

SUPERINTENDENT MESSAGE

OCTOBER 23, 2023

DEAR JUDSON ISD FAMILY:

Last week, I met with the Judson ISD Superintendent Student Advisory Council (SSAC) for the first time this school year. I can tell you that being with students is still one of the best things about my job. They give me energy and renew my purpose every single time.

The SSAC includes students from our high school campuses who meet throughout the year to provide feedback about their school experience. They share what is good and what can be improved. The thing I've found is that students always come to the table with a possible solution to the concerns they voice. They are critical thinkers, and I attribute much of that to the work you do with them every day in your classrooms.

We must listen to our students. It's not always easy but it is always a way to begin a conversation and give them the opportunity to take an active role in their education. They are no different from you or me. We all want to be heard.

Dr. Rob Fields



OCTOBER 23, 2023

SUPERINTENDENT MESSAGE CONTINUED...

I am so impressed with our students. Giving them a voice in their education makes them more invested in not only their success but also the success of their peers.

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.



SAFETY TALKS WITH JUDSON ISD POLICE OFFICER ARREDONDO

Last week, Officer Arredondo shared invaluable insights on Adult Safety with students and staff at Judson High School.

"Her knowledge and passion left a lasting impact on all of us. We're excited to see our students applying what they've learned to stay safe in their community."



OCTOBER 23, 2023

OUR LEADERSHIP DEFINITION: FROM THE DESK OF

Dr. Kristin Saunders

Webster defines leadership as the process of guiding, influencing, and motivating others to achieve a common goal or objective. My favorite part of this definition is that it makes no mention of title, position, or rank. This is known as informal leadership, and this is what sets Judson ISD apart from other school districts. We have built such a close-knit community that we have created a space that allows people to authentically connect with others in a meaningful way, which typifies this month's JISD Leadership Competency, "Builds Community and Service. In my role as Assistant Superintendent, I have the opportunity to see many different people, in many different roles, daily, all with incredible leadership skills who hold no specific title or rank, but who can lead others in an incredible way.

One example I think of often is Mr. Hewitt Ballard, transportation supervisor. Mr. Ballard is kind and has this ability to make you feel like, at that moment in time, you are the only person in the world. His ability to truly listen to hear, and not listen to solve, is refreshing as well as inspiring. As leaders, it is critical that we build relationships and make connections with others and Mr. Ballard exhibits these leadership qualities effortlessly.

As a leader who is working to strengthen my ability to actively listen, I am incredibly thankful for models such as Mr. Hewitt. I often find myself trying to emulate how he interacts with others; his body language, eye contact, and the way he demonstrates a desire to support and serve others.

As we move into one of the most demanding months in the school year, I challenge you to intentionally practice your active listening skills this month. Focus on listening to hear, and not listening to solve.



OCTOBER 23, 2023

SPEND A WEEKEND WITH OUR JUDSON EDUCATION FOUNDATION

All Judson ISD family, friends, staff, and school supporters are invited out this weekend as we celebrate Judson ISD night at the Frost Bank Center and the Alamodome. Whether you want to watch college football or NBA basketball, JEF has got you. Get your tickets down below!

BUY SPURS TICKETS

BUY UTSA TICKETS

A portion of each ticket sold for both nights will go back to the Judson Education Foundation. The Judson Education Foundation is a tremendous tool that helps raise money for student scholarships and teacher grants for innovative instruction

We can't wait to see you all there!

SPURS VS ROCKETS
27 OCT / 7:00 PM FROST BANK CENTER

UTSA VS ECU
28 OCT / 2:30 PM ALAMODOME

JUDSON
EDUCATION FOUNDATION

SPURS **UTSA**

GET READY FOR FLU SEASON

Employee Services would like to encourage all JISD employees to get their seasonal flu shot.

Please see the [listing of dates, times, and locations](#) where flu shots will be given by HEB. HEB will accept any insurance, so be sure to bring your insurance card with you to the clinic.

If you have any questions, please contact Employee Services at 210-945-5611.



OCTOBER 23, 2023

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND JUDSON ISD

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS

Escondido Elementary School went full-on PINK OUT this Friday in support of Breast Cancer Awareness!

Campuses across Judson ISD are sharing their support for Breast Cancer throughout the month of October. Let's join together against cancer!



DONUTS WITH DUDES

Pre-K students at the Fine Arts Academy at Olympia held a special breakfast for the male figures in their lives.

They each came out to take time to reinforce the importance of school. The amazing Pre-K teachers put together a successful event!

STAND UP TO DRUGS PEP RALLY!

Judson Middle/JSTEM hosted a Pep Rally to kick off Red Ribbon Week this morning!

Special guest Frank Harris, UTSA football player and former Judson Middle School student, spoke about Red Ribbon Week and the importance of saying no to drugs.



OCTOBER 23, 2023

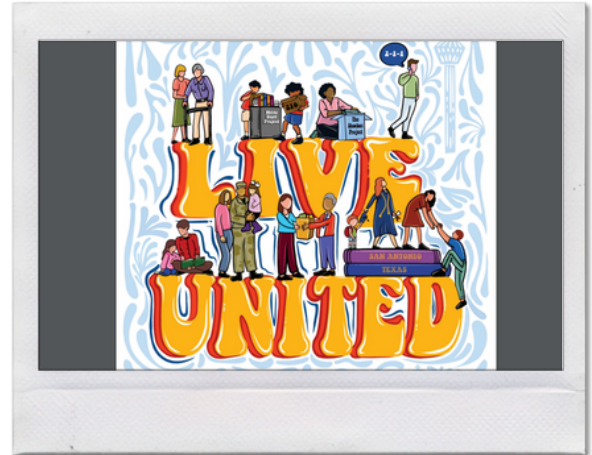
GIVE TO THE UNITED WAY TODAY!

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

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.



OCTOBER 23, 2023

EVERYONE GETS HUGS FROM PRINCIPAL LOFTON AT

Franz Leadership Academy

Dr. Kelle Lofton, Principal at Franz Leadership Academy, has spent over half her life learning and leading at Judson ISD. She has walked the halls of eight campuses as a student at Miller's Point, Kitty Hawk and Judson High School, a teacher at Spring Meadows and Park Village, and an administrator at Park Village, Masters and Metzger.

She is now in her seventh year as Principal at Franz, a responsibility she doesn't take lightly.

"Keeping my kids and staff safe is my number one job. Physically safe, emotionally and mentally safe - whatever that looks like for each person," Lofton said.

Sometimes at Franz, it looks like a ton of hugs. She says she is an elementary principal to her core. She gives out hugs all day long to kids and grown-ups. As she walked out of her office, a young staff member was waiting for her.

"She's waiting for her daily hug," Lofton said.

She knows that taking care of people is important to their success. She fosters a sense of belonging on her campus and within the community.

[Read more about Dr. Lofton and what *One Home One Family* means to her.](#)



OCTOBER 23, 2023

2023 WOBBLE N' GOBBLE FUN RUN & COMMUNITY FEAST

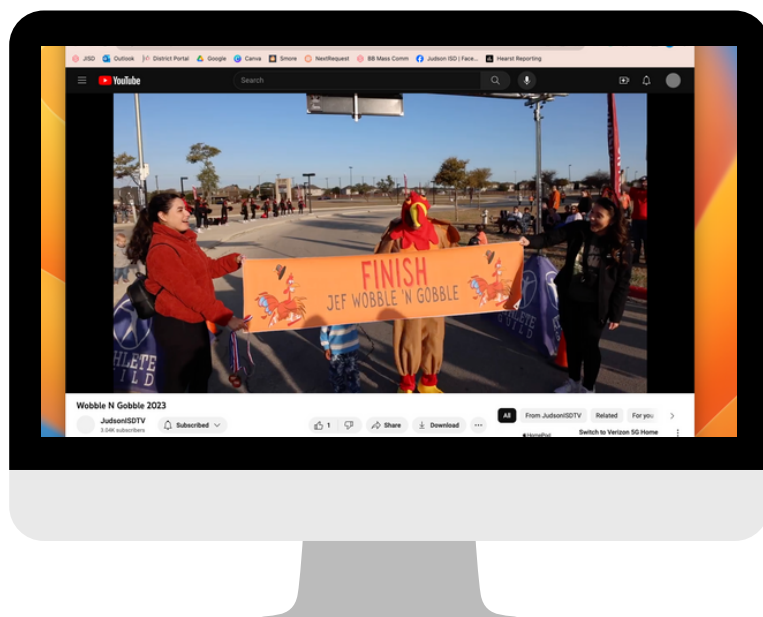
Mark your calendar for the 2023 Wobble N' Gobble! The Judson Education Foundation (JEF) & Judson ISD is hosting its 7th annual Fun Run and 12th annual Community Feast on Saturday, November 4, at Wagner High School. Proceeds benefit the Judson Education Foundation to provide student scholarships and Innovative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

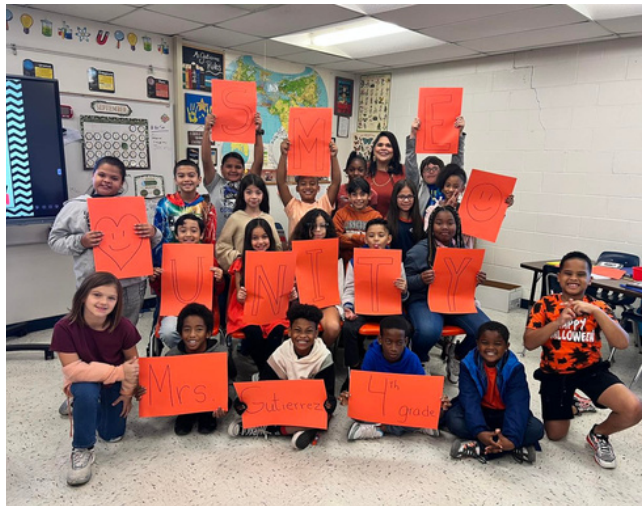
It's simple, 1st team member creates the team and all others register under that team name!

OCTOBER 23, 2023

UNITY DAY AT SPRING MEADOWS

On October 18th, campuses throughout our district wore orange to show that we are together against bullying and united for kindness, acceptance, and inclusion. At JISD, we strive to have a bully-free district every day.

Below are photos of Spring Meadows Elementary celebrating #UnityDay.



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!



OCTOBER 23, 2023

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!

Nomination deadline is **November 10, 2023**.



ANNUAL DISTRICT BIKE RODEO

Last week, Judson ISD athletics, in conjunction with our elementary schools, held its annual bike rodeo at D.W. Rutledge Stadium. Nearly 200 eager bikers ascended the course. Two bikers from each grade level 1st-5th advanced to the district rodeo from their campus. Bikers were judged in the areas of Balance, Steering, Figure 8, and Maneuvering. Several high school student-athletes from Judson Softball, Track and Cheer; Wagner Cheer, and Veterans Memorial Cheer teamed up with bikers and encouraged them along the way.

Out of 40 students per grade level, the top six were awarded trophies. We would like to thank JISD Board members Monica Ryan and Stephanie Faulkner for taking time out of their schedules to help hand out trophies to our bikers. [Read more.](#)



OCTOBER 23, 2023

FRESH OFF THE ESPN PRESS!

Congratulations to Judson High School for being named a 2023 ESPN Honor Roll Unified Champion School for the Southeast Region.

The announcement was made last week by ESPN Anchor Randy Scott.

"I am extremely thankful to partner with the Judson High School staff who have done an incredible job on taking charge and implementing new programs that encourage inclusion of all students which in return has spread joy on campus and qualified us for this amazing award! It is now time to celebrate students, staff, and admin for all of their efforts." said, Amy Paul, JISD Special Olympics Coordinator.



[WATCH THE ANNOUNCEMENT!](#)

JUDSON ISD BOND 2022 OCTOBER UPDATE AND BOND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Judson ISD Bond 2022 made some exciting progress. Completed projects include police body cameras, police department laptop upgrades, panic buttons for automatic lockdowns, and visitor check-ins.

Check out updates for Prop A and Prop B

- External Firewalls are fully functional. Internal Firewalls are in configuration.
- The architect is continuing in the construction documents phase for Elementary School #21.

Please join us for our monthly Bond Oversight Committee meetings on Wednesday, October 25, at 7:30 a.m. at IHOP in the Forum. We will be discussing Judson ISD Bond and Construction Updates.



Want to check out all the Bond 2022 updates? Visit <https://www.judsonisd.org/bond2022> for more information!

OCTOBER 23, 2023

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND JUDSON ISD

READY SET FLY!

On your mark. Get set. Fly! 4th-grade students at Crestview Elementary School are learning about Aerospace science.

They have been working on understanding Bernoulli's Principle and lift. What better way to learn about flight than with paper airplanes?



DAY OF THE DEAD TRADITIONS

The Wortham Oaks Día de los Muertos Altar looks beautiful; it was set up by the Spanish Club Ambassadors!

WOE teachers Mrs. Zukey Cobos and Ms. Wendoly Sandoval helped in making the ofrenda look amazing!

RED RIBBON WEEK

Coronado Village's winners for the Bully Free and Drug-Free poster contest! Terrific job on the posters!

Judson ISD celebrates #RedRibbonWeek! Students, get ready to take a stand against drugs while we celebrate a week of strength and healthy choices.



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 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 (Student Holiday)
- November 8: National STEM/STEAM Day
- November 7-11: National School Psychology Week

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



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



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



Youtube.com/JudsonISDTV



LinkedIn.com/Judson-ISD