Dear BHS Students and Parents:

Welcome to the 2005-2006 school year! We hope that you are having a wonderful and refreshing summer and that you will be ready to return to Bastrop High School to continue your high school career on August 15. This new school year will bring a number of changes to BHS!

Research indicates that students are more successful when they are taught in a more personalized environment. To ensure that each student receives this personalization, BHS will be organized into smaller learning communities that we will call “academies”. The Ninth Grade Academy will be located in the current West Campus facility. Incoming ninth grade students will be grouped into teams with each team of students being served by a team of core area teachers. This teaming will create an environment in which teachers and students will become more familiar with each other. Ninth grade students will receive the majority of their instruction at the Ninth Grade Academy, thus reducing the amount of travel between the two campuses.

The main campus will also be restructured into academies, but students will be organized according to their career interests. Last spring all BHS students chose an area of interest and students are now being grouped accordingly. Once fully implemented, the BHS main campus will consist of five separate academies including the program currently at Genesis High School. This will allow Genesis students to participate in any BHS activity or extracurricular event. The other four academies will be organized according to students’ career interests as follows: Visual, Applied, Performing, and Creative Arts; Allied Health and Natural Resources; Business, Law, and Human Resources; and Social Sciences.

The Bastrop Independent School District has formed a partnership with Austin Community College allowing students to earn college credit while attending high school. Students can earn college credit in English, history, government, economics, and various other courses taught at BHS. Senior students will be able to complete all tests and paperwork allowing each to receive an acceptance letter into Austin Community College along with the high school diploma at graduation. This is just a few of the changes being made and more information will be sent out before our Open House on Thursday, August 11. We look forward to seeing you at our open house and working with you throughout the 2005-2006 school year! Our goal is your student’s success!

Garry Blasig,
Principal