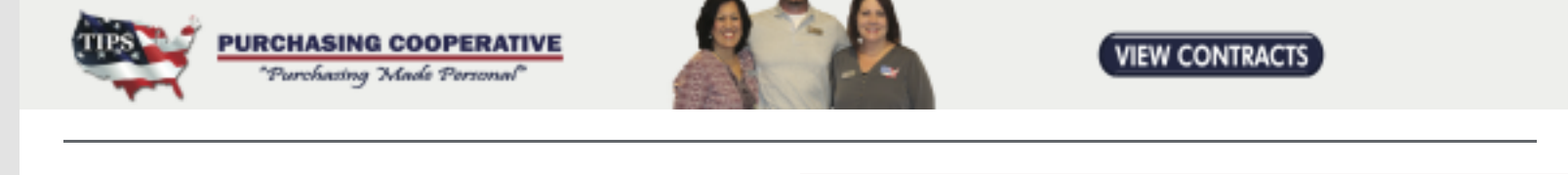
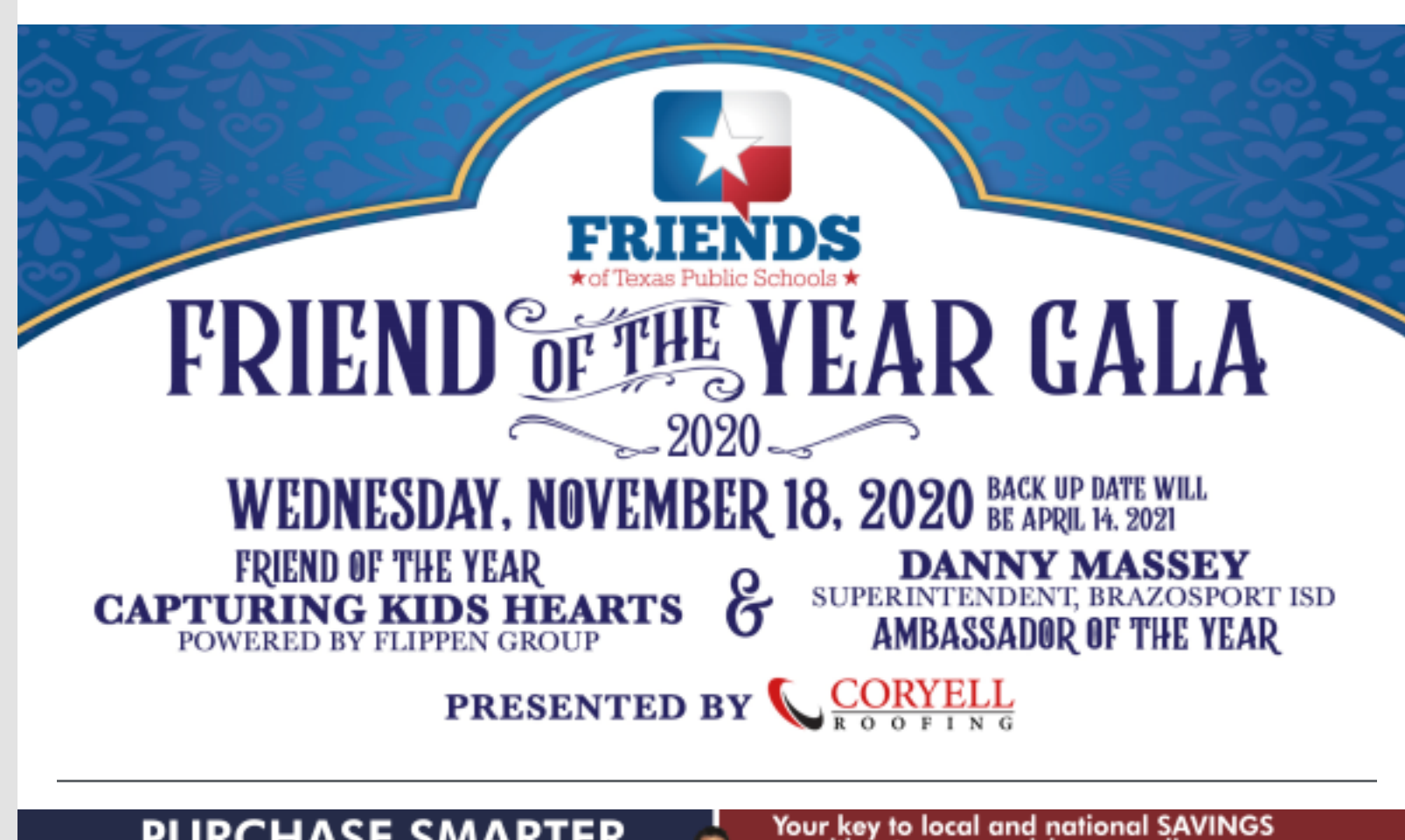
Texas boasts 25 public schools awarded the distinction out of 302 non-charter public schools nationwide.

The U.S. [Secretary of Education](#) recognized 367 schools as National Blue Ribbon Schools based on their overall academic excellence or their progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups. These schools demonstrate that all students can achieve to high levels. The Department will formally recognize all 317 public and 50 private schools at a virtual awards ceremony on November 12 and 13, 2020.

Sources:

<https://nationalblueribbonschools.ed.gov/awardwinners/index.php>

https://nationalblueribbonschools.ed.gov/awardwinners/infographic2020/nbrs_map_demographics_2020.pdf





Don't Mess with Texas Public Schools Virtual Run

Join Friends for our first-ever "Don't Mess with Texas Public Schools" Virtual 1k/5k Run!

A virtual race is just like a traditional race with shirts and bibs, but you get to run your race when and where you want between 10/31 and 11/9.

Register by 10/24 to get your shirt before the race opens! Note: you can register any time (even during the race period) and the shirt will be mailed to you as soon as possible.

[Sign Up Here](#)

Friends 2021 Scholarship Application Now Open

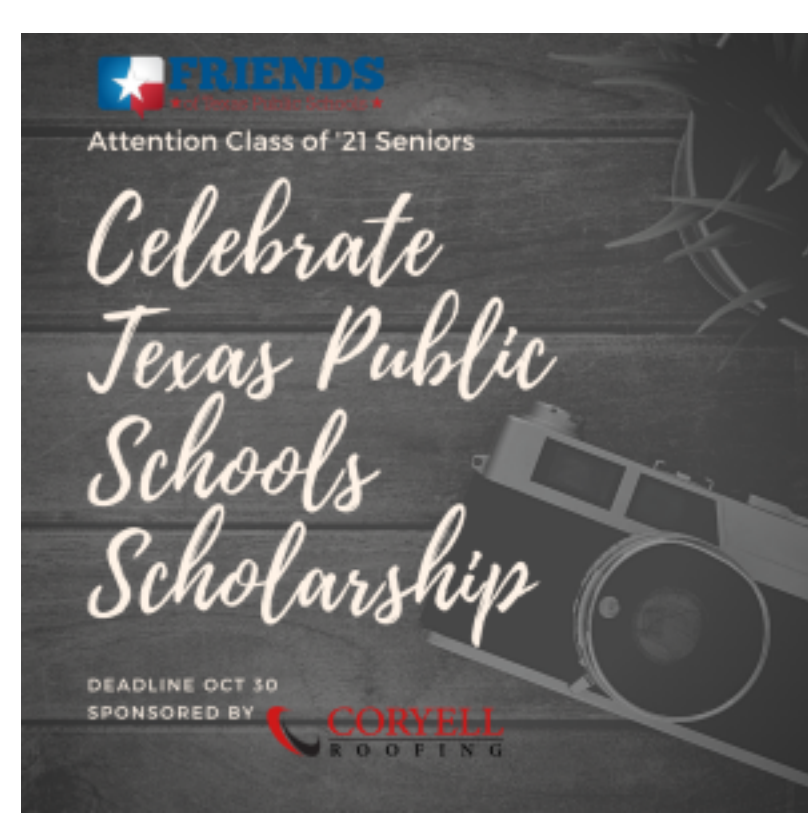
The "Great Things Happening in Texas Public Schools" Scholarship is an opportunity for graduating seniors from a Friends Network District to share how their public school education has impacted them and/or will impact their future. The aim of this scholarship is to highlight the "Great Things Happening in Texas Public Schools" from the students' perspective.

This year, Friends will award one 2021 graduate a \$2500 scholarship. To qualify, the applicant must be a Texas public school student graduating in May 2021 with plans to join the workforce, continuing education through trade schools/military or other forms of post-secondary training including college.

Deadline: Oct 30.

Please share with Seniors you know!

[Apply Here](#)



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SAFETY TIP: A proper school security plan requires coordination and communication between law enforcement agencies and schools. During an emergency, how will schools contact first responders? A plan that includes layers of communication (alert system, radio bridge, video sharing) is often the best one. Contact Mutualink to learn more at 866-957-5465.

Dear Friends -

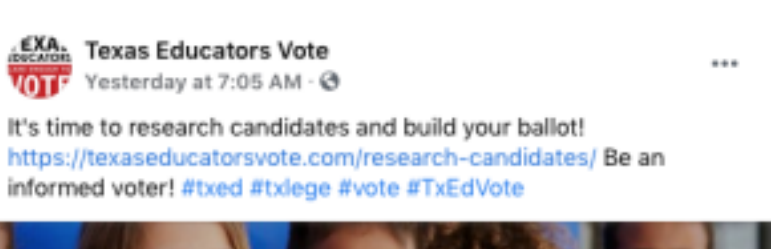
We are always overwhelmed with the great stories coming out of Texas public schools. This has been a hard time for so many, but our public schools continue to step up and meet the needs in their communities. It reminds me of something my mom, a former public school teacher & coach says - "when the going gets tough; the tough get going!"

We are excited to announce that our Friend of the Year Gala will be held November 18 with COVID precautions. Limited number of tickets will be available - get yours today!

Thank you for for going the distance for Texas public schools!

Jennifer L. Storm
Executive Director





Model civic engagement in 3 easy steps!

1. research
2. engage
3. vote

Supporting the whole child is easier said than done, but Texas educators do it every day.

[Free Resources](#)



Vote


Early voting runs October 13 - 30
Election Day Tuesday, November 3

Learn more here:
<https://texaseducatorsvote.com>

Share your News with Friends

Share the "great things" happening in your district or on your campus by tagging @FriendsTX on Facebook or email your story to Friends@fotps.org

We would love to feature your story on our social media!



[Become a Network Member](#)



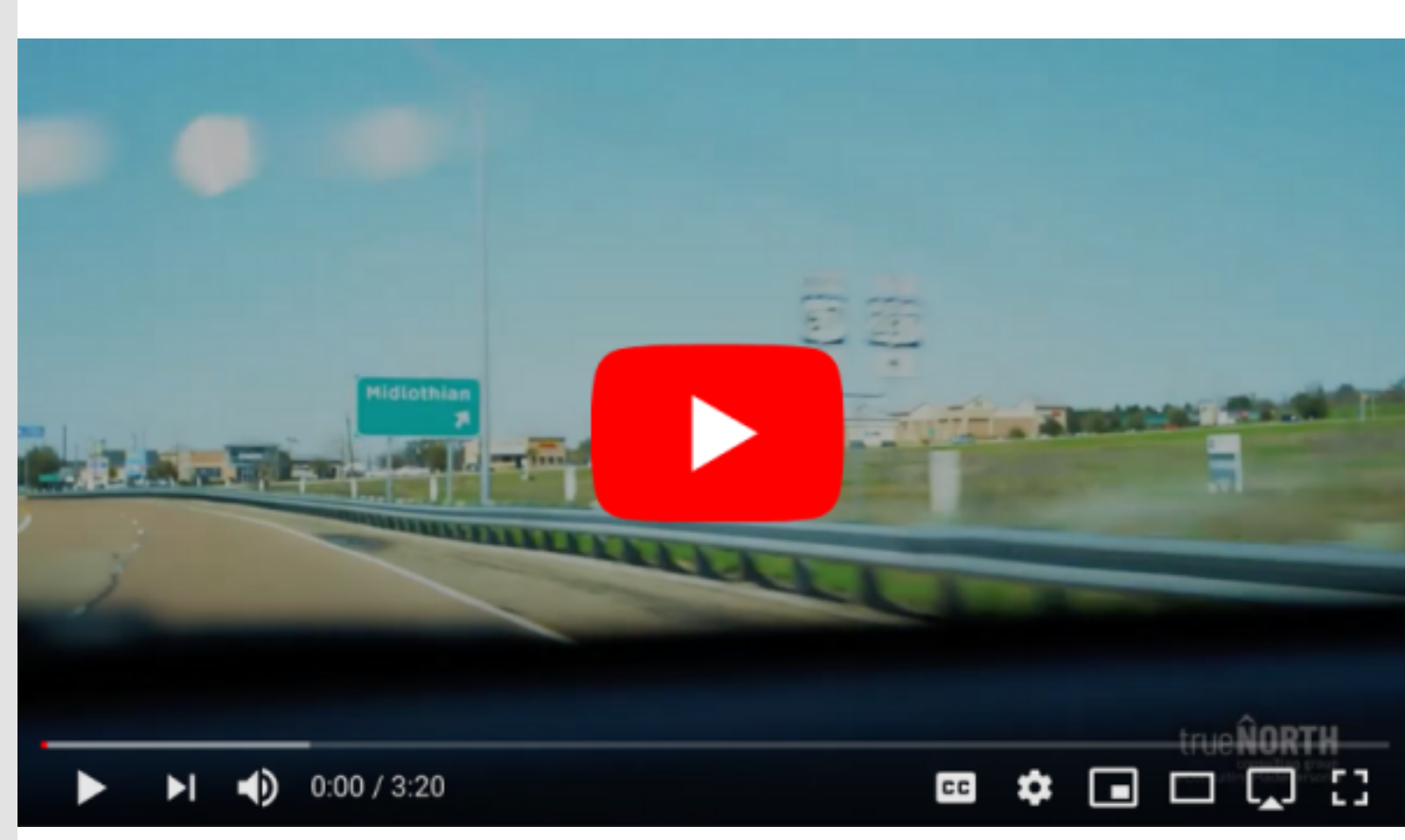
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Supporting Our Schools Since 1976


Linebarger Morgan Blair & Simpson, LLP www.lblaw.com
Principal Office: Austin, Texas. Responsible attorney for ad is Corinne Perez.

Editor's Correction: True North Consulting Group

Please enjoy this video from our September Corporate Spotlight Partner, [True North Consulting Group](#).



DK Roofing provides our clients a full-service roof offering. Since 1991, we have worked with Texas public schools to provide service, maintenance, restoration and re-roof options, as well assistance in navigating insurance claims and board approvals. Our CenterPoint software provides instant service dispatch and access to all findings. 866-DRY-IT-IN



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*as of October 12, 2020

[Become a Corporate Partner](#)

About Friends:
We are a bit of a different type of organization...one that doesn't invest energy in education reform, but rather in celebrating what's right with our schools. We are an apolitical organization focused on educating all Texans about the virtues and achievements of our Texas Public Schools.

Contrary to popular opinion and the day's headlines, our public schools are performing remarkably well. The widespread failures so often debated are nothing more than myths. Sure, there are isolated cases of failures across the country, but our schools are achieving more today than ever before and America's schools are superior to any other nation in the world. All of those international comparisons are based on suspect data and, in our opinion, are grossly flawed.

[Newsletter Sign up](#)