

SUPERINTENDENT MESSAGE

SEPTEMBER 25, 2023

DEAR JUDSON ISD FAMILY:

This weekend, district leadership put on the first Community Brew, where we invited members of our community to have an intimate conversation with myself and district leadership about anything related to Judson ISD. I know that the day-to-day of our jobs can be overwhelming. However, part of being a leader means being a good listener, and that's with *all* of our stakeholders, including our students. From the Growth and Planning Committee to the Superintendent Student Advisory Council, it is critical that we know what is going on so we can make a better Judson ISD for everyone.

I am incredibly happy for those who attended and the conversations that were had. This community makes me a better leader through open and honest communication. I look forward to having more Community Brews and continuing to have committees where authentic two-way communication happens.

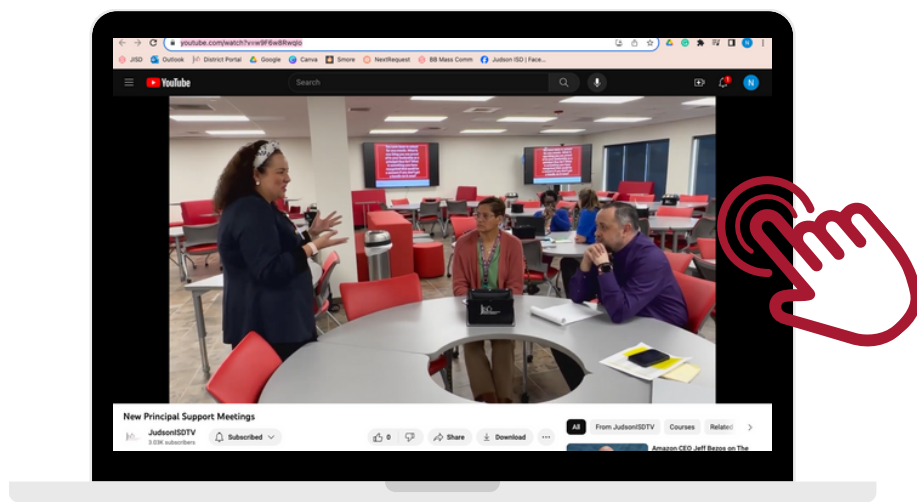
Dr. Rob Fields



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JUDSON ISD NEW PRINCIPAL ONBOARDING

One way we are investing in others is by supporting our new principals with monthly leadership sessions. Our New Principal onboarding is comprised of a four-tiered approach to support new principals in a robust understanding of the role, leadership skills, coaching, and technical expertise. The purpose of the new principal support is to invest early in their growth as new leaders, provide opportunities for newer principals to build their network and learn from each other, and establish a common language (the JISD Leadership Definition) for what leadership looks like in Judson ISD.



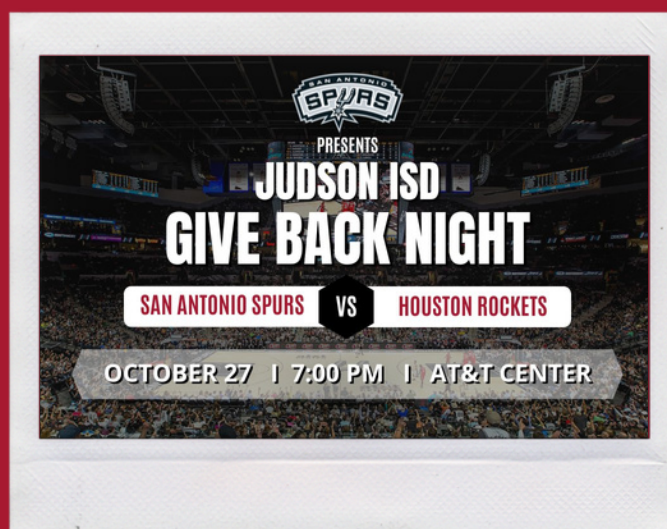
JUDSON ISD GIVE BACK NIGHT AT THE SPURS GAME!

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!](#)



SEPTEMBER 25, 2023

Two Wagner High School Alumni

WORK ON A.I. PROJECTS DURING THE SUMMER

Over the summer, two Wagner High School alumni - Ian Fernandes and Joseph Wilson - participated in internships with Microsoft and Amazon. Fernandes was part of the team at Microsoft, working with artificial intelligence to develop a code-autocompletion tool for Microsoft cloud resource policies. Wilson worked on a team at Amazon, working to create a tool to pull data to better artificial intelligence.

"I'm really thankful to be working on this project. There's so much untapped potential with artificial intelligence. Now, companies are realizing they can integrate this into their products," Fernandes said.

They are two impressive young men with roots in Judson ISD.

Fernandes and Wilson are what makes Judson ISD great - rooted in the community, going out and changing the world, but never forgetting where they came from.

[Read more about these two gentlemen and how Judson ISD helped shape their future!](#)



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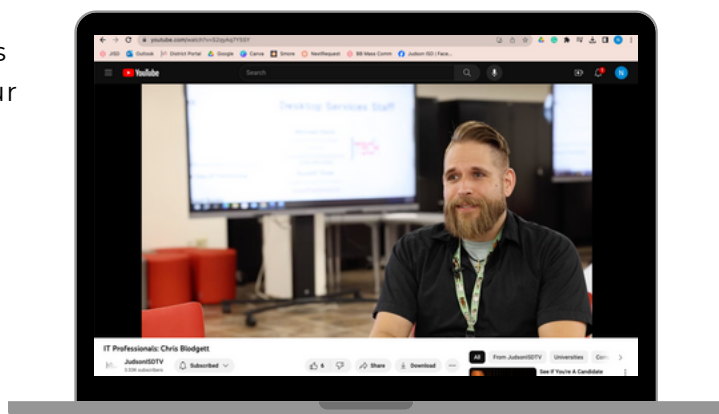
IT PROFESSIONALS: CHRIS BLODGETT

Judson ISD celebrates the JTECH wizards who keep our JISD digital world running smoothly. From code to hardware, they're the digital backbone of innovation. Thank you for your expertise and dedication!

We talked with JTECH's Senior Systems Administrator, Chris! Check out how our tech systems run smoothly behind the scenes.

Is there an event, student, teacher, or community member you want to highlight?

[Click here](#) and let us know about it!



JUDSON ISD RECEIVED \$254,847 GRANT TO HELP TRAIN 150 STUDENTS AS INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERS

Governor Greg Abbott today announced 42 [Jobs and Education for Texans \(JET\)](#) grants totaling over \$11 million have been awarded by the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) to public junior, state, and technical colleges, school districts, and open-enrollment charter schools across the state. These grants will be used to purchase equipment necessary to establish or expand career and technical education programs that offer Texas students the opportunity to earn a license, certificate, or post-secondary degree for good-paying, high-demand careers. Within the first year, the new equipment will be used to initially train more than 8,300 students.

JET grants will be used to purchase and install equipment at Judson ISD and the \$254,847 grant will help train 150 students as industrial engineers throughout CTE programs.

[Learn more about TWC's JET grant program.](#)



SEPTEMBER 25, 2023

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!](#)



JUDSON ISD OPEN ENROLLMENT IS OCTOBER 2 - OCTOBER 20

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

Mark the date! 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 are NOT rolling over.**

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.

Also, be sure to watch your email for more information coming soon about onsite enrollment meetings with Licensed Benefits Counselors to help you enroll. If you should need any assistance or technical support, please contact Employee Services at employeeservices@judsonisd.org.



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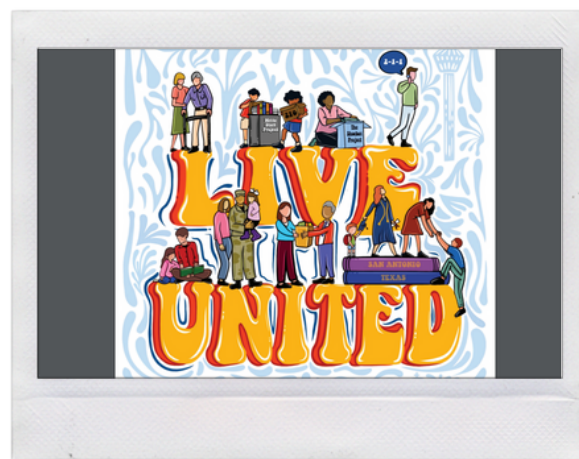
JISD UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN BEGINS TOMORROW

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 click 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 Supervisor at kcathey@judsonisd.org.



SEPTEMBER 25, 2023

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND JUDSON ISD

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Judson High School was selected as a Special Olympics Unified Champion School® demonstrating commitment to inclusion by meeting 10 standards of excellence and receiving national banner recognition!



CAMP TWINS

The first day of the 5th grade Science Camp at Camp Twin Lakes is off to a fun start!

They enjoyed the rope swing, learning about erosion, participating in team-building activities, learning about the web of life, and much more. We can't wait to hear about and see more of their adventures these next few days!

STUDENTS FLOAT INTO MATTER

The students at James L Masters Elementary in Ms. Alexander's class learned all about matter! Solid. Liquid. Gas! They used a hands-on learning activity that included a fun root beer float project.



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SPECIAL TRIBUTE DURING CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Childhood Cancer Awareness Month just got a whole lot more meaningful at D.W. Rutledge Stadium. Thanks to a generous donor, a special tribute to Bryce Wisdom was unveiled. The 39th chair on the 39th row was replaced with a bright orange seat in honor of Bryce.

After some touching words from Triva Corrales, Executive Director of Judson ISD - Athletics, the Wisdom family took the reins and installed the chair themselves. Now, Bryce's memory will always have a front-row seat, gazing down at the field and community that rallied around him during his battle with cancer.

[View Photo Album.](#)



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! [Check out last week's winners!](#)



SEPTEMBER 25, 2023

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH:

Mrs. Andrea Diaz

IS A WOLF FOR LIFE

There is something special about “building your own” - people who come from our schools, grow in our schools, and give back to our schools. Ms. Andrea Diaz is the epitome of that. She was an original Wolf, part of the team that opened Rolling Meadows Elementary over a decade ago.

She started as a paraprofessional with the hopes of eventually having a classroom of her own.

“When I got hired, Rolling Meadows was split between Olympia and Franz. We finally opened up this school when it was ready a little after Christmas,” Diaz said. “I’m an original OG of the school - an original Wolf.”

She worked with special education students, who ended up teaching her more about life than she would ever be able to teach them.

Ms. Andrea Diaz is the epitome of Judson ISD being One Home, One Family - she started her career here, she is growing her career here, and she is committing to the students of this district and her community. We are proud she chose Judson ISD - she makes this district great!

[Read more about Ms. Andrea Diaz and how she is making a difference at JISD.](#)



SEPTEMBER 25, 2023

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND JUDSON ISD

FUTURE T-BIRD IN THE HOUSE!

Hopkins Elementary students showed off their Wagner High School pride for homecoming last week!

Watch out, future T-Birds coming through!



JISD AND THE DHF DRONE PILOT PROGRAM

The Wagner High School Engineering Drone students have taken flight into a new adventure! Joining the Dee Howard Foundation at the Boeing Center at Tech Port for the launch of the DHF Drone Pilot Program.

HISPANIC HERITAGE AT CORONADO

Check out our vibrant students and staff from Coronado Village Toros celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month!

Students, staff, and families all across Judson ISD are celebrating this special time to embrace the Hispanic culture!



SEPTEMBER 25, 2023

COMMUNITY BREW

Dr. Field's hosted his first Community Brew on Saturday, September 23.

Connecting with the community and providing opportunities for feedback help JISD continuously improve its processes and services.

Thank you to those who attended. Be on the lookout for our next event!



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 or phone at 210-442-0115!



UPCOMING EVENTS AROUND JUDSON ISD

- **September:** Campus Safety Awareness Month, Suicide Prevention Month, Friendship Month, and Childhood Cancer Awareness Month
- Sept 15-Oct 15: National Hispanic Heritage Month
- September 26: Human Resources Day
- September 29: National Teacher's Assistant Day
- September 29: American Indian Heritage Day
- **October:** Principals Month, Breast Cancer Awareness, and Bullying Prevention Month, Family Community Engagement 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



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



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



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