Super Saturday Writing Session with Dr. Gonzales

On Saturday, November 2, the Bilingual/ESL, Career/Technology, and Special Education programs hosted the second Super Saturday event of the school year. The full day training session was packed with fun and engaging STAAR writing strategies geared toward students in special populations. Over 50 teachers were in attendance for the event. The comprehensive training event provided research-based practices and methods for understanding the structure of writing and expectations of writing standards.

A Great Education Starts with a Great Team!!

This issue is dedicated to all JISD educators who make great things happen for our students everyday!
Educational Diagnostician Added to Evaluation Team

Christina Skoog has joined our Special Education Evaluation Team this school year as our newest Educational Diagnostician! Currently assigned to Wortham Oaks Elementary and district-wide dyslexia testing, Christina has worked in Judson ISD as a Licensed Dyslexia Therapist and holds a national certification as a Certified Academic Language Therapist. She obtained her Bachelors of Interdisciplinary Studies from Texas A&M University-Kingsville and later earned a Master’s degree in the field of Education / Special Education with a certification as an Educational Diagnostician. Prior to coming to Judson, Christina worked at Southside ISD as a third grade teacher, Kindergarten teacher and Dyslexia Therapist. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, music, sports, and spending time with her husband and children, who are 22 and 23.

Special Education Evaluation Team Receives TASP Award

On October 23, 2019, the Texas Association of School Psychologists (TASP) presented Judson ISD with an award for ‘Outstanding Delivery of School Psychological Services’ based on interactions described as friendly, supportive and cooperative in nature.

Congratulations to the following JISD LSSPs and Diagnosticians:

Amanda Boullard, Leah Buck, Louis Cantu, Monica Ellis, Kaleena Felipe-Smith, Consuelo Ferguson, Celina Gomez, Carl Harris, Shana Hatnot, Tina Hickman, Christina Hruska, Sarah Jones, Gabby Lopez, Laura Ortiz, Christopher Ponce, Ethel Rodriguez, Noel Sanders, Cyndi Shults, Christina Skoog, and Dallas Smith.
JUDSON UNIFIED!!!

JISD Special Olympics Unified Bowling Team
On Wednesday October 30, 2019, Judson ISD Special Olympics made history with our first ever Unified Sports Team. Eleven members of The Judson High School Bowling Team partnered with JISD Special Olympics athletes from Judson, Wagner, & Adult Years for the Area 20 Bowling Competition. Based on their participation on October 30th, each athlete is eligible to participate in the State Bowling Competition that takes place in February 6-9, 2020. Coach Baclaan of JHS (Bowling Coach) and Coach Waring are excited about this positive opportunity for both groups of student/athletes. The Judson High School Bowling Team is leading the way to a better, more inclusive future for ALL individuals.

Judson HS First Campus to Promote Unified Sports
Judson ISD takes on Unified Sports!! Dedicated to promoting social inclusion through shared sports training and competition experiences, Unified Sports joins students with and without intellectual disabilities on the same team. It was inspired by a simple principle: training together and playing together is a quick path to friendship and understanding.

Mr. Jesus Hernandez III, Judson High School principal, is the front-runner in promoting Unified Sports activities!! The Judson HS Bowling team joined with Special Olympics athletes. This team won several medals and there is no looking back!! These athletes will be honored at the November JISD Board meeting.

Special kudos to Coach Ed Waring, Coach David Saldana, and Coach Gonzales for their dedication to Special Olympics athletic competition and for instilling the inclusive spirit of Unified Sports throughout the years.
Ms. Heather Harris, Crestview Teacher, receives “Excellence in Leadership and Service” Award

In order to recognize the essential work provided by campus Special Education Department chairs and campus contact teachers, the Department of Special Education is selecting and awarding one of these staff members with an “Excellence in Leadership and Service” trophy at each monthly Department meeting. The selected staff member keeps the trophy at their campus and passes it on to the next recipient. In addition, each recipient receives a Starbucks gift card. Our first recipient is Ms. Harris, Crestview ES Special Education teacher. She was nominated by Mr. Micheal McNeil, special education supervisor, because of her immeasurable desire to mentor staff members on Department initiatives, provide outstanding instruction to students with disabilities, and to ensure Department procedures are properly implemented. Ms. Harris has been a teacher in our district for 16 years.

Co-Teaching Scoreboard

In keeping with the District’s theme of “Driven by Excellence”, Region 20 Field Agents Lisa Kirby and Kimberly Baumgardner, and Dept. of Special Education leadership staff have developed a Co-Teaching Scoreboard that documents the number of observations made by this Co-Teaching monitoring team. Monitoring and coaching co-teachers encourages professional growth and validates the work that is being done by our teachers. Co-teach resources have been developed by Region 20 and Department staff. Co-Teachers can participate in webinars, zoom meetings, and professional development sessions. Our co-teachers have found the instructional delivery model very effective and love sharing in the learning process!!

JISD 2019-2020 Co-Teach Teams

- Converse Elementary (3 teams)
- Elolf Elementary (2 teams)
- Escondido Elementary (2 teams)
- Franz Elementary (1 team)
- Hopkins Elementary (1 team)
- Masters Elementary (1 team)
- Miller’s Point Elementary (6 teams)
- Olympia Elementary (1 team)
- Park Village Elementary (2 teams)
- Paschall Elementary (1 team)
- Rolling Meadows Elementary (3 teams)
- Salinas Elementary (2 teams)
- Spring Meadows Elementary (2 teams)
- Woodlake Elementary (6 teams)
- Kitty Hawk Middle School (7 teams)
- Judson Middle School (3 teams)
- Metzger Middle School (4 teams)
- Woodlake Hills Middle School (7 teams)
- Kirby Middle School (10 teams)
- Veterans Memorial High School (8 teams)
- Judson High School (3 teams)
- Wagner High School (10 teams)
- Total: 85 teams