

# SUPERINTENDENT MESSAGE

DECEMBER 11, 2023

## DEAR JUDSON ISD FAMILY:

As the winter break approaches, I want to wish you the happiest of holiday seasons. For me, the best thing about the holidays is the time I have to gather with my family and friends.

The holidays mean something different for each one of us.

For my family, our traditions center around our faith. One of my favorite traditions happens on Christmas morning. Once we are all up in the morning, we gather around the Christmas tree. Before we open our gifts, we talk about the day being a representation of the gift of Jesus.

No matter how you celebrate your holidays, I hope you are able to spend time with the people who fill your life with love and joy.

Have a wonderful holiday season. May God bless you and your families.

*Dr. Rob Fields*

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DECEMBER 11, 2023

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## OUR LEADERSHIP DEFINITION: FROM THE DESK OF

*Dr. Lacey Gosch*

Building a shared vision is a competency in the Judson ISD Key of Leadership embedded in the belief that we must plan for success. A shared vision is about developing and clearly communicating a vision that unifies and empowers others to act. This competency is one that I firmly believe provides the pathway for the development of strong leaders at every level of the organization.

I do not define leadership as a role, position, rank, or title. Nor do I define it as solely a method to support people in achieving pre-defined goals. I believe that leadership is a choice, not a rank. Therefore, understanding the “why” and the purpose behind the work is essential to our success. If we have a clearly defined vision, then we can communicate our purpose and choose how we can contribute to the success of the whole organization. The core of a shared vision allows everyone to extend their own capabilities within their given position through decision-making, collaboration, patience, reflection, integrity, vision, focus, and trust that ultimately leads to goal attainment. Our daily choices define us and those choices when hyper-focused on a shared vision grow us as leaders regardless of our role.

Within the Technology Department, we built a shared vision. The entire team contributed to the discussion, the development, and the formation of the statement. It is the central purpose to the work that we do. Each team member is dedicated to reaching this vision each day and uses the statement as a measurement for how well we operate as a unit. It is used in the goals established by each department and each member of the team, contributing to the success of the whole organization. It is the competency of the shared vision that provides the choice and the freedom to lead.

*JTECH is a unified team that empowers students and staff to be forward thinking; combining technology, education, customer services, and communication to provide reliable systems for safe and secure learning environments.*



## MESSAGE FROM OUR TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Please remember that passwords require updating every 90 days. This means that when we have a long holiday break, many passwords may expire over the break. **Technology recommends that staff members update their passwords prior to leaving for the Winter Break.**

Staff should update their passwords by **this Wednesday** using a network-connected laptop or computer (not on WIFI) to ensure that all systems are updated with the renewed password. This also allows the user to get familiar with the password change prior to leaving for the break. If passwords expire over the break, users will be locked out of their computers and district systems. **The Help Desk will be closed during the break.**

**Passwords can be updated by pressing CTRL/ALT/DEL on your district-issued device.** Then Choose Change Password. Make sure you are connected to a network port when changing your password. **Call the Help Desk if you have any questions.**

## SOMEONE IS IN THE KITCHEN WITH LAURA BERGHUIS

The Judson ISD Child Nutrition does more than just prepare nutritious meals for students each day. They use their passion and expertise for food in the classroom too!

Check out Miller's Point ES Kitchen Manager Laura Berghuis while she inspires kids to learn the joy and skill of cooking!



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## WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND JUDSON ISD

### ZOO LIGHTS WITH KMS

Kirby Middle School Jazz Band rocked the Christmas spirit at the San Antonio Zoo! The jazz band under the direction of Mr. De La Garza performed several holiday tunes and helped spread the Christmas cheer! Great job representing Judson ISD Fine Arts!



### AROUND THE WORLD TRIPS

Mrs. Martinez and her kindergarten students took a trip to Israel and learned about the lighting of the Menorah.

They went to Holland to make their own shoes, then headed to Germany. They pretended they were on a plane on each trip.

Oh, what fun it is to learn about our beautiful world this season!



### TRASH TO TOYS

The Spring Meadows Elementary students transformed everyday waste into captivating toys! The toys from trash are on display for everyone to view their creativity and sustainability.

By repurposing trash into toys, students grasped the concept of reducing waste and the importance of recycling for a better, greener tomorrow!



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# SAN ANTONIO'S FIRST LADY, ERIKA PROSPER NIRENBERG, VISITS *Masters Elementary*

Transformation is a big concept for seven-year-olds, but the First Lady of San Antonio, Erika Prosper Nirenberg made it easy for Master's Elementary second-grade students to understand.

Miranda Perez, a second-grade teacher at Masters, connected with Prosper-Nirenberg through the San Antonio Hispanic Chamber's Alexander Briseño Leadership Development Program and invited her to talk to her students.

Prosper Nirenberg's message was simple. You are never too young to make a change - never too young to transform your life, your school, or your community.

She explained that most transformations don't start big, that most transformations start with small things. Sometimes small things mean a lot to you or others.

She related change to the students by asking them what they were afraid of last year that they aren't afraid of this year. Students shared overcoming fears of the dark, shots, doing backflips, riding a bike, and many other things. Prosper Nirenberg pointed out that they overcame those fears by doing and learning something new.

Prosper Nirenberg also didn't miss the opportunity to tell the students how important school is to their futures. [Learn more about her visit with our Judson ISD Family.](#)



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## MALOUFF REALTY DONATES 545 COATS TO JISD STUDENTS

Last week, Steve Malouff and Malouff Realty traveled around the district in a 26' foot U-Haul truck - their form of Santa's sleigh - and delivered 545 coats to 31 campuses across Judson ISD for students who may need them.

"This is what being a part of the community is all about," Malouff said. "I love doing it every year. And I will continue to give back as long as I am a part of this community."

At Judson High School, they were joined by Tony Osborne and Mario Del Bosque from the Gillman Auto Group, who donated \$2,500 to get 100 of the coats that would eventually go to our students.

"It's the season for giving. This is what we are supposed to do. We are proud to give our time and resources to what Malouff is doing," Osborne said.

This is the third time for the Malouff Realty Tradition - gathering coats, renting a U-Hall, and taking the entire day to drive across the district, campus to campus, making sure our students have a coat for winter. We are grateful to Malouff Realty for making a difference in our community and for our students.

[View the entire photo album.](#)



DECEMBER 11, 2023

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND JUDSON ISD

### A NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM

What a great Night at the Museum at Hopkins Elementary School! Students, parents, and staff joined together for all the Hopkins Hawks to bring their historical figures to life.

Students shared information, stories and fun facts as they dressed up to portray their special historical figure!



### CAREER DAY WITH CTE

Judson High School senior students enrolled in the Patient Care, Medical Asst., and Dental Practicum of Health Science classes assisted in the James L Masters Elementary career fair day to showcase some of their skills to our young students!

These seniors have also started their internships with our industry partners in the last few weeks including internships with JISD elementary campus nurses.

### PRINCESS SPA DAY

The Veterans Memorial High School CTE Cosmetology students hosted a magical Princess Spa Day! Our students pampered community members by transforming them into princesses. From stunning hairdos to fabulous nails, everyone went home feeling like royalty!

Thank you to everyone who helped make this event a crowning success!



DECEMBER 11, 2023

# JCARE's

## ELAINE CAMPOS WINS FIRSTMARK FOUNDATION GRANT

Firstmark Credit Union visited the Judson CARE Academy to surprise Social Worker Elaine Campos with a “big” check! Elaine is a Firstmark Foundation Grant winner, one of only 20 in the Greater San Antonio area.

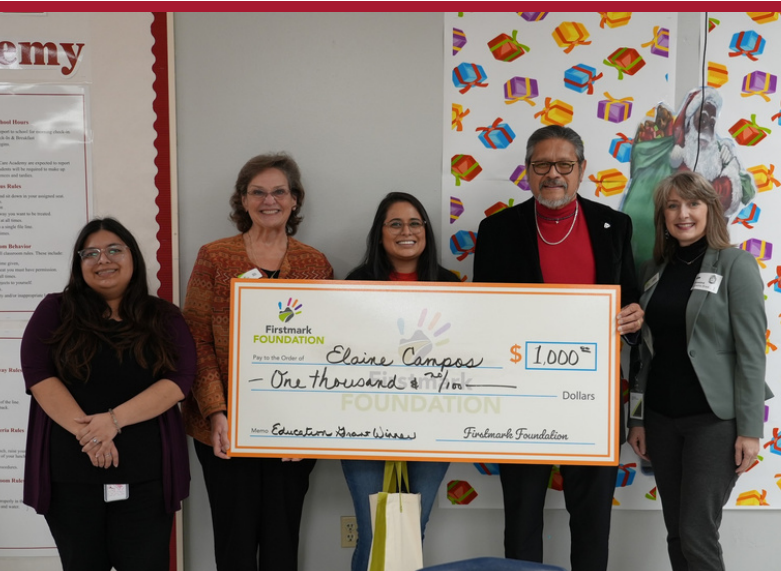
Campos’ \$1000 grant will be used in JCARE’s Closet, a place where students can get clothing, personal hygiene products and even canned goods. Ms. Campos began JCARE’s Closet to address the needs of many of her students and families.

“Ms. Campos always finds ways to take care of our kids. She works overtime to make sure they have everything they need to be successful,” said JCARE Principal Ms. Ricci Bethely-Day when she was announcing the surprise grant in front of the entire JCARE staff.

The JCARE Closet is stocked through staff and community donations and students help Campos organize the donations the Closet receives. JCARE’s Closet provides a solution for students and families who have been displaced from their homes, are unable to buy clothing items or have food acquisition challenges.

“We as a campus try to relieve stress from students so they can focus on educational goals and growth. This resource can allow the social worker to create a safe space for our students and their families, helping the families feel supported,” said Campos in her grant application.

Congratulations to Ms. Campos and thank you to Firstmark Credit Union for supporting her efforts to make a difference for students and families at JCARE.



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## JUDSON ISD KEY CONTRIBUTOR

Judson ISD individuals and community members are invited to nominate a JISD employee by filling out and submitting the [Nomination Form](#).

Paper forms are available and may be obtained by contacting the Communications Department either by email or by phone at 210-945-5410.

The selection committee members will discuss and review each nomination and evaluate them by a standard rubric. The highest-scoring nominee will be considered for the award. Once a winner is determined, we will verify with the candidate's supervisor that the employee is in good disciplinary standing and therefore, eligible for the award.



[NOMINATE SOMEONE  
TODAY!](#)



## JUDSON ISD HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATIONS DATES



### New Creation Christian Fellowship

- JECA: Tuesday, May 28, 2024 at 7:00 PM
- JLA: Thursday, May 30, 2024 at 7:00 PM

### Freeman Coliseum

- JHS: Friday, May 31, 2024 at 7:00 PM
- VMHS: Saturday, June 1, 2024 at 2:30 PM
- WHS: Saturday, June 1, 2024 at 7:00 PM

For more details, visit: [judsonisd.org/graduation](https://judsonisd.org/graduation)

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## JEF INVITES YOU TO AN EVENING AT MONTE CARLO

Join us for a great cause – and a great time! The Judson Education Foundation provides student scholarships and teacher grants to Judson ISD.

This year we proudly funded over \$94,000 in student scholarships and innovative teacher grants.

*Join Us*

AT OUR ANNUAL GALA FOR AN EVENING OF  
COCKTAILS, DINNER, & CASINO GAMES.

FEBRUARY 2024 | 9 | FRIDAY 6 PM

DOORS OPEN AT SIX O'CLOCK

THE SHRINE AUDITORIUM  
901 N Loop 1604 W, San Antonio, TX

ATTIRE  
Black Tie Optional

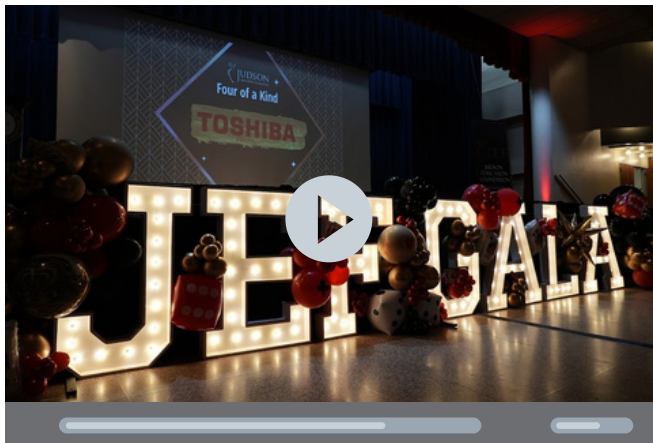
### EMPLOYEE DISCOUNT AVAILABLE

1 admission ticket (open seating); 1 drink ticket; \$500 in gaming chips  
One seat: \$60 instead of \$100

The last day to purchase discounted tickets is January 19th. [Purchase your tickets here!](#)

All proceeds benefit students and staff of Judson ISD. Every dollar of donation matters.

Feel free to contact Executive Director Lexie Greathouse at (210) 956-5414 if you have any questions about tickets or sponsorships.



## UPCOMING EVENTS AROUND JUDSON ISD

### **December:** Read a New Book Month

- December 14: Regular Board Meeting
- December 15: Early Release Day for Students
- December 16- January 2: Judson ISD Holiday

### **January:** Board Appreciation Month

- January 3: Staff returns to Judson ISD
- January 8: Students return to Judson ISD
- January 9: Law Enforcement Appreciation Day
- January 15: Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- January 18: Regular Board Meeting

## 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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