

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
September 16, 2021

Judson ISD Board Member Selected to Serve on the MASBA Board of Directors



The Mexican American School Boards Association (MASBA) is a non-profit, statewide education association that is focused on addressing achievement gaps in Texas public schools, particularly for Latino students, who comprise a majority of students enrolled in Texas public schools. Established in 1970, this organization is committed to high quality education and providing equitable educational opportunities for minority students. The work of MASBA is important as members inspire leaders of public education to empower Latino students, advance the Mexican American culture and confront issues of inequality within our public schools.

We are proud to announce that Judson ISD Board member, Rafael “Rafa” Diaz, has been selected to serve on the MASBA Board of Directors. An active member of the Judson ISD community and current Board Trustee, Mr. Diaz is a strong supporter of innovation, equity, and opportunity for students. His focus is rooted in re-imagining

the educational experiences of learners by leveraging cultural wealth and offering diverse programs that are relevant to all students. His service to MASBA is important in working towards the goal to empower not only Latino students, but all students in Texas.

When asked what it means to him to be able to serve on the MASBA Board of Directors, he stated, “Serving as a school board trustee in the Judson Independent School District is an honor and privilege I do not take lightly. I work hard to represent what is in the best interest of not only our community’s youngest scholars but learners of all ages and give a voice to the single most important partners we have in education: their families. This responsibility is enriched further by having been vetted, supported, and entrusted by my Mexican American School Board Association peers to serve as one of the newest Board of Directors for our organization. I recognize that as a MASBA Board Member it is not enough to create a culture of authentic care, critical understanding, and integrity; I must do so with a deepened sense of pride in my identity, consistent recognition of the significance of equity, and the role I must play to uplift not only *nuestra gente* but all scholars. It is essential to do so as there is tremendous power in recognizing, appreciating, and lifting everyone’s cultural wealth. I am ready and look forward to expanding my service to education.”

Member of the Texas State Board of Education, Ruben Cortez, was encouraged by the news of this appointment and believes Mr. Diaz will work hard to positively impact our students’ educational experiences. “Someone as forward thinking as Rafael will not only make a huge difference for our students, but he will also contribute to the forward trajectory of advocacy that the MASBA Board of Directors is taking.” Mr. Cortez has been affiliated with MASBA since 2007 and recognizes the importance of the organization’s work and the impact it has and will have in tackling issues of equity and diversity across the state.



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About Judson ISD

Judson Independent School District is a Pre-K through 12th grade public school district in the San Antonio area. Prior to its current form, the district was known as Judson Rural School District No. 8. The rural district was created on June 25, 1958, by the Bexar County School Board and combined the existing districts of Converse, Kirby and Selma. The new district was named after Moses Campbell Judson. Today, Judson ISD serves over 23,000 students within the incorporated cities of Converse, Kirby, Live Oak, San Antonio, Selma, and Universal City. Judson ISD produces excellence throughout all campuses and builds strong connections with the community. The district earned a B rating from the Texas Education Agency and is constantly working on innovative ways to enhance the learning for its students. Judson ISD believes in providing a strong foundation for early learners by offering full day Pre-Kindergarten programs beginning at 3 years old. Being a district of choice provides Judson families to customize their own educational experiences through the multitude of programs the District has to offer. For more information, visit www.judsonisd.org