

North Texas Chapter of the Hutchinson Bell

www.nortexchapterthehutchinsonbell.com



Dear Parents and Friends of FC Texas Camp,

First of all, the North Texas Chapter of the Hutchinson Bell (formerly North Texas FC Booster Club) wants to thank you for your grace and patience as we have been contemplating the right camp location. Many of you took the time to complete the survey, sent an email or had a face to face discussion with a board member. We completely understand the level of emotions involved in this decision. Please know that we have heard you and have weighed each element carefully.

NTCHB board took many intentional steps in regard to this decision. The board developed a list of requirements for a camp facility the directors would need to maintain the culture we've carefully developed over the last years. Additionally, board members researched more than forty different campgrounds in the state of Texas to determine the best fit. When we were able to locate one which might be a fit, the board conducted a site visit. This site visit included an in-depth conversation with the board and directors of both Jr and Sr camps.

Once we had the information we needed from the camps, we distributed a survey which addressed the values of the parents in regard to the location, cost and timing of switching to a new facility. The response rate was considerably more than what typical surveys collect. Once all the survey responses were collected, a spreadsheet was developed to compare the pros and cons of changing facilities.

In addition to each of these steps, we conducted a meeting with two of the members of Camp Hensel's board of directors to share the concerns we have regarding the facility. This meeting included a request for a very clear action plan for the immediate future of Camp Hensel and for the next 5 years.

In a two hour board meeting this weekend, the board weighed each factor thoughtfully and carefully. The board ultimately decided to stay at Camp Hensel for the coming 2018 camp season.

However, this process has made us realize the need to hold Camp Hensel more accountable. There is a list of items, including a complete renovation of the boy's bathhouse and eradication of the wasp infestations, that **MUST** be completed before camp this summer for us to consider returning in 2019. Both camps will provide the facility manager with a list of maintenance requests at the end of each session. In between the camps, the board will request a joint meeting with the Hensel board to continue conversations regarding the planned facility improvements. Their five year plan is as follows:

2018

1. Renovate Boy's Bathhouse & complete before Summer Camps.
2. Exterminate Wasps in 4-Plex Cabins. Before Summer Camps.
3. Clean & Paint showers & restrooms in 4-Plex Cabins before Summer Camps.
4. Renovate Boy's restroom in the Cafeteria before Summer Camps.
5. Replace roof on shades in ball field before Summer Camps.

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2019

1. Renovate Staff House restroom before Summer Camps.
2. Replace restroom at Amphitheater.
3. Start Foundation & Frame on New Cabin Complex "Laura's Cabin"

2020

1. Complete New Cabin Complex. "Laura's Cabin" before Summer Camps.
2. Replace outside siding, windows & Doors at 4-plex Cabins.
3. Upgrade playground equipment.

2021

1. Renovate bathrooms & interiors in 4-plex Cabins.

2022

1. Renovate bathrooms in 2-plex Cabins before Summer Camps.
2. Replace and upgrade windows, & doors at 2-plex Cabins.

2023

1. Renovate Kitchen & pantry areas in Cafeteria.

While this may sound like an aggressive list, the board believes we will be able to leverage our relationship and long standing history with Camp Hensel to encourage the completion of the items. We also intend to reach out to the directors of other camps held at Camp Hensel to work as a group to hold the Hensel board accountable.

In response to concerns reported in the survey, the board has also decided to decrease the cost of camp. This year, each camp will be \$220 per week for the first child and \$200 for each additional child in the same family.

Once again, we thank you for your grace and patience. The board will continue to diligently work towards providing your child the best Florida College camp experience we can.

Thank you,

Board of Directors
North Texas Chapter of the Hutchinson Bell

Camp Mission:

Florida College Texas Camps recruit potential students by providing an experience that promotes Florida College's mission spiritually, mentally, physically, and socially while building relationships that last a lifetime.