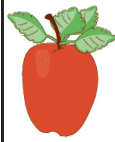


# School Menu



## Bronte ISD

### Breakfast

#### Monday, September 17

Pizza or choice of cereal and toast, juice, milk

#### Tuesday, September 18

Donuts or choice of cereal and toast, juice, milk

#### Wednesday, September 19

PB&J or choice of cereal and toast, juice, milk

#### Thursday, September 20

Tornado or choice of cereal and toast, juice, milk

#### Friday, September 21

Biscuit and sausage or choice of cereal and toast, juice, milk

### Lunch

#### Monday, September 17

Country steak, mashed potatoes, okra, roll, gravy, strawberries, milk

#### Tuesday, September 18

Chicken spaghetti, breadstick, garden salad, carrots, apple sauce, milk

#### Wednesday, September 19

Meat chalupas, zesty cucumbers, beans, salsa, orange smiles, milk

#### Thursday, September 20

Chicken tenders, toast, gravy, sweet potato fries, broccoli, mixed fruit, milk

#### Friday, September 21

Hamburgers, coleslaw, ranch beans, pears, milk

## Blackwell CISD

### Breakfast

#### Monday, September 17

Zucchini or banana bread, fruit, juice, milk

#### Tuesday, September 18

Biscuit-n-gravy, fruit, juice, milk

#### Wednesday, September 19

Breakfast pizza, fruit, juice, milk

#### Thursday, September 20

Ham, egg, cheese on an English muffin, fruit, juice, milk

#### Friday, September 21

Assorted fruit filled Danish,, fruit, juice, milk

### Lunch

#### Monday, September 17

Chicken strips, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, hot roll, fruit, milk

#### Tuesday, September 18

Sweet-n-Sour chicken, fried rice or Lo Mein noodles, fruit, milk

#### Wednesday, September 19

Lasagna, corn on the cob, garlic bread, salad, fruit, milk

#### Thursday, September 20

Taco Salad Bowl (shell, ground beef, cheese, lettuce, tomatoes), pinto beans, Spanish rice, fruit, milk

#### Friday, September 21

Chopped BBQ sandwich, pickle spears, coleslaw, chips, fruit, milk

## Robert Lee ISD

### Breakfast

#### Monday, September 17

Waffles, bacon, fruit, juice, milk

#### Tuesday, September 18

Cinnamon roll, sausage, fruit, juice, milk

#### Wednesday, September 19

Breakfast parfait, fruit, juice, milk

#### Thursday, September 20

Sausage, egg, and cheese sandwich, fruit, juice, milk

#### Friday, September 21

Biscuit, gravy, eggs, fruit, juice, milk

### Lunch

#### Monday, September 17

Chicken fried steak, mashed tators, okra, strawberries, roll, cream gravy, milk

#### Tuesday, September 18

Meat and cheese chalupas, salsa, zesty cucumbers, refried beans, rosy applesauce, garnish, milk

#### Wednesday, September 19

Chicken strips, broccoli, fries, biscuit, mixed fruit, cream gravy, rice crispy treat, milk

#### Thursday, September 20

Pizza, garden salad, carrot slices, apple slices, milk

#### Friday, September 21

Fish sticks, mac and cheese, coleslaw, green beans, orange slices, milk

## ...RL City Council

### meeting minutes

*(Continued from previous page)*

The motion was seconded by Council Member Janie Munoz and carried with a vote of 3 - 0.

Staff have been unable to receive payoff on the John Deere and Mahendra tractor leases.

Citizens have requested that the City provide Culligan services for the sale of water. Housing Authority provided services in the past but had issues with water leaks. The City proposes to place a machine next to City Hall and provide as Water Fund revenue. The Council requests the upfront expenses, where will it be placed, need to locate property line, and will there be electricity and water hookup expenses. A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Roger Alexander to table the agenda item until all information is put into place and was seconded by Council Member Janie Munoz. The motion carried with a vote of 3 - 0.

A vacant Council Member position is available and applications have been provided at the front desk of City Hall. Two applications have been received and the Council will appoint a Council Member at a Special Council Meeting on August 27.

There are no vacancies for the Housing Authority Board and the Economic Development Board.

The Texas Municipal Retirement System Portal allows staff access to add, edit, and/or remove employees online. Mayor Allyson Crenshaw and City Secretary Crystal L. Blevins will have access to the online services. A motion was made by Council Member Janie Munoz to approve of the Texas Municipal Retirement System Portal Use Agreement and was seconded by Council Member Ricky Green. The motion carried with a vote of 3 - 0.

Previous Mayor Leroy Casey verbally agreed to pay \$541.25 to Vision with a Purpose for the

purchase of banners displayed downtown. This expense was half of the total amount VP paid for the banners. A motion was made by Council Member Janie Munoz to approve of paying \$541.25 to Vision with a Purpose and was seconded by Council Member Ricky Green. The motion carried with a vote of 3 - 0.

A motion was made by Council Member Janie Munoz to approve changing the business hours for City Hall to Monday - Thursday, 8 am - 5 pm, and Friday, 8 am - 1 pm (open during lunch all days) and was seconded by Council Member Ricky Green. The motion carried with a vote of 3 - 0.

City Hall needs the roof fixed and/or replaced. Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool have been contacted to file a claim. Staff will obtain roof quotes from Hartman Roofing, Robles, and other roof vendors. The agenda item will be discussed at a future meeting once the information is obtained.

A proposal was made to pay off the Upper Colorado River Authority 2012 and 1976 loans. The 1976 UCRA loan is principal payments only with a balance of \$11,497.21. The City will continue to pay the 1976 UCRA loan monthly until it is paid off. Mayor Allyson Crenshaw proposes paying \$24,357.49 towards the 2012 UCRA loan, due to the City paying more on interest than what could be saved. The interest rate on the 2012 UCRA loan is 4.25%. Mayor Pro Tem Roger Alexander made a motion to pay off the 2012 UCRA loan from the Water Fund account and was seconded by Council Member Ricky Green. The motion carried with a vote of 3 - 0.

There was no discussion regarding the Texas Water Development Board loan payoff.

Coke County Rural Water is still reviewing the contract so there was no further discussion.

The City discharges wastewater into a lagoon and the Mountain Creek Golf Club retrieves water from the lagoon to water the golf course. There was no further discussion.

### Reports

#### Mayor's Report

The Mayor will be attending the Texas Municipal League Newly Elected Officials Training in San Antonio August 15 - 17 and will be attending the Texas Municipal League Annual Conference in Fort Worth in October.

#### City Secretary's Report

Regarding the 2017 Audit Update, deposits have not been entered on citizen accounts nor have they been reconciled; employees were paid but not out of the correct fund as approved by the Council on the Fiscal Year 2017 Operating Budget; and revenue was dispersed to the Water Debt or Capital Improvement Fund, revenue was absorbed in the Water Fund account.

The City received a check

from the Texas Comptroller's office for reimbursement of funds now that the monthly Sales and Use Tax reports have been submitted correctly.

### City Superintendent's Report

City staff have failed to submit required 2016 and 2017 reports to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and over one hundred meters that should have been replaced by the smart meters were not changed.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Roger Alexander to enter in to Executive Session and was seconded by Council Member Ricky Green. The motion carried with a vote of 3 - 0.

The Council entered in to Executive Session at 7:06 pm and returned at 7:42 pm.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Roger Alexander to no longer employ the worker on Worker's Compensation due to personnel policy and nature of reported injuries. He was seconded by Council Member Janie Munoz and the motion carried with a vote of 3 - 0.

A motion was made by Council Member Janie Munoz to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 pm and was seconded by Council Member Ricky Green. The motion carried with a vote of 3 - 0.



## They Are Us

by James M. Decker

Last week, I launched a multipart series on drugs in our communities, with sobering details on the opioid crisis in America and why the problem is so prevalent throughout society. If you've not read that essay ("Real Problems, Our Problems", published in the September 7, 2018, issue of *The Observer/Enterprise*), I encourage you to do so. Today, I want to discuss why this issue desperately demands action by our community leaders.

Opioid abuse is called an "equal opportunity" problem because it touches every demographic - all races and ethnicities, backgrounds, and income levels. Many stories have been written about the opioid crisis in poverty-stricken areas, but the problem is far broader. Last year, Admiral James Winnefeld, a retired vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, one of the most powerful military leaders in the world, wrote an essay for *The Atlantic* about his son's overdose from heroin-laced opioids in college. Stunningly, the American Farm Bureau Federation reports (via Purdue University Extension) that 74% of farmers have been directly affected by opioid abuse in some way.

With that said, opioid abuse still disproportionately affects

lower-income groups. According to the CDC, people who are eligible for Medicaid are more likely to be prescribed opioids, receive a prescription at higher doses and for longer periods of time, and ultimately die of an opioid overdose. Because rural areas tend to have higher poverty levels than the national average, opioid abuse disproportionately affects rural communities.

The effect on our communities is both obvious and not so obvious. Drug abuse clearly creates crime in our communities. At the West Texas Rural Summit, Sheriff Ray Scifres of Hockley County stated that half of his jail beds are filled by drug charges, and 80% of those are repeat offenders. But the effect extends beyond there. Sheriff Gary Maddox of Lamb County reports that you can ultimately tie almost every jailing back to drugs in some - either a direct drug charges or another charge related to financing a drug habit or arising out of a life of addiction.

Drug addiction decays the very core of a community. Citizens with addiction are less productive and vibrant. The Atlantic reports that 70% of employers have seen prescription drug abuse impact their workers. The number of people dying on the job from issues related to drug or alcohol abuse is growing by 25% each year. Labor force participation (the portion of the population working or actively looking for work) is at historic lows. Economist Alan Krueger found a relationship between labor force participation and opioid addiction. The biggest declines in labor force participation are in counties where opioid use is most plentiful. Krueger cannot determine whether "addiction breeds joblessness or vice versa," but as set forth in *The Atlantic*, he says "the opioid crisis and depressed labor force participation are now intertwined in many parts of the U.S."

Drug addiction swallows up family savings and paychecks. Families become broken and children suffer when their parents suffer. Drug addiction in teens and young adults impacts school success and prevents their maximizing their talents and skills for their future. When more people struggle with addiction, fewer people care about improving the community. Folks dealing with addiction are often just trying to survive, much less show concern for high weeds, litter, or other telltale signs of a community in decline.

Make no mistake, this is not an indictment of people suffering from addiction. This is a call to action for us to help our peers. This is not an "us" and "them" thing. They are us and we are them. Until we as community leaders, all community leaders, step up and engage this crisis in our communities, addiction will hold back our communities. It is a stumbling block to our brothers and sisters and it is a roadblock to our overall community prosperity. It is time that we become the people with the solutions.

*James Decker is a lawyer, farmer, and mayor in Stamford, and the creator of the forthcoming "West of 98" podcast and website. He may be contacted through Facebook at facebook.com/james.decker.*