



BUSINESS — to — BUSINESS



January 2017

BAHEP extends its sincere appreciation for the continued support of THE DAILY NEWS through this monthly supplement.

2017 Board Chairman Greg Smith asks members to 'roll-up your sleeves, lock arms, and embrace challenges'

Dear Valued Members,
The Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership is the engine that fuels prosperity and growth in our great region. It is a flexible organization that adjusts to the pressing needs and aspirations of its members whether it is championing for the next frontier in space, nurturing relationships to keep our region economically diverse, or standing alongside educators to ensure high school graduates are workforce and college ready.

BAHEP is what ties business, education, and community together. This is what inspires me every day, and is one of the many reasons I am humbled and honored to serve as your chairman. As superintendent of one of the

largest school districts in Texas, I often tout that our student success is in large part due to the time, talent and resources this business community invests in public education. Over my tenure, I have come to realize that a strong education system leads to economic development, and in turn, a strong economy reinvests in schools. It is a circle of success that I am so thankful to be a part of today. At the core of this circle is a set of values each of us strives to achieve every day: collaboration, cooperation, leadership and integrity.

BAHEP has a rich history of making things happen. To be a member, you have to be ready to roll-up your sleeves, lock arms, and embrace the challenges that naturally come our way in

this global economy. As a longtime member of BAHEP, I have seen the positive force this active, vibrant group of business and community leaders can yield. This persistence is contagious, which is why BAHEP continues to grow its base and reach across 13 cities and two counties.

Clearly the strength of this organization rests on the human capital behind it and their purposeful walk each day that makes a difference in the lives of so many. As chairman, I look forward to learning from, leading along, and listening to each one of you.

Best Regards,
Greg Smith, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Clear Creek Independent School District

Board officers reflect diversity and expertise of BAHEP organization

Greg Smith, Ph.D. Chairman

Dr. Greg Smith became the Clear Creek Independent School District superintendent of schools in January 2008. He was named the Superintendent of the Year by the Texas Association of School Boards in 2012, named the top administrator by the Texas Classroom Teachers Association, Superintendent of the Year for the Texas PTA, and named the Galveston County Daily News Community Champion in 2013.

Dr. Smith has led the Clear Creek Independent School District and its 5,000 employees on a journey to transform education in the 21st Century. Under his superintendence, student performance has increased in all state indicators as well on college entrance exams.

Today, the Clear Creek Independent School District is considered one of the largest high performing school districts in Texas.

Dr. Smith is Co-Chair of the Texas High Performance Schools Consor-

tium, State Board Member of Texas PTA, a member of the Space Center Rotary Club and the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership (BAHEP).

In 2014, Clear Creek ISD was a finalist for the HEB Excellence in Education Award and TASA Honor Board Award. In 2013, Clear Creek ISD voters overwhelmingly approved a \$367 million school construction bond that led to the 1:1 tablet initiative known as Latitude 2 Learn.

Dr. Smith earned his bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Oakland University, master's degree in Education Administration from the University of Houston-Clear Lake, and his doctorate in Education Administration from Texas A&M University. Dr. Smith and his wife, Kathy, are the parents of two daughters and one granddaughter.

Jayant Ramakrishnan, Ph.D. Vice Chairman

Jayant Ramakrishnan, Ph.D., is the chief operating officer (COO) of Bastion Technologies, Inc., headquartered in Houston, Texas. He leads Bastion in operations, business development, and implementation of strategic growth.

Dr. Ramakrishnan serves on the board of Houston Technology Center and on the National AIAA Guidance Navigation and Control Technical Committee. In addition, he serves on other boards and was recently honored as a distinguished alumni of the Missouri University of Science and Technology (MST).

He has over 25 papers in conferences, journals, and refereed texts and has served as a reviewer for technical journals and inter-

national conferences. Dr. Ramakrishnan earned his doctorate in mechanical engineering from the University of Missouri at Rolla (now MST). Locally, he is active with the Texas Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Society (Bike Ride Marshal on MS 150 rides) and several charitable organizations.

Richard D. (Rich) Jackson Secretary

Richard D. (Rich) Jackson is NASA Strategic Account Executive for Leidos. His responsibilities include defining corporate strategy in support of NASA, identifying synergies and collaboration across Leidos, and identification, evaluation, and pursuit of new business opportunities.

Jackson began his career at NASA where he supported the Space Shuttle Program as a flight director for 15 space shuttle flights.

Jackson graduated from Texas A&M University earning a Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering and is also a member of the Manned Space Flight Education Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors. He has attained certifications as a private pilot, Advanced SCUBA diver, D licensed skydiver, and jumpmaster.

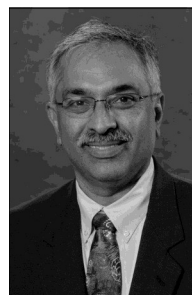
Jennifer Bowers Treasurer

Jennifer Bowers is a partner with the law firm of Bowers & Sadler, LLP. The firm specializes in a variety of legal services aimed at assisting closely-held businesses and their owners with their tax planning, business organization matters, estate planning, and probate matters. Bowers is board certified in tax law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization.

BAHEP proudly announces 2017 Board of Directors



Greg Smith, Ph.D.
Chairman



Jayant
Ramakrishnan, Ph.D.
Vice Chairman



Richard (Rich)
Jackson
Secretary



Jennifer Bowers
Treasurer

The Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership is proud to present its 2017 Board of Directors. The new board will implement the goals and objectives of BAHEP's 2017-2021 Strategic Plan, fostering an environment that is balanced — business friendly while also supporting an exceptional quality of life.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OFFICERS

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Vice Chairman: Jayant Ramakrishnan, Ph.D., COO, Bastion Technologies, Inc.
Secretary: Richard (Rich) Jackson, NASA Strategic Account Executive, Leidos
Treasurer: Jennifer Bowers, Partner, Bowers & Sadler, LLP

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Frans Gillebaard (1939 - 2013)

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Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership 2017—2021 Strategic Plan

Over 400 individuals contributed to BAHEP's newest Strategic Plan, which can be found on the organization's website at www.bayareahouston.com/aboutus

BUSINESS to BUSINESS is a monthly Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership publication in partnership with THE DAILY NEWS. BAHEP is a member-driven organization that provides the leadership to stimulate regional economic development and employment in southeastern Texas. Its members include more than 265 business partners encompassing 13 cities, Galveston and Harris counties, the Houston Airport System, and Port Houston. For membership information, contact Membership Director Harriet Lukee at 832.536.3250.

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