

GROESBECK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

1202 N. Ellis ■ P.O. Box 559 ■ 254-729-4137 ■ Fax 254-729-2391

James B. Cowley, Ed. D. Superintendent of Schools

Immediate Release: September 20, 2022

GHS Tennis Courts Renamed the Jim Longbotham Tennis Facility

The Groesbeck High School tennis courts will be renamed after Jim Longbotham to recognize his dedication to the GISD tennis program and students.

Longbotham began coaching students at Groesbeck ISD in 1975. Through his years of coaching and mentorship, his students advanced to tennis competitions at the State level numerous times, winning an astonishing 5 State Championships.

Due to his love of the game, he has always been an advocate for tennis and its players, and was instrumental in helping build 3A and 4A tennis in Texas which is a recognized UIL Sport.

Coach Longbotham was active in Texas Tennis Coaches Association serving in several leadership roles. Longbotham served as the past president of the Texas Tennis Coaches Association (TTCA) from 2001-2003.

In 2010, Coach Longbotham received the first TTCA Special Recognition Award for his display of leadership qualities, leading by example, motivation, direction, guidance, and goal setting. This award was named after him, the Jim Longbotham Leadership Award.

He received the State of Texas Coach of the Year Honors and was inducted into the Texas Tennis Hall of Fame in 2013.

Coach Longbotham retired in 2012 but came out of retirement in 2019 to serve the tennis athletics again until 2021.

Even though he is no longer the Head Tennis Coach for Groesbeck High School, he is still actively involved with tennis in the Groesbeck community.

Groesbeck ISD Superintendent Dr. James Cowley stated "The naming of the GHS Tennis Facility is a great honor to bestow on a dedicated and successful Coach."
