

PASADENA MEMORIAL
HIGH SCHOOL

STAMPEDE

NEWSPAPER

Vol. 6 Issue 3

4410 Crenshaw Pasadena, Tx. 77504

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February 2009

Senior Jenny Morgan remembered for her smiles and stories

By Jeremiah Espinoza, Editor-in-Chief and Allie Ramirez, Staff Writer

Jennifer “Jenny” Morgan, senior and valued member in the future educators’ program, was laid to rest on Jan. 2, 2009 after her untimely death on Dec. 27, 2008. Yet, no one can argue that Jenny made the most of the time she had, devoting much of her attention to others, especially children.

She was actively involved in the Youth Group, Youth Choir, and ACTEENS at South Main Baptist Church. She was also a volunteer at First Friends Day School. If there was one thing you could say about Jenny, it was that she was always out to meet new people and make new friends.

For Jenny, this wasn’t difficult to accomplish, for “her sweet nature and lack of judgment against others” made it simple, said Mandy Canales, Jenny’s homeroom teacher of three years. “If you knew her, you loved her,” she said. “Jenny was my oasis during the day. We visited every homeroom and I considered her my friend,” continued Canales.

Jenny spent much of her day with teacher Ele Manry as she was very involved in the future educator’s program here on campus. She was a member of Texas Association of Future Educators (TAFE), as well as Ready, Set, Teach and Childcare Guidance. She was also in FCCLA. She was prominently featured in the 2008 PMHS yearbook reading a children’s book to a group of local kids.

“She was always pleasant and always had a positive comment,” said Manry. “I will miss the serenity she brought into the class and her many stories. I will miss the calmness she would create inside of me.”

Jenny brought a smile with her everywhere she went. Even down the school hallways, where many seem depressed or angry, Jenny’s smile was a ray of sunlight. Anyone who gave her the courtesy of smiling back would be a little better just for having passed her way.

Teacher Sarah Ludeke said, “Jenny was ‘my baby’ at PMHS. I know many other teachers claim her as well . . . she started our day each morning with a smile and a story. We will be at a loss without that.”

Jenny is also known for her many stories. Principal Billye Smith said she greeted her each morning with a new story about her nephew Carson. Her first period teacher Yvonne Sobhani-Bedru also remembers her stories.

“1st period [feels] empty without Jenny. I miss her smile and words of wisdom. Her stories helped lift my spirits every morning. My class plans on hanging a butterfly over Jenny’s seat. I know how much she loved butterflies,” said Sobhani-Bedru.

Jenny is survived by her parents, Willie and Victoria Morgan; sisters Cheri Morgan Hutcherson, husband Rodney and nephew Carson, and Stephanie Morgan Surendran, husband Sonny, and niece Alyssa and nephew Danesh; great grand-



Jenny's senior class portrait



Jenny with her Read-a-thon project.



Jenny with some of her RST friends.

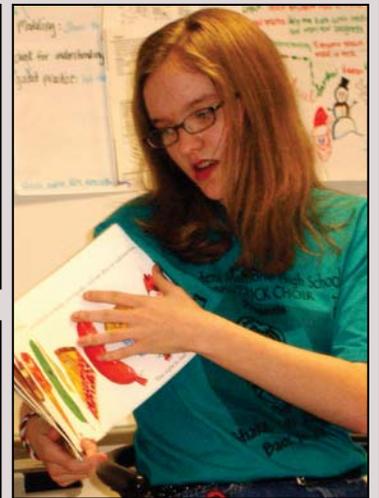


Photo from the 2008 yearbook of Jenny reading to local children.

mother Frances Dickerson; aunts and uncles Bill and Connie Dickerson and Tommy and Brenda Morgan; great aunt and uncle Jane and Wayne Huestis and sisters Patricia and Sarah and many other family members and friends.

A memorial service was held on Friday, January 2, 2009, at South Main Baptist Church. Many people went to pay respects and say good-

bye to the young girl they loved so much.

Jenny Morgan was always there to bring happiness to others. A friendly, outgoing person, she has touched many lives in the little time she was here. And even in death, we all have something to learn from her: Love all, hold no grudges, share your favorite stories, and don't forget to smile.