

# SUPERINTENDENT MESSAGE

OCTOBER 16, 2023

## DEAR JUDSON ISD FAMILY:

I hope that everyone had a great weekend! With the annular eclipse captivating people around our area, it was nice to see so many people outside, gathering in cooler, tolerable weather. Getting out of the house and enjoying nature is good for the soul, which brings me to one of the most important things about Judson ISD being One Home, One Family. Not only is it important to take care of each other, but it is important for us to take care of ourselves. As many of you know, October can be a frenzy - there is so much happening and sometimes we forget to take care of ourselves. Our physical and mental health is important. So, however you do that, please do it! For many people, it's going outside, or working out, or spending time with our family and friends to recharge.

Take a look at all the great things that are happening across the district. I look forward to seeing you as I travel to campuses.

*Dr. Rob Fields*

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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 CLOSING THIS FRIDAY

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

**Deadline is this Friday October 20th**

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](mailto:employeeservices@judsonisd.org).

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# Judson High School

## CELEBRATES FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP TEAMS DURING ALUMNI GAME

If you were at D.W. Rutledge Stadium last Thursday night, you saw lots of hugs and heard many memories being shared. It was a perfect night for homecoming and the former Rockets filled the stadium with red and gray.

From the Class of '73, showing up in impressive numbers to celebrate their 50th reunion to the Class of '91 tailgating with some serious pre-game food and all the classes in between, it was a night to remember.

The highlight was the during-game recognition of the '83 and '93 State Champion Rocket Football teams. The guys and their coaches caught up with each other over a couple of days, reminiscing about their times on the field together. Each player had memories of their coaches investing time not only in their football skills but also in the development of their character. The lessons learned and memories made will last a lifetime.

Thank you to all of the alumni who came to cheer on their Rockets and share their stories. Judson ISD is truly One Home. One Family.

[View Full Photo Album.](#)





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## WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND JUDSON ISD

### SPOOKY STORIES AT KIRBY MS

Frank McFemur & Xavier Patella, thrilled students with bone-chilling tales during the Spooky Storytelling event in the Kirby Middle School Library. Guided by the storytelling librarian, Ms. Lehman.

Classes at Kirby MS were transported into an event that was a spooktacular success and a new love for the magic of storytelling!



### FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

Students across the district celebrated Fire Prevention Week. The theme for 2023 is "Cooking safety begins with YOU! Pay attention to fire prevention!"

Fire Departments around our district shared safety tips with our students and even had the opportunity to tour the fire trucks.

### THE 1 MILE EVERY DAY CLUB

The Hartman Bilingual/Immersion Elementary students are taking on the challenge to run 1 mile every club day. That will be over 1,000 miles collectively by the end of the year!

Thank you to our Judson ISD coaches and volunteers for helping to engage our students in a healthy lifestyle!





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## OCTOBER SUPERINTENDENT'S SHINING STARS

The Superintendent Shining Star Award is meant to promote success in and out of the classroom. The student must exemplify outstanding characteristics both as a student and as a citizen of the community. The student must be able to handle many different aspects of student life while maintaining excellence in the classroom. This award is designed to recognize students who promote and take pride in Judson ISD, in their home campus, and in themselves.

[Read more about our October Superintendent's Shining Stars.](#)



**Isabella Bostick**  
**Copperfield Elementary**



**Abigail Harris**  
**Metzger Middle School**



**Alicia Sepulveda**  
**Paschall Elementary**



**Macie Justice**  
**Rolling Meadows Elementary**

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## OCTOBER IS DOWN SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH

October is Down Syndrome Awareness Month, a time to promote understanding and acceptance for individuals with Down Syndrome. It's a chance to celebrate their achievements and advocate for their inclusion in all aspects of life, including academics, sports, and social activities.

One example of inclusion in action is the Unified Champion School program, which promotes social inclusion through sports. Rhema Cutkelvin, a Super Senior and Unified Athlete, is a big advocate for this program at JHS. Rhema has participated in multiple sports, including Special Olympics Bowling, Unified Track & Field, Unified Cheerleading, and represented Team Texas at the USA Games. She has also made history by being recently crowned as Homecoming Queen, thanks to her hard work and campaigning with posters and interactions with her student body for votes.

[Read more about Rhema Cutkelvin.](#)



## JUDSON ISD BAND EXTRAVAGANZA

If you enjoy a great Marching Band, you'll love the upcoming JISD Band Extravaganza at Rutledge Stadium coming up Tuesday, October 24th at 7pm.

Judson ISD Fine Arts would like to invite you to listen to our high school and middle school bands play their shows and some of their favorite songs!

This will be a free show of all the bands of JISD!  
Can't wait to see you all there!





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# Judson Education Foundation

## HONORS TOP DONORS

The Judson Education Foundation hosted a reception to express its heartfelt gratitude to the top ten donors of 2022. Their unwavering dedication to our education foundation has been nothing short of inspiring.

The evening celebrated the generosity and commitment shown by our top donors and was filled with warmth, camaraderie, and a shared passion for education.

The Judson Education Foundation and JISD were honored to welcome its top donors, individuals, and organizations who made significant contributions to our cause.

JISD superintendent Dr. Milton Rob Fields and JEF President Converse Mayor Al Suarez shared personalized words of appreciation to each of the donors for positively impacting students' lives through their contributions.

Thank you to Brown & Brown Insurance, Firstmark Credit Union, Frost Bank, Garza Bomberger & Associates, HTS, Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP, Moy Tarin Ramirez Engineering, Pfluger Architects, RVK Architecture, Walsh Gallegos.



[View Full Photo Album.](#)

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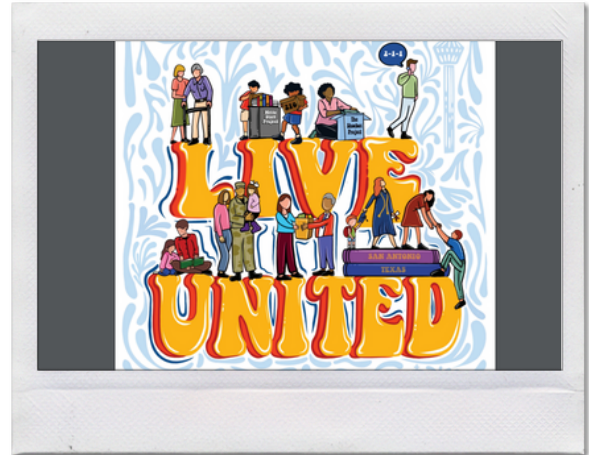
## GIVE TO THE UNITED WAY TODAY!

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](http://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](mailto:kcathey@judsonisd.org).





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## WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND JUDSON ISD

### SOLAR ECLIPSE WATCH PARTY

On Saturday morning the Veterans Memorial HS Science Department hosted a phenomenal Solar Eclipse Watch Party!

Students, teachers, and their families gathered to witness the magic of the annular eclipse. Science and community coming together for a day of learning and wonder. Let's relive the magic of that remarkable day!



### TEAMWORK IN ACTION

The Judson High School basketball team is lending a helping hand!

They assisted at Converse Elementary School in the morning for car drop-off! Inspiring future athletes and spreading kindness.

### LET'S SALSA!

Congratulations to Wagner HS culinary students who won 1st Place in the St. Philip's College Hispanic Heritage Month High School Culinary Salsa Invitational!

The contest included an award of \$500 for each student. Congratulations to WHS teacher Ms. Hefner for preparing our students for this event! They really spiced up the competition!



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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!





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## JUDSON ISD CELEBRATES NATIONAL SCHOOL BUS SAFETY WEEK!

October 16th - 20th, districts come together to collaborate on educating our families, communities, staff, and students about school bus safety.

Thank you to our outstanding Judson ISD Transportation Department for safely transporting our precious cargo every school day.

It's wonderful to see our district coming together to prioritize school bus safety. At Judson ISD, we're lucky to have an exceptional transportation department that goes above and beyond to ensure the safety of our students.

Let's continue to work together to educate our communities and promote safe transportation for all.

[Check out our latest video sharing more information about](#)



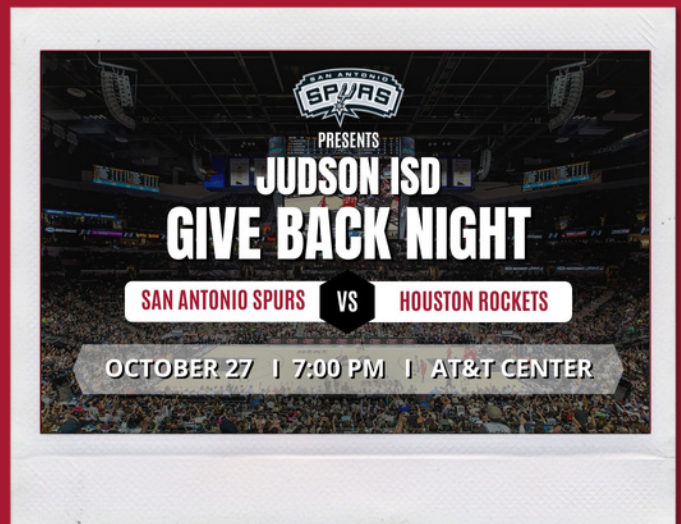
## JUDSON ISD GIVE BACK NIGHT AT THE SPURS GAME!

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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# 2023 WOBBLE N' GOBBLE FUN RUN & COMMUNITY FEAST

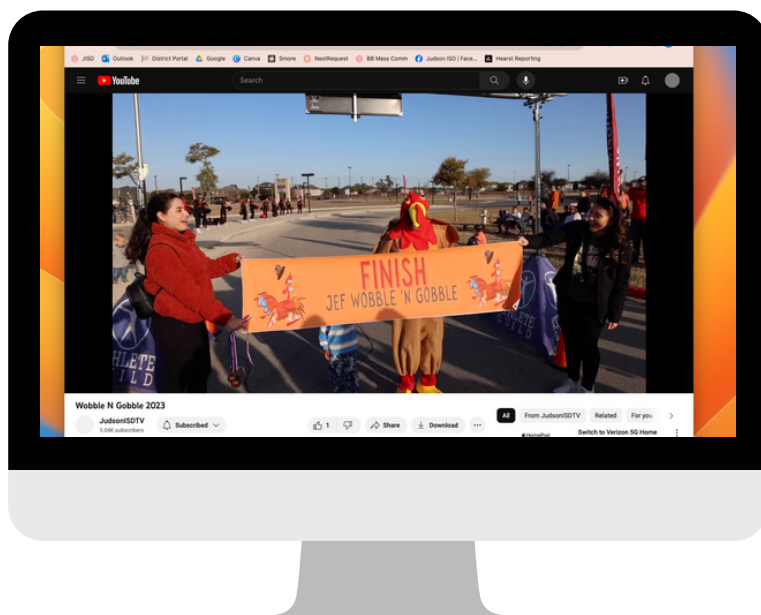
Mark your calendar for the 2023 Wobble N' Gobble! The Judson Education Foundation (JEF) & Judson ISD is hosting its 7th annual Fun Run and 12th annual Community Feast on Saturday, November 4, at Wagner High School. Proceeds benefit the Judson Education Foundation to provide student scholarships and Innovative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

## WOBBLE N' GOBBLE



### Hey, JISD, Keep your eye on the Pie!

We challenge every campus and department to create the biggest team to run the 5k!

The largest department and campus team will receive a feast of pies for your entire staff!

It's simple, 1st team member creates the team and all others register under that team name!



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## FIRSTMARK CREDIT UNION

Firstmark Credit Union is pleased to announce that their Education Grant Applications are now open!

**Visit their website to apply and share your grant idea! Applications close on October 22st.**

To qualify, you must hold a position in education where you interact with students directly (i.e., classroom teacher, librarian, counselor, child nutrition staff, custodial staff, campus social worker, transportation staff).



If you have additional questions, please contact Diane Bacon, Foundation and Education Relationships Manager, by email at [diane@firstmarkcu.org](mailto:diane@firstmarkcu.org) or phone at 210-442-0115!

## IN CASE YOU MISSED IT MONTHLY RECAP

A Month in the Life of Judson ISD! Recap the excitement, achievements, and moments that made September memorable across our Judson ISD campuses, events, and celebrations!



## UPCOMING EVENTS AROUND JUDSON ISD

- **October:** Principals Month, Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Bullying Prevention Month, Mental Illness Awareness Month, Family Community Engagement Month, Dyslexia Awareness Month, German Heritage Month, and National Book Month
- October 16: Boss's Day
- October 19: Regular School Board Meeting
- October 23-31: Red Ribbon Week
- October 31: Halloween
- **November:** Native American Heritage Month and Military Family Month
- November 2: Dia de los Muertos
- November 5: Daylight Savings Time Ends
- November 7: Election Day
- November 8: National STEM/STEAM 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)



[@JudsonISD](https://twitter.com/JudsonISD)



[@JudsonISD\\_Official](https://www.instagram.com/JudsonISD_Official)



[Youtube.com/JudsonISDTV](https://www.youtube.com/JudsonISDTV)



[LinkedIn.com/Judson-ISD](https://www.linkedin.com/Judson-ISD)