



# The Bearkat **BUZZ**

[www.shsu.edu/charter-school](http://www.shsu.edu/charter-school)

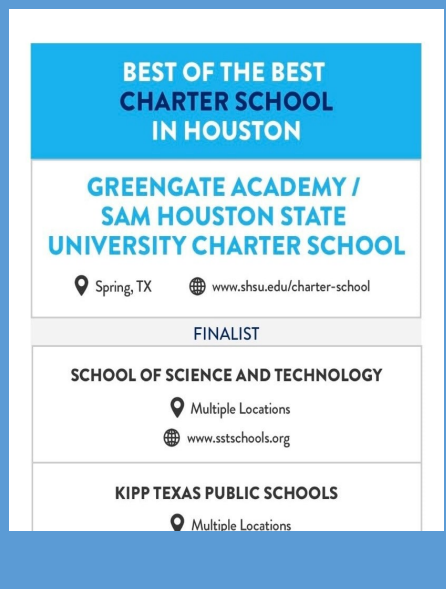
*Unique. Rigorous. Engaging experiences for all.*

July 2022

## BEST OF THE BEST

Over the summer, the SHSU Charter School Greengate campus was nominated as one of the “Best of the Best” Houston–area charter schools by the Houston Chronicle. On July 14, the Chron announced that our school was the overall 1st place Finalist! Congrats, Bearkats!

Information can be found at:  
<https://www.chron.com/best/kids-edu/>



### From the Superintendent, Dr. Ronny Knox



Greetings SHSU Charter School Parents and Guardians,

I want to personally welcome you to the 2022-2023 school year. It is so exciting to see our families back on campus. We have added some very talented new staff members to our wonderful SHSU Charter School team, and I know they will help your student reach their educational goals this year. Mrs. Hernandez, our SHSU Charter School Principal, has set many great goals for both our staff and students that you will see implemented and achieved this year.

I know school safety is foremost in everyone’s minds after the recent events that have happened at schools in our state. This summer our staff has gone through safety and mental health trainings to be ready to address the physical and emotional needs of our students that may arise. It is important to understand that our training will not be a “one-time” event, but rather we will engage in continual dialogue and drills to ensure each of our campuses are operating as safely as possible. Over the summer our owner partners have added additional safety measures to each of our facilities. Many of these you will notice and many you will not. I do want to remind everyone that you should always have your picture identification with you as you are on campus. One statement that has impacted me in all the safety training I have done since May is “Safety is not convenient”. We want you to know that we appreciate your cooperation with all the safety procedures we have in place.

We want and need you to be part of the educational process for your child. I encourage you to join your campus PTO. You may not be able to participate daily but any amount of time you give plays huge dividends for not only your student but all the students on the campus. Our staff does an excellent job of giving all they have to make sure our students have the best possible learning experience; with your support we can become an even greater place for your student to learn.

Best regards,

Dr. Knox

# Meet our Staff

## Cypress Trails campus

Dawn Hill, Kindergarten  
 Crystal Pflughaupt, 1st Grade  
 Mallori Franck, 2nd Grade  
 Kathy Francis, 3rd Grade  
 Temeka Peters, 4th Grade  
 Nacol Hicks, 5th Grade

Paraprofessionals: Allyson Cobb, Melissa Moon,  
 and Charrie Sanders



## Brighton campus

Michelle Jordan & Elizabeth Smith, Kindergarten  
 Mary E Mueller & Kendle Samuel, 1st Grade  
 Chelsey Harmon & Miranda Cloud, 2nd Grade  
 Danielle Trahan & Stacy Guthrie, 3rd Grade  
 Amanda Hickman & Maribel Martinez, 4th Grade  
 Vicki Armacost & Zaina Alkayyali, 5th Grade  
 Amy Stewart & Chris Krafcik, 6th Grade

Paraprofessionals: TBD, Megan Emery, and Ilyssa Gonzalez

*not pictured: Megan Emery and Amanda Hickman*

## Greengate campus

Tammy Sanders, Kindergarten  
 Carolyn Thompson, 1st Grade  
 Sarah Kissel, 2nd Grade  
 Katie Statlander, 3rd Grade  
 Emily Batelaan, 4th Grade  
 Jayci Ray, 5th Grade

Paraprofessionals: Gesselle Alvarado, Dezora Paul, and TBD

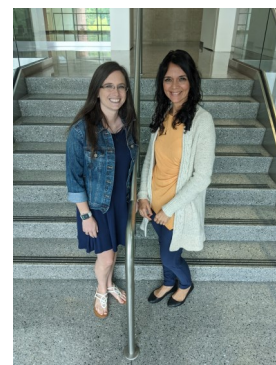
*not pictured: Tammy Sanders*



## NEW Spring Woods campus

Kendra O'Neal, Kindergarten  
 Elia Vasquez, 1st Grade  
 TBD, 2nd Grade

Paraprofessional: Jazzmin Coffey (not pictured)

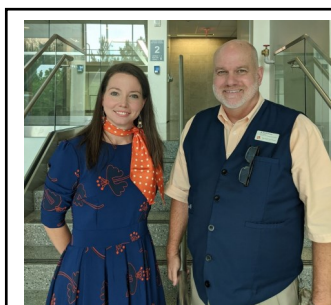


## DISTRICT SUPPORT STAFF

Jill Martin, District Testing and ESL Coordinator  
 Ryan Jordan, Special Education Support and PE  
 Karla O'Keffe, Educational Technology Specialist  
 Robin Miller, Remote Interventionist

## Administration

Dr. Ronny Knox, Superintendent  
 Alicia Hernandez, Principal  
 Rebecca Carruthers, Registrar & PEIMS Coordinator  
 Lisa Box, Administrative Assistant  
 Erika Ancrum, Business Manager



# Meet Our New Talent!



**Jill Martin**  
District Testing  
& ESL  
Coordinator



**Karla O'Keeffe**  
Educational  
Technology  
Specialist



**Amanda Hickman**  
4th Grade  
Teacher  
Brighton  
campus

**Emily Batelaan**

3rd/ 4th Grade  
ELA/ SS Teacher

Greengate  
campus



**Zaina Alkayyali**  
5th Grade  
ELA/ SS  
Teacher  
Brighton  
campus



**Ely Vasquez**  
1st Grade  
Teacher  
Spring Woods  
campus



**Temeka Peters**  
4th Grade  
Teacher  
Cypress Trails  
campus

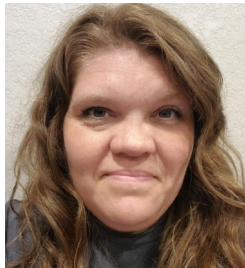


**Ilyssa Gonzalez**  
Para  
professional  
Brighton  
campus



**Dezora Paul**  
Para  
professional  
Greengate  
campus

**Charrie Sanders**  
Paraprofessional  
Cypress Trails  
campus



**Lisa Box**  
Administrative  
Assistant  
Central Office



## MEET OUR 2022-2023 SCHOOL BOARD:

- Dr. Kristina Vargo, Chair
- Dr. Casey Creggan, Vice-Chair
- Dr. Baburhan Uzum, Member  
*(not pictured)*
- Dr. Emma Bullock, Member
- Dr. Macie Kerbs, Member
- Ashlee Marshall, Parent Member
- Susie Kamman, Community Member

## Familiar Faces, NEW Opportunities

These ladies were paraprofessionals during the 2021-2022 school year but have taken on classroom teacher positions this year!

Chelsey Harmon, 2nd Grade Brighton

Jayci Ray, 5th Grade Greengate

Mallori Franck, 2nd Grade Cypress Trails



# Pledge to #EndtheStreak

The SHSU Charter School participates in #EndtheStreak awareness. Please consider signing the attached pledge and turn it in to your child's classroom teacher. Thank you for your assistance in keeping our roads and students safe.

## Upcoming District Events

### Aug 15

School Ratings available at  
TXSchools.gov

### August 16

Monthly Board Meeting at  
SHSU Huntsville

### August 29

Ms. Harmon's Birthday

### August 30

Ms. O'Neal's Birthday

### September 2

NO SCHOOL, Staff Development  
Day

## DID YOU KNOW?

The SHSU Charter School was recently ranked:

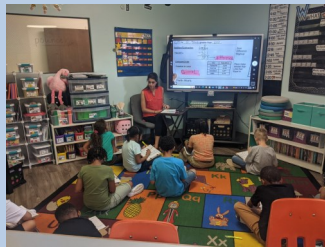
**#2** Best Public Elementary School Teachers in Houston area

**#4** Best Charter Elementary School in Houston area

**#10** Best Public Elementary School Teachers in TEXAS

Find out more at [www.niche.com](http://www.niche.com)

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



## WE'RE HIRING!

Seeking a  
Paraprofessional and  
a Diagnostician for  
the 2022-2023  
school year.

**APPLY TODAY!**

[https://  
shsu.peopleadmin.com](https://shsu.peopleadmin.com)

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District Facebook  
page!

