Dear Judson ISD Team:

I hope that each of you had a great weekend. I am sure that many of you know how I feel about charter schools. I find it disturbing how these schools get to pick and choose which students they enroll and keep at their campuses.

One of the many reasons I love Judson ISD is because of the diversity and inclusion of everyone. I believe strongly that it is one of our strengths, a strength that is critical to teach our youth. The acceptance of others regardless of such things as economic status, race, religion, or disability is important and I believe that Judson ISD does this extremely well. This brings to mind something you may be familiar with, Brown v. Board of Education. The impact of this landmark case was to end segregation. The article that I read by Peter Greene, Suitts: Overturning Brown and the Segregation Legacy of The Modern School Choice Movement, got me thinking. I began to think of the parallels between the current charter schools and the segregation of the past. I encourage you to read the article, which can be found by CLICKING HERE.

The other concern that I have with charter schools is the spending. At Judson ISD we have to be very conscientious about our spending...those are taxpayers’ dollars. There are four new charter schools opening up in the fall of 2020 in the Judson ISD area. My concern is how this will affect us. While we are cutting back, IDEA charter schools are spending freely. IDEA is the charter system that approved the purchase of a private jet (please see photo insert above) for travel to wherever they feel the need to go.

I felt it was important to share my thoughts with you and to ask for your help! Promote Judson ISD and all the great things you and your colleagues are doing. Share with your friends and families your support and belief in public education. We cannot afford to go back in time. Our students deserve a true public education like the one Judson ISD provides. Thank you for making Judson ISD amazing!
As new as Veterans Memorial High School is, there are still a lot of "firsts," we're seeing. Patriot Nation has seen its first softball signing. **Katelyn Farris** signed a letter of intent to play softball for Dakota Wesleyan University in Mitchell, South Dakota. The school is providing a scholarship for Katelyn to study and play for the Tigers next school year. Congratulations to her as she takes her academic and athletic talents to the next level.

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**Wagner Student Wins Congressional App Challenge**

Congratulations to Wagner High School senior **Ian Fernandez** who recently won the Congressional App Challenge. The announcement was made by Congressman Henry Cuellar who came out to Wagner to award the honor to Ian, his principal Mary Duhart-Toppen, teacher Paul Fenoglio, and Ian's parents.

Students who live in Texas’ Twenty-Eighth Congressional District were invited to create an original software application, for a mobile device or computer platform. His app will be placed on display in our nation’s capitol with other winners across the nation. His app is called Crowd CS and helps users learn computer language in a way that is fun and makes sense. You can check out his demonstration [HERE](#). Along with it, Ian receives $250 in Amazon web services credits. Congratulations Ian!!

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For more news and information about Judson ISD visit us on the web at [www.judsonisd.org](http://www.judsonisd.org)
Recently JSTEM Academy had the opportunity to compete in the regional qualifier of the Future City competition in Houston TX. Students were challenged to plan, design, and build a city set 100 years in the future, that solved a potential problem with our water system. There were a total of 17 teams present and our 3 JSTEM teams did very well! We are proud to announce that we came home with the following accolades: Team JJAKS: Best Engineering. Project Team Meridian: Best City Infrastructure Layout. Team BDC: People’s Choice Award AND 4th place overall.

Top row (L-R): Jesse Hernandez IV, Brooke Borth, Jeremiah Bingani, Richard Dotray, Hestn Raborn, Darren Moya, Stacy Sosa-Rommel
Bottom row (L-R): Josey Swanson, Maya Boone, William Hoswell, Carlos Pagan-Velez, Kortlyn Sayles, Angelina Camacho, Julia Rios
Teacher sponsors: Russell Baskin, Jamie Coggins, Newton Diem, Jennifer Gilson, Gary Livingston.

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Veterans Memorial and Judson High School Mariachis came to help the City of Converse celebrate a big accomplishment. The Converse Fire Department recently earned an ISO Class 1 designation which is the highest level of fire suppression assessment a department can get. In other words, the Converse City FD is an exemplary operation in what it does. Both mariachi groups were invited to give the ceremony a festive and celebratory atmosphere. For most people, this ISO 1 designation may not make much sense until you realize this kind of achievement plays an important role in how the area's insurance rates are set. Now that's something to celebrate and both Veteran's Memorial and Judson High Schools were well represented.

Judson Education Foundation Scholarships Open

The Judson Education Foundation awards tens of thousands of dollars in scholarships each year to deserving students. But it doesn't happen without students taking the time to fill out the application for JEF to consider.

If you're a student, consider taking the time to apply. If you're a teacher or administrator and know a student who would be a good candidate, let them know.

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Judson ISD had a number of students return from recent competitions to qualify for the state level coming up in March...and they’re both from Wagner High School.

The T-Bird Business Professionals of America team members advancing are Melissa Fusco, Ian Fernandes, Duaily Lopez Reyes, and Alejandro Perez.

Meanwhile, the Wagner DECA team did very well too sending David Cortez, Tamyra Daniels, Gabriella Aguilar and Zulema Melendez to state the level. The T-Bird DECA chapter also received recognition for its Community Service Campaign, Cards For Children Fighting Cancer. We are proud of these teams and know they will represent JISD well at the Fort Worth competition.

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**Wagner CTE ROCKING THE COMPETITION**

**Wagner’s BPA team going to state**

**Wagner’s DECA team going to state**

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**2020 JEF CASINO ROYALE DETAILS**

Saturday, February 8, 2020
Check-In & Silent Auction begins at 5:30 p.m.
Dinner, Live Auction, Awards 6:30 p.m.
Casino from 8:00 p.m - 11:00 p.m.

**Security Service Event Center Ballroom**
15000 IH 10 West
San Antonio TX 78249
Black Tie Attire Optional

Support funding for student scholarships and teacher grants
CLICK HERE FOR YOUR TICKETS

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You may see the Wagner JROTC from time to time bringing their precision and military dignity to different events during the course of the year. Well, they will be taking that unique talent to the national level. The Thunderbird JROTC Armed Division will represent JISD at the National All Army Drill Team Championship in Richmond, VA. The government paid trip should be a great experience for these young men and women to show what a great program Wagner High School has. Congratulations to them!

Rocket Band Boosters Are Awesome!

It takes an incredible amount of energy, planning, and patience to be a band parent. But when you are a band booster for an organization as busy and demanding as the Judson High School Rocket Band, you are extra busy. Dr. Ball recently met with and thanked this group of dedicated parents who help keep the band program running smoothly so the band directors can concentrate on rehearsals and helping students get better as musicians. Thank you for all you do.
Dual Language Information Meetings

Program available to incoming Kinder students

Times & Locations

- Wednesday Feb. 5th at Coronado Village Elementary
- Wednesday Feb. 12th at Hopkins Elementary
- Thursday Feb. 13th at Mary Lou Hartman Elementary

All meetings will be from 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

2020-2021 Enrollment Open

for more info visit
www.judsonisd.org

Interested in learning more about JISD Dual Language Program? Join us at one of our parent meetings to learn more about enrollment procedures & program information.

You must attend ONE of the meetings to be considered for enrollment in our Dual Language Program.

Translation will be provided!

CONTACT MARIA RICHISON FOR MORE INFO (210) 619-0450

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Congratulations out to BOTH the 7th and 8th-grade Girls Basketball teams for a great season. Both teams went 8-0 making them the UNDEFEATED South Texas Athletic Conference (STAC) Champions. This is the first time in school history that both 7th and 8th grade teams have won the championship together. In addition, the 8th-grade team defended their title by winning back to back championships. Congratulations ladies you have made us JAGUAR PROUD!