SUPERINTENDENT MESSAGE

JANUARY 22, 2024

DEAR JUDSON ISD FAMILY:

January is School Board Appreciation Month. At our January Board meeting, we recognized the hard work of the Judson ISD Board of Trustees. The theme of this year's School Board Recognition Month is "Locally Elected, Community Connected," which highlights the connection between school trustees and their communities. Without a doubt, the men and women who serve on the JISD Board of Trustees care deeply about the students, staff, and the constituents they represent.

Members of the Board not only spend many hours each month meeting to make policies that positively impact our students but also spend countless hours in their communities. Whether it is a district or campus event, you can always find JISD Board members there supporting our students, staff and families.

I want to express my sincere thanks to José A. Macias, Jr., Debra Eaton, Laura Stanford, Stephanie Faulkner, Suzanne Kenoyer, Jennifer Rodriguez, and Monica Ryan for all they do for the Judson ISD Family. If you see them out and about, be sure to thank them, too.

Have a great week, JISD Family.







NOMINATE SOMEONE FOR JUDSON ISD KEY CONTRIBUTOR

Judson ISD individuals and community members are invited to nominate a JISD employee by filling out and submitting the <u>Nomination Form.</u>

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 will review each nomination and evaluate them using 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!





EPISODE 2 OF JUDSON ISD'S NEW PODCAST INSIGHT, IS HERE!

We sit down with Faith Tabbert, the senior class president at Wagner High School. We get to know her plans for the future and what makes Wagner the place to be.

Listen here, https://insightfromjudsonisd.buzzsprout.com/ or wherever you get your podcasts!





Coach Jim Rackley INDUCTED INTO THE SAN ANTONIO SPORTS HALL OF FAME

On January 17, 2024, Judson Independent School District Hall of Famer Jim Rackley was inducted into the San Antonio Sports Hall of Fame.

Rackley is an icon in the community, having led Judson High School's football team to a state championship and a 101-37 record over 11 seasons. Alongside D.W. Rutledge and Frank Arnold, two other titans in Judson football, Rackley cemented himself as a titan in Texas high school football after being a part of the coaching staff for 27 seasons and five state championships.

He retired in 2012.

"This is a tremendous honor," Rackley said, in his acceptance speech at the ceremony held at the Alamodome. "There were so many tremendous athletes and so many kids that were willing to make the sacrifice and do all the things it takes to be the best athletes they can be.

This is their honor and I just happen to be up here."

Trivia Corrales, Executive Director of Athletics, echoed the monumental moment it was to watch Rackley's legacy etched in San Antonio sports history.

"If you're looking for a blueprint on how to coach Texas high school football, just look at what Coach Rackley did at Judson High School," Corrales said. "San Antonio Sports made the perfect choice in making sure future generations will know what Rackley did - not only for so many athletes but what he did for the Judson community and Texas high school football."

Now in its 40th year, San Antonio Sports will celebrate Coach Rackley and the other inductees at their San Antonio Hall of Fame Tribute gala on May 9, 2024, at the Henry B. Gonzales Convention Center.





WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND JUDSON ISD

WHAT'S THE DIRT ON DIRT??

Wortham Oaks Elementary 1st graders have been learning all about the different types of soil and why soil is important. The students participated in three different hands-on Science stations where they got to investigate different soil types - sand, clay and loam.



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JUDSON HS FF AG EXPO

The Judson FFA is hosting its annual Agriculture Exposition over the weekend at the Judson AG Barns. The Expo was a free event that was open to the community for all to enjoy.

The Judson Agriculture Exposition promotes responsibility and leadership skills through the educational work of the Judson FFA Chapter.

DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE?

Fifth grade students at Spring Meadows Elementary School spent last week learning about shadows.

They had the opportunity to explore science within this fun project using a flashlight and classroom objects.







JANUARY IS SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH

We continue to celebrate board member appreciation month. Today's spotlight is Ms. Jennifer Rodriguez!

As a senior member of the board, Ms. Jennifer Rodriguez understands the role and impact the school board plays in the overall success of Judson ISD.

The thing that is most important to me as a school board member is for our students to be learning and achieving their fullest potential," Rodriguez said "It is the lens through which I make every decision. As a school board member, I get a line of sight into how decisions are made at every level and how that impacts student learning. It is a responsibility that I don't take lightly."

That impact is shown at Rodriguez's favorite event of the year - graduation.

"There is so much joy and celebration permeating the room as students and families celebrate this important milestone," Rodriguez said.

There's no doubt Rodriguez is committed to the success of the district - it's a special place to her.

"Judson ISD is a very special community and I feel privileged to be a part of it. There is so much pride in our community that brings us together in celebrating and supporting our students," Rodriguez said.







JECA STUDENT NAMED SEMIFINALIST IN 'TAKE CARE OF TEXAS' VIDEO CONTEST

The Take Care of Texas Video Contest is a fun way for young people to learn about protecting the environment and come up with creative ways to share this knowledge with others! After Rowan Leatham from Judson Early College Academy submitted a 30-second video that showed positive ways to Take Care of Texas, she was chosen as a semifinalist.

Please help Rowan become a Finalist in the Take Care of Texas Video Contest. Public Voting ends on January 24th. <u>Make your vote here!</u>





JUDSON ISD 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

The Judson ISD School Board approved the 2024-2025 School Calendar at last week's board meeting!

The calendar for Judson Early College Academy will be announced later this semester.

<u>Please see Judson ISD online calendars for all Judson ISD campuses to stay updated.</u>





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.



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.

In case you missed it, check out last year's gala recap.







JEF IS CELEBRATING 25 YEARS BY AWARDING A \$25,000 GRANT!

The Judson ISD Education Foundation is celebrating 25 years of giving; we are excited to announce a special grant opportunity to support and recognize outstanding educational initiatives in Judson ISD!

Grant Details:

• Amount: \$25,000

• Application Period: 25 days: January 10 to February 3 at midnight

• Submission Requirement: A two-and-a-half-minute or less video presentation

More information and submission links for grants can be found here.

This grant aims to empower and elevate innovative projects that enhance education in our district. We encourage all district employees to consider applying and showcasing the incredible work you are doing to make a lasting impact on our students' lives.

SILVER GRANT WORKSHOPS

We are excited to extend an invitation to our upcoming Silver Grant Workshop, designed to provide valuable insights and guidance for those interested in applying for JEF's 25th Anniversary \$25,000 Grant.

Two online workshops will be available on Wednesday, January 31st; one at 8:15 am and one at 3:30 pm. Please use the links below to join each meeting.



Join the morning workshop at 8:15am

Join the afternoon workshop at 3:30pm

This workshop is a fantastic opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the application process, receive personalized guidance, and connect with fellow educators who share a passion for innovative education.

If you are unable to attend but have questions, feel free to reach out to Lexi Greathouse at agreathouse@judsonisd.org or 210-945-5414.





WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND JUDSON ISD

JISD NCA CHEER SHOWOFF

Over the weekend, Judson HS and Veterans Memorial HS cheer traveled to the 2024 NCA High School National Championship in Dallas, Texas! Both teams joined together for the JISD NCA Cheer Showoff for family and friends to share their love and support for the teams before they hit the stage. Congratulations on a great season ladies!

View photos here: <u>judsonisd.org/PhotoAlbums</u>





FUTURE CITY REGIONAL COMPETITION

Over the weekend, three 8th-grade teams from Judson Middle School traveled to Houston to compete in the Future City Regional Competition, and we're proud to announce they've earned the following recognition:

- Best Land Surveying Practices-Pasciphycanniya
- Best City Infrastructure- JSTEM Atlantis

PERFECT ATTENDANCE

Congratulations to the Woodlake Middle School wildcats who had perfect attendance during the first semester of school.

Mrs. Garcia and Mr. Pecina brought pizza and drinks for the students to celebrate! Can't wait to see more Wildcats at the end of the second semester!







UPCOMING EVENTS AROUND JUDSON ISD

January: Board Appreciation Month

February: Career & Technical Education and Black After all, a picture is worth over a thousand words! **Click on the**

- February 5-9: National School Counseling Week images below to go to our pages
- February 12: Teacher Planning/Prep Day/ Student Holiday*
- February 14: Valentine's Day
- February 19: President's Day

March: Women's History Month and National Social Work Month

- March 1: Maintenance Worker Appreciation Day
- March 3-9: National School Social Worker Week
- March 15: National Speech Pathologist 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.



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.



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