

# SUPERINTENDENT MESSAGE

SEPTEMBER 11, 2023

## DEAR JUDSON ISD FAMILY:

As a veteran, September 11 will forever be a solemn day that holds a different meaning. For many staff members, you can answer the question, “remember where you were when...” You can remember where you were, what you were wearing, and how the day impacted you. Now, we have students in our classrooms who were all born after those tragic events.

I am incredibly grateful and honored that leaders at our schools and in our community take the time to not only commemorate this day, but invite our students to participate in events and educate them about how the tragedies in New York, Washington D.C., and Pennsylvania changed our lives forever.

We are blessed to have veterans in our schools. We are blessed to have a strong military family presence in our schools. And I am blessed to work with every single one of you.

Take some time to look below at the great things that are happening in our schools.

*Dr. Rob Fields*



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## NATIONAL GRANDPARENTS DAY

Celebrating the wisdom and love of our Grandparents on their special day! Happy Grandparents Day from Judson ISD.

Check out some of our Grandparents Day events around the district!

*We love our Judson ISD Grandparents!*



[View the full photo album.](#)



For more news and information about Judson ISD visit us on the web at  
[www.judsonisd.org](http://www.judsonisd.org)



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## COMMUNITY BREW

Join us at Community Brew to see what's brewing at JISD!

Come grab some coffee and have a conversation with JISD Superintendent, Dr. Rob Fields on Saturday, September 23, from 8:00 a.m. until 9:30 a.m. at the JTECH building, 7990 Pat Booker Rd, 78233.

Hope to see you there!



## FIRSTMARK CREDIT UNION

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

Since 1932, Firstmark has been a passionate champion of the education community. Education is ingrained in their roots, their membership, and their commitment to their communities. They were chartered as the San Antonio Teachers Credit Union by and for school employees 90 years ago.

Because you make many personal sacrifices and investments in your scholars' needs, it is their privilege to offer Firstmark Education Grants to eligible members. For the 2023-2024 school year, Firstmark will distribute \$20,000 among 20 grant recipients across school districts in San Antonio and the surrounding counties.

**Visit their website to apply and share your grant idea!**  
**Applications close on October 22, 2023**

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!





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## DISTRICT COMMEMORATES THE 22ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE SEPTEMBER 11 ATTACKS

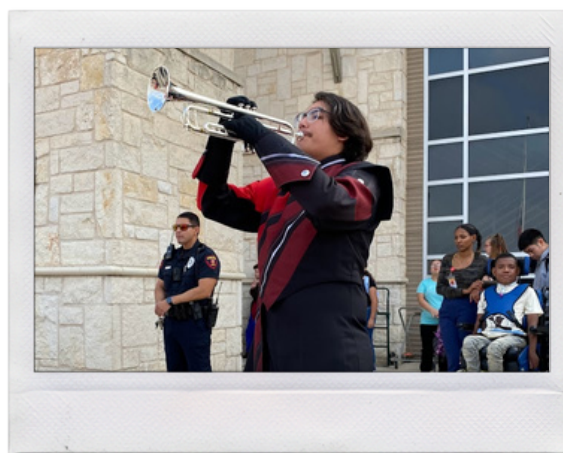
At 9:00 a.m., Wagner High School's JROTC hosted its annual 9/11 memorial event. The campus was named after Karen Wagner, a Judson High School graduate and Army lieutenant colonel stationed at the Pentagon who died during the terrorist attacks.

The ceremony began with 170 members of the Wagner High School AFJROTC marching in units to the front of the school to announce their attendance before the flags were raised to half-staff.

Debra Eaton, SFC, United States Army (Ret.) and member of the JISD Board of Trustees was the event's guest speaker. Eaton knew Karen Wagner personally as a member of her community and her church.

"You don't often get to meet people that are a part of the history happening right in front of you," Eaton said, as she shared memories of Wagner. "Karen was an awesome person and she served our country well. Remember her always for the sacrifice she made to her country."

The ceremony included touching musical performances by Wagner High School students including acapella versions of the national anthem and the school song, performed by the Wagner High School Choir and Taps performed by Thunderbird Band trumpet player Julian Cano.



[View the full photo album.](#)



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## UTSA FOOTBALL & JUDGE 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!](#)



## JUDSON LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE BREAKFAST CELEBRATION

The Department of Leadership Development is committed to growing and building leaders in Judson ISD. This morning we celebrated the 22 campus leaders who participated in the 22-23 Judson Leadership Institute (JLI) with breakfast and certificates. JLI allowed participants to go behind the scenes for an in-depth look at leadership from different viewpoints. Monthly sessions facilitated by Dr. Destiny Barrera, Director of Leadership Development, focused on our Judson ISD Leadership Definition, including customer service, school culture, communication skills, school branding, community volunteering, a book study, attending district events, summer internship, and much more. Needless to say, they were very busy this past school year!

We are proud to brag that six cohort members are now in new leadership roles on campuses such as assistant principal and academic leadership roles. We honor these individuals for their leadership, commitment to Judson ISD, and completion of Judson Leadership Institute. Congratulations Judson Leaders!

[Read more.](#)



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SEPTEMBER 11, 2023

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND JUDSON ISD

### WHY NOT BOTH?

Allow us to introduce Charles, a shining example of true dedication to the Wagner High School Band. He successfully managed dual roles as a Wagner High School drumline member and a JV football player for two years.

Although he's no longer with the drumline, he remains a committed part of the front ensemble, showcasing his unwavering commitment. Judson ISD & the Wagner High School Band proudly stands behind #8!



### SUPERINTENDENT'S SHINING STARS

We are so excited to celebrate the Superintendent's Shining Stars for September!

**Kendall Dillard, Converse Elementary**

These students, selected by their campuses, show exceptional character and embody the Judson ISD's Leadership Definition. The key components of which are: Treat People Well, Plan for Success, and Invest in Others.

### NATIONAL READ A BOOK DAY

Leaders at Franz Leadership Academy enjoyed finding a cozy spot to read some of their favorite books during our Book Nook elective.

We love that some books help us learn interesting facts, while others allow our imagination to soar! No matter what type of book you choose, it's always nice to make connections and learn more about the world around you!



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## JUDSON ISD AND CITY OF CONVERSE HONOR FALLEN 9/11 HEROES AT ANNUAL STAIRS CLIMBING

This morning, Judson ISD commemorated the 22nd anniversary of the September 11 attacks during two events. At D.W. Rutledge Stadium, at 8:27 a.m. - the time of the first plane hitting the World Trade Center - police officers, firefighters, Judson High School JROTC cadets and cross country athletes, and community members began their annual climbing of the stadium stairs.

The morning started with Converse Fire Caption Danny Cano speaking about the events of the day. He mentioned how many of the students who were participating in the vent were born after 2001, unaware of how the day immediately jolted America, from changes to flying to the creation of the Department of Homeland Security.

"The events of that day changed the way we live," Cano said.

At 8:27 a.m., audio from firefighters' radios began to play over the speakers. Led by Converse Mayor Al Suarez, participants began climbing the steps of the stadium with full gear on and oxygen tanks weighing about 30 lbs. Judson High School JROTC cadets and cross-country athletes also participated, showing commandery with the community first responders.

"Especially with many of our athletes born after the attacks, it is important for us to remind our students that events like this are bigger than sports," cross country head coach Christina Holland said.



[View the full photo album.](#)



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## JEF TEACHER GRANTS ARE NOW OPEN!

The Judson Education Foundation is an incredible organization that raises money to fund student scholarships and teacher grants for innovative instruction. JEF does that through a number of fundraising and community connecting events. Each year, the Judson Education Foundation awards tens of thousands of dollars to students and teachers to support them in their education and their work in the classroom.

Judson Education Foundation (JEF) Teacher Grant Applications are now open! JEF has over \$48,000 to give for innovative teaching. Our application is so easy to fill out. If you have any questions, please contact the Executive Director of JEF (Judson Education Foundation), Lexie Greathouse, at [agreathouse@judsonisd](mailto:agreathouse@judsonisd).

### **Apply Today!**

**The deadline to apply is September 15, 2022.**

### **View Last Year's Photo Album.**



## FOUNDATION FRIDAYS

The Judson Education Foundation (JEF) wants to thank those who have participated so far 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! Check out last week's winners!



Franz Leadership Academy



Crestview Elementary



Franz Leadership Academy



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# HoltCat

## READY TECHNICIAN GRADUATES

Meet our Judson HS graduates Austin Lopez, Damien DeCastro, and Craig Brewer who embarked on an incredible journey through the Judson Ag Engineering Program. They applied, interviewed, and were accepted to the Holt Ready Technician program in June. Over 90 days of intensive training, they mastered classroom modules and practices to become certified Diesel Technicians!

On September 5th, they proudly received their Level 1 Technician Certification, along with \$10,000 worth of top-notch technician tools and a toolbox to kickstart their careers.

"We have three Diesel Techs fully employed, one high school intern, one fully employed welder, and one intern welder soon to be fully employed from this past senior class at Holt. Amazing innovative students in Judson ISD CTE," says Mr. Jay Trees.

Congratulations to these young men and a special shoutout to their dedicated CTE teacher, Mr. Trees!

Mr. Trees is already gearing up to lead the next group of students into this fantastic program.



Share your student achievements.



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## LAST WEEK, E-GIVE TODAY!

### 13TH ANNUAL EMPLOYEE GIVE CAMPAIGN TO SUPPORT:



The Judson Education Foundation is a tremendous tool that helps raise money for innovative Teacher Grants, Principal Grants & Student Scholarships.

**Make your pledge by this Friday,  
September 15 to get a t-shirt!**

**Click the notification to  
contribute today!**



**Judson Education Foundation**  
[www.judsonisd.org/jef](http://www.judsonisd.org/jef)

Thank you for your voluntary  
contribution!



### EMPLOYEE DEDUCTION DONATION OPTIONS

\$3.00 monthly - You receive a foundation t-shirt that you can wear every Friday\*  
\*with supervisor's approval

\$5.00 monthly - You receive a foundation t-shirt and a cute matching sticker.

\$7.00 monthly you receive a T-shirt, Sticker, and your name will be entered in a drawing for "Movie Night" gift basket that has a \$25 AMC gift card, 2 movie passes to EVO with game cards and all the snacks and goodies you'd want!

For more information contact: Lexie Greathouse, JEF Executive Director at 210-945-5414



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## WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND JUDSON ISD

### MIXTURES AND SOLUTIONS

Mr. Starbuck's 5th-grade class and Mrs. Taylor's 4th-grade class at Salinas Elementary had fun learning the difference between mixtures and solutions.

We know they are on their way to achieving their dreams of being a teacher, engineer, baseball player, fashion designer, a famous singer, and much more!



### NATIONAL ACTOR'S DAY!

Congratulations to Wagner High School Theater on a successful series of performances during all lunches celebrating #NationalActorDay this past Friday, September 9th!

In lieu of tickets, canned donations will go to our local food bank. Great Job T- Birds!



### 100% CHANCE OF HANDS-IN-THE-AIR FUN!

This weeks forecast: 100% chance of hands-in-the-air fun!

Pre-K students at Copperfield Elementary enjoy indoor recess time with friends. Everyone got the chance to beat the heat by participating in engaging toys, games, reading, and more during their school day.



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## UPCOMING EVENTS AROUND JUDSON ISD

- September: Campus Safety Awareness Month, Suicide Prevention Month, Friendship Month, and Childhood Cancer Awareness Month
- September 10-16: National Arts in Education
- Sept 15-Oct 15: National Hispanic Heritage Month
- September 17: National IT Professional Day
- September 21: Regular School Board Meeting
- September 23: National IT Professional Day
- September 26: Human Resources Day
- September 29: National Teacher's Assistant Day
- October: Principals Month, Breast Cancer Awareness, and Bullying Prevention Month

## 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)**



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