Historical background of the Community and the School

History of Fort Bend Independent School District

The Missouri City Independent School District and Sugar Land Independent School District were consolidated by election on April 18, 1959, forming the Fort Bend Independent School District.

At that time facilities consisted of 2 elementary schools, one in Sugar Land (now the Lakeview campus), and one in Missouri City (now E.A. Jones campus). The junior high was located in Sugar Land (now the Lakeview campus) and a high school was located in Missouri City (now Missouri City Middle School campus). Kempner Stadium was used as the athletic facility for Fort Bend ISD at that time.

Prior to desegregation, black students attended one of three schools in Fort Bend ISD. M. R. Wood School in Sugar Land educated students in grades 1-12, Oaklane Elementary in Arcola housed grades 1-8 and Staffordshire Elementary in Stafford housed grades 1-4. (Missouri City High School black students had been transferred to M. R. Wood in past years).

In September 1965, all schools were desegregated and the Oaklane and Staffordshire elementary schools were closed. Oaklane Elementary was sold in 1979 to the county and the Staffordshire property was later sold. As the desegregation plan progressed, students were enrolled in the schools in the attendance zones in which their residences were located. The M. R. Wood students went to Lakeview, the Staffordshire children to E. A. Jones and the Oaklane children to Blue Ridge.

Administrative offices for the superintendent, assistant superintendent and office staff were housed at Sugar Land Junior High because of available office space. The tax office was maintained in Missouri City because Missouri City had a tax assessor-collector, while Sugar Land did not. The Sugar Land tax assessor-collector was employed on a part-time basis.

A site was immediately purchased on Dulles Avenue (at that time known as Lester Road) and construction of the Administration Building and John Foster Dulles High School began. The Administration Building was occupied in the summer of 1961. Fort Bend ISD had its first graduating class in 1960. The first class actually graduated from the present Dulles High School in 1962.

The district is now composed of 73 campuses.

Fort Bend Independent School District Campus History
Dulles Junior High was occupied in March 1965, and all sixth through eighth graders were housed in the one facility until the openings of Sugar Land Junior High in August 1975 and Missouri City Junior High in October 1975.

The old Missouri City High School housed Annie Wilcox Elementary until Blue Ridge Elementary was occupied in August 1969. These facilities were later demolished for the construction of the present Missouri City Junior High (the present Missouri City Junior High gymnasium is the old gymnasium used by Missouri City School District High School).

M.R. Wood School held all the district's special education students and programs until the state mandated that those students should be housed on campuses near their homes.

The Louis P. Rodgers Memorial Auditorium was constructed in 1969 and named for the district's first superintendent who died in May 1967.

The Fort Bend Area Career School was constructed in 1971.

Meadows Elementary was occupied in August 1973.

Ridgemont Elementary was occupied in August 1973.

Quail Valley Elementary was occupied in August 1975.

Sugar Land Junior High was occupied in August 1975.

Missouri City Junior High was occupied in October 1975.

Dulles Elementary was occupied in August 1976.

Briargate Elementary was occupied in August 1977.

The Athletic Complex on Highway 6 was started in April 1976. Football games were played there during the 1976 season, and the baseball fields and field house were started in 1977.

Edward Mercer Stadium was dedicated September 9, 1977.

Townnewest Elementary was occupied in August 1978.

Dr. Leslie A. Wheeler Jr. Field House was dedicated September 10, 1978.

Johnnie Frankie Baseball Field was dedicated September 10, 1978.

Quail Valley Junior High was occupied in September 1978.

Willowridge High School (phase I) was started in February 1978 and was occupied in September 1979.
Lantern Lane Elementary was occupied in January 1979.

Fort Bend ISD Athletic Complex was occupied in 1979.

Ridgegate Elementary was occupied in January 1981.

Mission Bend Elementary was occupied in August 1981.

Colony Bend Elementary was occupied in August 1981.

The Fort Bend ISD Transportation Center was occupied in 1982.

In 1982, Stafford Municipal School District opened and was created from areas in Fort Bend ISD and Houston ISD.

William P. Clements High School was occupied in 1983.

Dulles Junior High School was reopened and occupied in 1983.

Sugar Mill Elementary was occupied in 1984.

Settlers Way Elementary was occupied in 1984.

First Colony Junior High opened in September 1985.


Hunters Glen Elementary opened in September 1985.

Fort Bend ISD Administration Building at 16431 Lexington Blvd. opened in October 1985.

Mission Glen Elementary was occupied in the fall of 1986.

Highlands Elementary was occupied in the fall of 1986.

Christa McAuliffe Junior High was occupied in the fall of 1986.

The Warehouse facility on Julie Rivers Road was opened in January 1987.

Hodges Bend Junior High was occupied in September 1987.

Pecan Grove Elementary was occupied in September 1988.

I.H. Kempner High School was occupied in September 1988.

Austin Parkway Elementary was occupied in September 1989.
Barrington Place Elementary opened in the fall of 1990.

Colony Meadows Elementary opened in the fall of 1991.

Mission West Elementary opened in the fall of 1991.

Ronald E. McNair Auditorium was completed in the summer of 1992 - dedicated on September 23, 1992.

Willowridge campus (Phase II) was completed in the summer of 1992 - dedicated on September 23, 1992.

Walker Station Elementary opened in the fall of 1992.

Lake Olympia Middle School opened in the fall of 1992.


Building name changes - M. R. Wood School to M. R. Wood Alternative Education Center and Fort Bend Career School to Technical Education Center in the fall of 1992.

Lakeview Auditorium - Texas Historical Commission - Recorded Texas Historic Landmark - 1993 - dedication service was held on April 3, 1993.


Quail Valley Middle School closed - used to house the Progressive High School and other district programs.

Lakeview Elementary Renovation dedicated August 1, 1995.


Quail Valley Middle School - reopened August 14, 1996 - reopening celebration August 29, 1996.
Brazos Bend Elementary opened August 14, 1997 - dedicated November 9, 1997.
Commonwealth Elementary opened August 14, 1997 - dedicated November 9, 1997.
Oyster Creek Elementary opened August 14, 1999 - dedicated October 17, 1999.
Rita Drabek Elementary opens August 16, 2001
Sartartia Middle School opens August 16, 2001
Fort Settlement Middle School opens August 16, 2001
George Bush High School opens August 16, 2001

In 2005, the district's 61st campus opened as the Hodges Bend Annex to address over crowding until middle school #13 opens. The Annex will become an elementary school in 2007-2008 when middle school #13 opens.
Billy Baines Middle School opened August 21, 2006 - dedicated October 22, 2006.
Mary Austin Holley Elementary School opened August 27, 2007, after serving as the Hodges Bend Annex, and was dedicated on October 7, 2007.
David Crockett Middle School opened August 27, 2007, as the district’s 13th middle school, and was dedicated on October 7, 2007.

Cornerstone Elementary School opened August 27, 2007, and was dedicated on October 21, 2007.

Rosa Parks Elementary School opened August 27, 2007, and was dedicated on October 21, 2007.

On August 27, 2007, E. A. Jones Elementary opened a newly rebuilt campus located at 302 Martin Lane in Missouri City. The campus was rebuilt on property adjacent to the original campus built in 1955.

In 2007, Elementary #39 located 3440 Lexington Blvd. in Missouri City, opened to temporarily house Quail Valley Elementary students while their campus was being rebuilt. Mary Holley Elementary (Elementary #39) opened as a new elementary school in August 2008.

The newly rebuilt campuses for Quail Valley Elementary, 3500 Quail Village Drive, in Missouri City and Missouri City Middle School, 202 Martin Lane, in Missouri City opened in August 2008. The Quail Valley campus was rebuilt on its original site, and Missouri City Middle School was rebuilt on property adjacent to the original campus built before the district was consolidated in 1959. The school’s original gymnasium will remain and be used for early childhood programs.


On August 23, 2010, the district opened three new campuses — Heritage Rose Elementary located in the Glendale Lakes subdivision on the east side of district, Ridge Point High School located in Sienna Plantation, and the Ferndell Henry Center for Learning, the district’s second alternative campus located on the east side of the district, bringing our total number of campuses to 73.
James Bowie Middle School (grades 6-8) opened August 22, 2011

Community Development - 2002

New owners revamp plans for Grand Mission

After languishing in legal limbo for nine months, the 563-acre Grand Mission property in Fort Bend County was sold last week by Sonrisa Development to a joint venture between MHI and David Weekley Homes.

The Grand Mission project was one of dozens of real estate projects under development that became casualties of the financial collapse of Premiere Holdings of Texas.
Premiere filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection last October along with subsidiaries Lapin & Wigginton Funding, which raised money for the real estate deals, and Money Mortgage Corp. of America, which lent those funds to developers.

Sonrisa President Randy Hall was originally under contract to buy the land in April 2001 from TXI, a cement and steel manufacturer based in Dallas.

Hall's high bid beat out MHI to buy the tract, but MHI ultimately landed the property.

Hall closed the deal to sell Grand Mission on Aug. 5, one day before TXI was set to foreclose on the property as a result of the nine-month delay in financing.

Hall will not reveal the sales price for the tract at FM 1093 and Harlem Road, but says the asking price was $15 million. Land in that area is booming with development and is selling for $25,000 to $30,000 an acre, he adds.

Jim Zimmermann, general manager of land for Houston-based MHI, says David Weekley Homes and MHI subsidiaries jointly formed a company called Grand Mission Holdings to purchase the property. As 50-50 partners, the local builders are creating a 1,500-home master-planned community that will take five to eight years to complete.

MHI will serve as development manager on the Fort Bend project, which is expected to break ground by the end of the year.

Since the deal only closed last week, it's too soon to know what type of homes will be built or what the price ranges will be, Zimmermann says. The community, however, will likely change names.

"Land planning and pre-development work has commenced," Zimmermann says. "As we go through this planning, we'll probably invite other builders to acquire lots and parcels."

This is the first time MHI and David Weekley have entered into such a joint venture.

Zimmermann says the two companies are similar in the way they do business, so they should work well together.

"One of the reasons we teamed up is we're two of the (country's) largest privately owned builders," Zimmermann says. "We just think we make a good team."

MHI typically develops 35 percent to 40 percent of its own lots, Zimmermann says. The firm bought this land because it needed additional sites to build homes on, he says.

"We have a big machine," he says. "And to feed the machine, you have to do some development."
Mission impossible

The 563-acre tract was first dubbed "Grand Mission" by previous owner George Ballas, a real estate developer and inventor of the Weed Eater.

After spending $6 million on development in hopes of creating a residential community, Ballas lost control of the land in the real estate bust, and the property went into foreclosure.

TXI bought the land from the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. in the mid-1980s, but never used it. The Dallas company was close to selling the property when it got tangled up in the Premiere Holdings bankruptcy proceedings.

Hall created an entity called Sonrisa Greenwood Ltd. to buy the property from TXI. Sonrisa Greenwood went to Money Mortgage to obtain equity financing for the deal. Money Mortgage set up the Grand Island partnership, which involved pooled funds from a number of individual investors, to loan the money to Sonrisa Greenwood.

A complex maze of money shuffling and the need to pay a large legal settlement led to the downfall of Money Mortgage and its affiliates, which filed bankruptcy late last year. (See "Investors want answers from Premiere honchos," Nov. 16, 2001.)

When Money Mortgage went into bankruptcy, all of the related limited partnerships were left in limbo. David Lapin stepped down as general partner from all the partnerships, leaving no one in the position to take charge of the deals for months after the bankruptcy filing.

Sonrisa Greenwood eventually filed for bankruptcy protection as well, says Hall, since no one was in charge of the Grand Island partnership and no business could be conducted.

"It was frustrating beyond belief to have a bank commitment, and not be able to identify someone at Money Mortgage to negotiate with," Hall says. "It paralyzed my efforts to finance the project."

A new general partner for the Grand Island partnership emerged in April, Hall says, so business dealings could move forward.

TXI had given Hall a deadline to finish paying for the Grand Mission land or the company would foreclose on the property. That deadline was extended to Aug. 6.

Hall closed on the sale to MHI and David Weekley Homes on Aug. 5, making it possible for him to pay off TXI in time.

Hall intended all along to develop the property himself, not sell it to a homebuilder. But by the time he was able to proceed, he did not have enough time to arrange new financing, so he was forced to sell it.

"It's the one that got away," Hall says. "You just move on and go to the next deal."
History of Juan Seguin Elementary

Juan Seguin Elementary School opened its doors on August 24, 2009. The obtained its name from a brave historical figure in Texas.

Juan Seguin is known to some as one of the very bravest Texans in the struggle for Texas independence. Sequin began leading a group of Tejano soldiers against the Mexican government led by Santa Anna. His group of soldiers were at the Alamo when it came under siege by Santa Anna’s army. Colonel Travis asked Sequin to leave the Alamo to deliver a message, in hope of gaining more men to help defend the Alamo. Sequin wanted desperately to stay and fight with his men, but Travis ordered him to go. He reached General Sam Houston with his message, but was too late. Sequin wished to return to his troops at the Alamo, but Houston ordered him to stay. The Alamo fell while Sequin was away. Sequin stayed with Houston and was one of the heroes of the Battle of San Jacinto which won Texas independence. Sequin did return to the Alamo... to bury the bodies of his men whom Santa Anna had burned. He was a very loyal leader to his men.

Sequin was later elected to the Texas Senate and then became the Mayor of San Antonio. Sadly, as more Anglos moved into Texas, they tried to run all Tejanos out of Texas, including Sequin. It became very difficult for him to stay in Texas. Reluctantly, he returned to Mexico. There he was imprisoned for treason against the Mexican government. He was then forced to serve in the Mexican army in order to be released from prison. Later he was allowed to return to San Antonio, but it was still very difficult to be of Mexican heritage in Texas. He returned to Mexico and died believing that he had no home.

Our Fort Bend School is named after this brave and loyal hero of Texas independence. Students will learn a great deal about Texas history by studying this man’s legacy. They will also be exposed to many wonderful character traits, such as loyalty, bravery, perseverance, and dedication.

Juan Seguin Elementary School’s Motto, Mission and Vision Statements:

Motto:
At Juan Seguin Elementary we believe our school is "Where Heroes Come To Learn".

Mission:
The mission of Juan Seguin Elementary is to provide a nurturing environment where high levels of academic and social development are expected and ensured; and to promote life long learning through shared responsibility among parents, students, school, and community.
Vision:
We envision Juan Seguin Elementary as striving for excellence by creating a student-centered learning environment in which we use the most current research to help students achieve their greatest potential for future success.

Campus Organizational Chart

Describe: My analysis of using information from the campus improvement plan has enhanced my knowledge as an educational diagnostician.

Analyze: a. The importance of being knowledgeable about the population of students you serve is invaluable information that should drive the need to become diverse and culturally responsive. This knowledge has enhanced and defined my skills in recommending and adapting instruction.
b. My desired position as a future independent contractor will enable me to fulfill my mission as a life-long learner.
c. My experiences and previous knowledge has been enhanced by my education, research in the case studies I have reviewed, and direct on the job training with special education children.

Appraise: My findings are very beneficial because partnerships with the parent, school and community need to be improved.
Transform:  
a. Insights I have gained include a heightened awareness of due process implications.  
b. My future plans are directly on target with the need to provide quality, individualized, education services for special needs citizens and increase parent and community involvement.