

SUPERINTENDENT MESSAGE

OCTOBER 2, 2023

DEAR JUDSON ISD FAMILY:

October is Principals' Month and I want to take the opportunity to say thank you to our JISD principals for the work they do every day to make their campuses great places to work and learn.

Principals are not only the instructional leaders on their campuses, they also have a significant impact on the culture of their school community. A campus leader has to know about effective instruction, has to know how to calm fears, has to be a logistics expert, and has to be the cool head in difficult situations, all while knowing how to inspire everyone on their campus to reach their potential as learners and leaders. It is a difficult job, and some of the best at it are right here at JISD.

I encourage you to take a moment to let your campus principal know that you appreciate them - a note, email, or simply a pat on the back. I can guarantee you that it will make their day.

Dr. Rob Fields



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DUAL CREDIT AND ALAMO ACADEMIES

In connection with Alamo colleges, the Alamo Academies program provides education, experience, and job opportunities for high school students looking to advance their future before high school graduation. Students can earn up to 30+ hours of college semester credit leading to a certificate of completion.

Judson High School has one of the highest cohorts of students enrolled in the program in the region, with 41 students attending either San Antonio College or St. Philip College in the morning, then coming back to campus and finishing their high school classes in the afternoon. Students can focus on aerospace engineering, information technology, advanced technology and manufacturing, diesel technology, or health professions.



For more information, students and parents can contact the college counselor at their respective campuses.

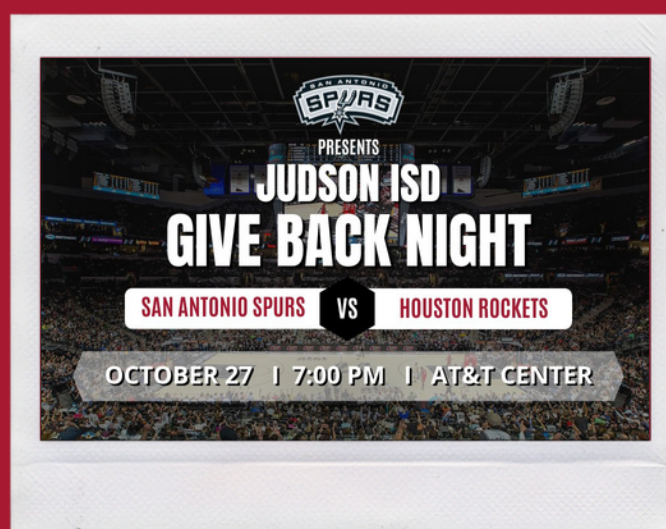
JUDSON ISD GIVE BACK NIGHT AT THE SPURS GAME!

Judson ISD Give Back Night at the San Antonio Spurs Game! Go Spurs Go!

All Judson ISD family, friends, staff, and school supporters are invited out to the October 27, Spurs vs. Houston game as we celebrate Judson ISD night.

A portion of each ticket sold for the night will go back to the Judson Education Foundation to support students & staff.

[Get your ticket today!](#)



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JECA Senior Alexis Shockley

PARTICIPATES ON SAN ANTONIO MAYOR'S FITNESS COUNCIL

Alexis Shockley, JECA senior, wanted to make an impact on her school community before she graduated. Her path to that aspiration was to apply (and be accepted) to the San Antonio Mayor's Fitness Council. In her second year on the council, she is just a few months away from being able to make a difference that will be lasting.

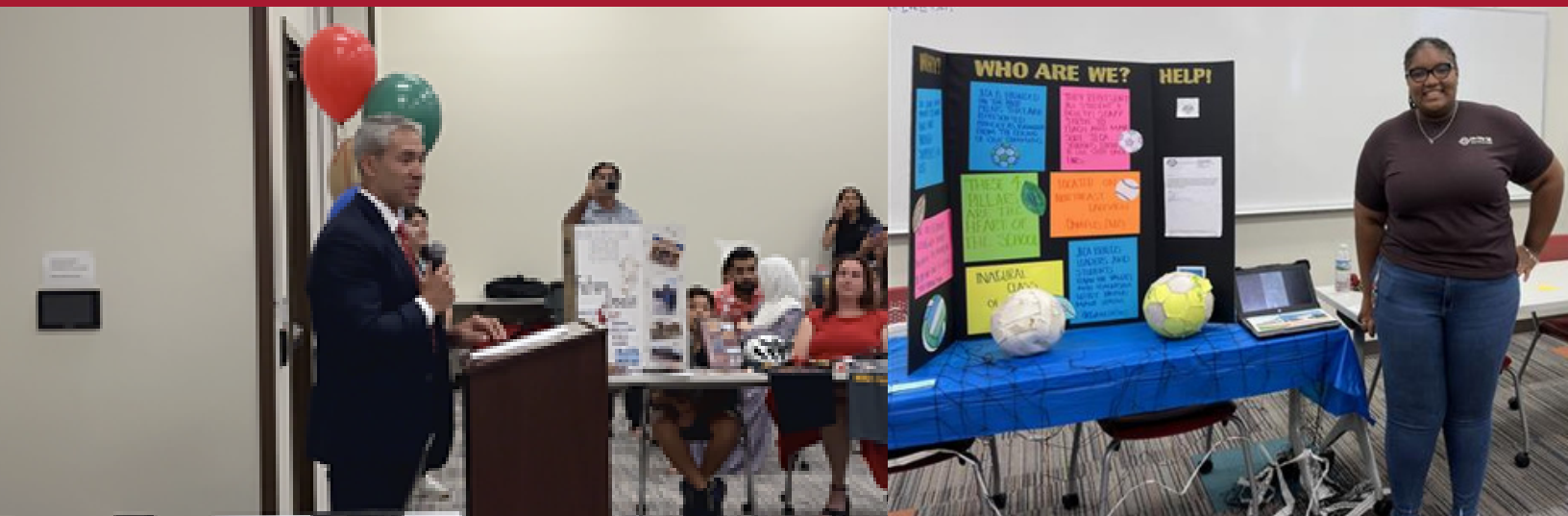
As part of the council, students create projects that impact their communities. On September 21, Shockley presented her project that, once funded, will provide JECA with equipment students can use to improve their physical and emotional health.

Shockley's goal is to provide a space where the stress of being a young college student can be relieved through activity.

"We have access to the college gym [Northeast Lake View College], but that's not always convenient for us. I am hoping to get yoga mats, some new equipment for field days like soccer goals, volleyballs and a net, and even stationary bikes that have desks so you can exercise while doing your work," Shockley said.

Shockley and the other Mayor's Fitness Council students have been working on their projects for over a year. Their work is submitted for a grant and the students present at a community event to elicit support from community partners.

Shockley's project is well on its way to being funded. [Read more.](#)



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HUMAN RESOURCES APPRECIATION DAY

Last week, we celebrated Human Resources Appreciation Day honoring our incredible team at Judson ISD! Their dedication to guiding and supporting our employees is truly exceptional.

Thank you for ensuring our staff can thrive and make a positive impact on our students and community.

Here's to your hard work and the difference you make every day!



2023 WOBBLE N' GOBBLE FUN RUN & COMMUNITY FEAST

Mark your calendar for the 2023 Wobble N' Gobble! The Judson Education Foundation (JEF) & Judson ISD is hosting its 7th annual Fun Run and 12th annual Community Feast on Saturday, November 4, at Wagner High School. Proceeds benefit the Judson Education Foundation to provide student scholarships and Innovative Teacher Grants in Judson ISD.

Wobble with us at the 5K fun run beginning at 9 a.m. [Get more information and register here!](#) Register by October 27 to secure a race t-shirt!

Then, **Gobble** with us at the FREE Thanksgiving Feast anytime between 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. The Feast will also feature performances by talented JISD students!

Want to volunteer? [Sign up here.](#) We have several shifts to choose from. Help us make the day special for our #JudsonISDFamily!



OCTOBER 2, 2023

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND JUDSON ISD

MRS. GRISHAM'S 7TH GRADE SCIENCE CLASS

While learning about the periodic table, JSTEM students picked an element to create a project. They used boxes to create a 3D Element Square for a giant periodic table and presented their projects!



JHS JROTC VOLUNTEER AT THE CONVERSE ANIMAL SHELTER

From cleaning shelters, moving mulch for dog runs, and walking dogs, students spent the morning giving back to their community by helping the local shelter. The Converse Animal Shelter is a non-profit, no-kill shelter that has been located across the street from the school since 1982.

SCIENCE IS SWEET!

Last week, Escondido 1st grade teachers made cotton candy to provide their Lions with a yummy and memorable experience exploring how heat changes matter.



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UTSA FOOTBALL & JEF GIVE BACK NIGHT

Who's ready for some UTSA Football? UTSA and Judson ISD have partnered to bring you some fantastic discounts and experiences.

All JISD staff will receive discounted tickets to all UTSA home games.

Join us on October 28 for a designated Judson ISD District Night. A portion of your ticket purchase will be given back to the Judson Education Foundation to fund student scholarships and innovative teaching grants! On top of that, the first 60 tickets will get pre-game field access to watch the Roadrunners run out during team intros!

Get your Birds Up and [get your discounted tickets here!](#)



OPEN ENROLLMENT IS NOW OPEN THROUGH OCTOBER 20TH

**Coverages elected during Open Enrollment will be effective
January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024.**

Open Enrollment is your once-a-year opportunity to elect benefits and make changes to your current coverages. **Please remember that enrollment is mandatory. Benefits WILL NOT roll forward, even if you are a new hire and just signed up for 2023 Benefits!**

Go to the [Employee Services Resource Page](#) to find the 2024 Benefit Options Summary to start considering what is best for you and your family.

Learn about our full benefit offerings by reviewing the [Benefits Guide](#), visiting the [Benefits Portal](#), and watching the [Benefits Video](#). If you should need any assistance or technical support, please contact Employee Services at employeeservices@judsonisd.org.



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Judson ISD

AT THE JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE HEARING: COMBATING RANSOMWARE ATTACKS

On Wednesday, September 27, Dr. Lacey Gosch, JISD Assistant Superintendent of Technology, testified in front of the United States House of Representatives Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Information Technology, and Government Innovation, and the Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Energy Policy, and Regulatory Affairs.

Seen as an expert in her field, her goal was to “share through testimony the effects of a cybersecurity incident, specifically Ransomware, on public schools.” She was a critical asset in making sure the district survived the ransomware attack in the summer of 2021. With her leadership and the swift actions of the technology department, they were able to build back better and more technologically advanced.

“Judson ISD is in an optimal position technologically to prevent and mitigate future attacks,” Gosch said in her written testimony.

[Read more.](#)

[Watch her testimony.](#)



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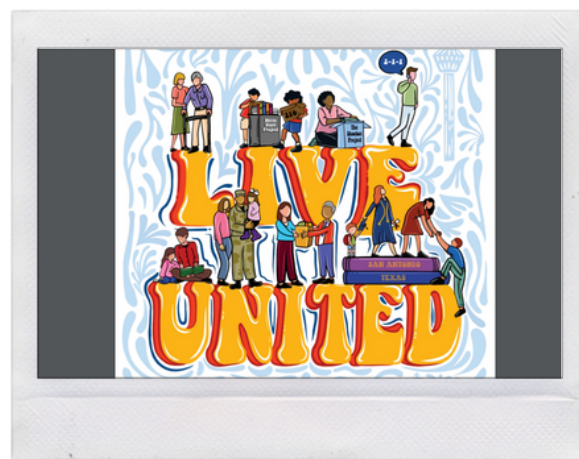
JUDSON ISD UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN HAS BEGUN!

The annual JISD United Way campaign is underway! United Way has made it easy for you to make a contribution to a charitable organization of your choice using e-pledge, the online pledging site.

Your support will help address the root causes of the most critical needs in our community and provide meaningful, lasting change in people's lives. When we work together, we empower children, students, individuals and families to reach their full potential.

The Judson Education Foundation (search "Judson" when designating your donation) is one of the many charitable organizations you can choose to support and they are offering incentives to spark your generosity and competitive spirit!

- \$500 Grant to the campus with the Highest Contribution to Judson Education Foundation!
- All Campuses that reach 100% Participation will enter a drawing for a \$500 Grant!
- All Departments that reach 100% Participation will enter a drawing for a Breakfast for your team!



HERE'S HOW TO GIVE!

Go to: www.giveuw.org/jisd

User ID: = your full work email address ending in @judsonisd.org

Password: = JISD Employee ID ([You can find it in Skyward by clicking here](#)).

Every campus has a Champion that can assist you! Thank you in advance for supporting the JISD United Way campaign and for making a difference in our community. If you have any questions please reach out to your campus Champions or Kim Cathey, JISD Community Relations Liaison at kcathey@judsonisd.org.



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WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND JUDSON ISD

STEM CAREERS EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

The Judson HS STEM Careers Exploration Program toured the Meadows Center for Water and the Environment at Texas State University this past Saturday. Scholars participate in a series of experiential and service-learning activities to inform their education and career pathways, primarily in the aviation and marine science fields.



RAISING OUR LEARNING EXPERIENCES TO NEW HEIGHTS

Salinas Elementary's 5th grade Science Camp is in full swing at Camp Twin Lakes! From rope swings to learning about erosion and team building, the students had an exciting time exploring, learning, and making lasting memories.



PRACTICING DEXTERITY

Mrs. Eller's kindergartners got to fine-tune those important fine motor coordination and problem-solving skills in the [Rolling Meadows ES Library](#) after book checkout!

Developing fine motor skills helps children with writing, drawing, and everyday tasks, while problem-solving fosters critical thinking and creativity.



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HALL OF HONOR NOMINATIONS

Do you know a person who exemplifies what Judson ISD is all about? If your answer is yes, we are now accepting nominations for the Judson ISD Hall of Honor!

Being a part of the Judson ISD Hall of Honor is a meaningful way of recognizing those who embody the positive spirit of Judson ISD. Recipients have used their talents and abilities to overcome challenges and obstacles to achieve excellence in either the world of athletics or civically as contributors in our society...or both!

[Visit our website](#) to review the criteria and submit your nominee today!



FOUNDATION FRIDAYS

The Judson Education Foundation (JEF) wants to thank those who have participated in our eGive campaign. To add a touch of excitement to our Fridays, we are introducing Foundation Fridays which we are sure you will love. Every Friday, we invite each and every one of you to proudly wear your JEF 2023 eGive shirt.

Keep an eye out on Foundation Fridays for JEF members on campus, because the first staff member we see proudly wearing their eGive shirt will receive a special surprise!

Thank you for your dedication to our students and support of the Foundation, see you on Fridays! [Check out last week's winners!](#)



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DATA BOOT CAMP NIGHT AT FRANZ LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Building tomorrow's leaders one step at a time at the Franz Leadership Academy Data Boot Camp Night! The student-led data night gave our Franz Student Leaders the opportunity to share their beginning-of-year data with parents.

A student-led data night allows students to take the lead on their academic progress by presenting their own data to parents. It helps them build a sense of responsibility and allows them to set goals and work toward improvement.

Franz Leadership Academy is nurturing a new generation of leaders, building growth, and developing bright futures!



JUDSON ISD CELEBRATES WAREHOUSE APPRECIATION DAY!

Give a round of applause to the superstar individuals who make our JISD internal distribution a huge success!

They work tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure that everything runs smoothly and efficiently.

Thank you for all that you do. Keep on rocking it!



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UPCOMING EVENTS AROUND JUDSON ISD

- Sept 15-Oct 15: National Hispanic Heritage Month
- **October:** Principals Month, Breast Cancer Awareness, and Bullying Prevention Month, Family Community Engagement Month
- October 2: School Custodian Appreciation Day
- October 3: Child Health Day
- October 5: World Teachers' Day
- October 6: National Instructional Coach's Day
- October 9: Staff Development/ Student Holiday
- October 10: Indigenous Peoples Day
- October 16: Boss's Day

DO YOU HAVE A SPECIAL STORY?

Is there an event, student, teacher, or community member you want to highlight? The Judson ISD social media platforms and website are a great way to highlight student and district successes!

To request media coverage, please fill out this submission form.

If you have any questions, please contact **Judson ISD's Multimedia Specialist, Briana Estrada**, at **210-945-5411** or **bestrada@judsonisd.org**. Thank you in advance for your participation.

CLICK HERE

FIND US ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIA!

The communications department would love to share your stories! After all, a picture is worth over a thousand words! **Click on the images below to go to our pages and give us a follow.**



[Facebook.com/JudsonISD](https://www.facebook.com/JudsonISD)



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