

# SUPERINTENDENT MESSAGE

FEBRUARY 19, 2024

## DEAR JUDSON ISD FAMILY:

Every February we celebrate Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month. The facts are that Judson ISD offers 29 different career programs across the district. Every year, hundreds of students earn industry-based certifications that enable them to enter the workforce in high-demand areas or set students on the path to post-secondary opportunities within that same field. But CTE offers so much more than what the facts even indicate.

JISD CTE programs blend academic knowledge with hands-on skill development and cater to diverse learning styles and career interests. Our varied programs allow students to explore their interests, discover their passions, and cultivate their talents. Students learn real-world skills that give them the confidence to succeed after high school.

Thank you to all of our JISD CTE staff for the work you do to prepare our students for their futures. You are helping create a well-rounded, highly skilled workforce that strengthens our communities.

*Dr. Rob Fields*



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# Judson Middle School

## SKATE CLUB CREATES SENSE OF BELONGING

A good public school provides students with opportunities to be a part of something, giving students a sense of belonging to the campus and each other. It correlates to good grades, good behavior, and positive social and emotional health. Traditionally, this is done through athletics, fine arts, and even career and technical programs.

Nevertheless, every Tuesday afternoon at Judson Middle School, Mr. Henry Griffith, Mr. Thomas Holstein, and Mr. Korie Culpepper provide that sense of belonging - through skateboarding.

"I do this because I wasn't connected when I was a kid," Holstein said. "I wanted a way to connect kids who aren't involved in traditional team sports. We need to help kids, connect them, and give them a reason to come to school."

They host the weekly skate club on Tuesdays, after school, utilizing the massive courtyard the school surrounds. Seeing the largest group they've had all year on the day of this feature, students were skating around the courtyard, hanging out, laughing, teaching each other tricks, and creating that sense of belonging.

"It's a judgment-free zone," Holstein said. "We've had book study. We watch videos [about skateboarding]. We tackle social-emotional health. We want kids to understand that every person belongs, every person can be a part of something, and every person matters. For me, skateboarding did that."

[Read more.](#)





FEBRUARY 19, 2024

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND JUDSON ISD

### STATE CHAMPION!

Judson High School's Samaria Barnett is the 6A UIL State Wrestling Champion! We are so proud of Samaria for her hard work and dedication to become the best in her class in the entire state!

Congratulations to Samaria and her coaches. Thank you for representing JISD so well!



### RIDE THE WAVE OF KINDNESS

The Hopkins Hawks were riding the KINDNESS wave in their Hawaiian gear! Last week, they celebrated Random Acts of Kindness Week with fun dress-up days!

We love that our Hawks are intentionally making kindness a priority on campus!

### ROUND 3 FOR THE T-BIRDS

The Lady Thunderbirds head into the third round of the State Basketball Playoffs after a huge 99-44 win in the Area Championship game.

They take on Glenn High School today in the Regional Quarter Finals! Go Lady T-Birds!!



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## SAMUEL SUTTON NAMED SUPERINTENDENT SHINING STAR

JISD is excited to celebrate senior Samuel Sutton, the Veterans Memorial High School Superintendent Shining Star.

When Samuel Sutton walks into a room, he brings a lot of joy and positivity with him – a characteristic he attributes to his mother, but that's just one characteristic he attributes to his family. He credits his parents and large blended family as the source of his energy and believes the love and support he receives from them fuels his dreams of being a singer, actor, and performer.

Samuel exemplifies the Judson ISD Leadership definition by treating others well, investing in people, and planning for success. Congratulations, Samuel, on being a Superintendent's Shining Star.



[Learn more about Samuel.](#)

## MAMMOGRAMS THAT COME TO U

Judson ISD will be visited by the University Health System's very own healthyUexpress! The University Health System healthyUexpress is a mobile mammography vehicle that offers screenings by appointment at various locations in Bexar County. Each exam takes approximately 30 minutes, requiring little time away from your busy day.

Please note that they will be offered at three separate locations around JISD on three different dates. **All location times are 7:30 am-2:30pm**

- Wednesday, March 20, 2024 – Wagner HS
- Thursday, March 28, 2024 – Judson HS
- Friday, April 5, 2024 – Veterans Memorial HS

[See more details and how to sign up for a time slot convenient for you.](#) Please contact Leesa Roberts at (210) 945-5610 should you have any questions.





FEBRUARY 19, 2024

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND JUDSON ISD

### WILDCAT KINDNESS

Mrs. Jaramillo's class celebrated Random Acts of Kindness Day by delivering hand-decorated cards and treats around the Wortham Oaks campus.

Great job, Wildcats!



### ELOLF SCIENCE NIGHT

Elolf STEAM Academy students, staff, and families enjoyed Family Science Night! Families were able to see student Project Based Learning projects and participate in hands-on science experiments, including special activities from our music and art teachers.

### UIL FOR THE TOROS

Check out our Coronado Village Toros who participated in UIL Oral Reading!

Outstanding job, Toros!



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FEBRUARY 19, 2024

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## MARCH 7 TOWN HALL

Join board members, district administrators and staff to learn and share at the Town Hall on Discipline.

The Event is Thursday, March 7, from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., at Judson Early College Academy, 8230 Palisades Dr., Live Oak, TX.

Hope to see you there!



## YOUR VOICE MATTERS. ELECTIONS INFORMATION

As we approach the March 5th primary elections, exercising your right to vote and make your voice heard is crucial.

Don't forget, early voting starts tomorrow, February 20, 2024, and runs through Friday, March 1, 2024, offering convenient options to cast your ballot.

Can't make it early? No problem! Mark your calendars for Election Day on Tuesday, March 5, 7 AM to 7 PM, and ensure your vote counts. Let's lead by example and show our children the importance of active participation in shaping our community's future.

[Learn more about early voting locations, hours, center maps and sample ballots.](#)



## EPISODE 3 OF JUDSON ISD'S NEW PODCAST INSIGHT, IS HERE!

We sit down with Megan Blackledge, the librarian at Park Village Elementary School. We talked about celebrating Black History Month, representation in the classroom, and how important it is for students of color to feel seen.

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



FEBRUARY 19, 2024

# JUDSON ISD BASKETBALL PLAYOFFS

Four of Judson ISD's Varsity Basketball teams have made it to another round of playoffs. Our Varsity Lady Thunderbirds and all of JISD Varsity Basketball Boys will be playing tomorrow night.

Join us in supporting our students and coaches as they take the next step to State! Check all the details for tomorrow's games below.



**Wagner vs. Glenn HS**  
**Girls' Basketball Playoff**

Tuesday, February 20th at 6:00 PM  
The Snake Pit at San Marcos ISD  
(2601 Rattler Rd, San Marcos, TX)



**Wagner vs. Glenn HS**  
**Boys' Basketball Playoff**

Tuesday, February 20th at 8:00 PM  
The Snake Pit at San Marcos ISD  
(2601 Rattler Rd, San Marcos, TX)



**Leander HS vs. Veterans Memorial HS**  
**Boys' Basketball Playoff**

Tuesday, February 20th at 7:00 PM  
Hays ISD Bales Gym  
(4800 Jack C Hays Trl, Buda, TX)



**Judson HS vs. Clark HS**  
**Boys' Basketball Playoff**

Tuesday, February 20th at 6:00 PM  
NEISD Blossom Gym  
(12002 Jones Maltsberger Rd, San Antonio, TX)

If you have any questions, please contact the Judson ISD Athletics Department.

We hope to see you there!

## UPCOMING EVENTS AROUND JUDSON ISD

**February:** Career & Technical Education and Black History Month

- February 19: President's Day

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

- March 1: Maintenance Worker Appreciation Day
- March 1: Employee Appreciation Day
- March 2: Read Across America Day
- March 3-9: National School Social Worker Week
- March 7: Town Hall on Discipline at JECA
- March 8: International Women's Day
- March 11-15: Spring Break Holiday
- March 21: World Down Syndrome Day
- March 29: Good Friday Holiday

## 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)**



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