

Superintendent Message

February 18, 2019



THOUGHTS FROM DR. BALL

Dear Judson ISD Team:

In the world of education it seems that there are two specific times of the year that morale and attitudes turn low. One of those times is usually in October and the other time is now. The weeks leading up to spring break and of course testing time are extremely anxious times of the year. This year might also be a little more stressful because there are rumors circulating about the budget of the District. I want to reassure everyone that Judson ISD is not implementing a RIF, (Reduction in Force). We value each and every person for the hard work, dedication and contribution to our system. You play a part in our success. I strongly believe that each and every role is important to the District. If changes are made it is not because you are not important or valued but just that we need to look for ways to do things differently.



I am reminded of a book I recently read, *Monday Morning Choices*. We might not want to admit it, but each of us is in charge of our attitudes and our happiness. The choice about the attitude we embrace is something we do every day. The book's author, David Cottrell, writes about the difference that choice makes. It's the difference between a good employee and a great employee, or a good father and a great father. The same is true for a good teacher and a great teacher, or a good leader and a great leader. It is often one thing: their attitude. I ask that today you make the choice to be positive. We are all facing some kind of battle and it is up to us how we embrace it. I am going to embrace the positive and push away the negative! Please join me! ▲

"Sometimes good things fall apart so better things can fall together." Marilyn Monroe.

For more news and information about Judson ISD visit us on the web at

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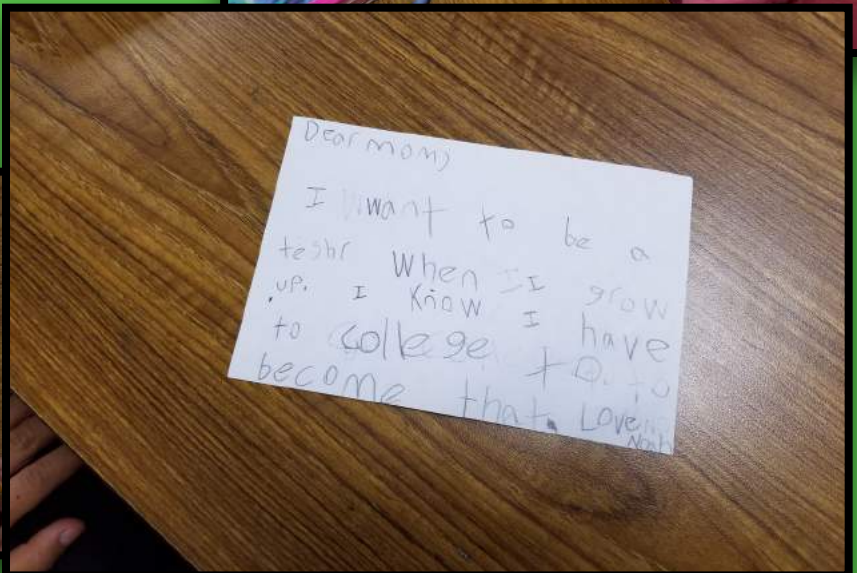
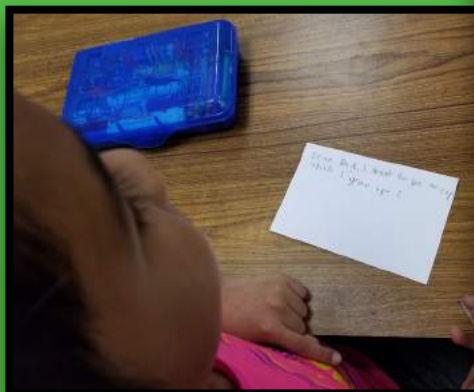


Students Exploring Options

These students at Franz Elementary School enjoyed a quick *Yes Our Kids Can* exercise by writing a card to their parents explaining what career they might like to pursue after college.

Sure that's likely to change, but it gets the wheels turning and thinking about what they like and what they enjoy doing.

Exploring the world and the many lessons it has to teach students is a big part of education and *Yes Our Kids Can* is a great tool to accomplish that. Through this effort, PreK, Kinder, and 1st grade students are thinking about the many opportunities out there that interest them. They can imagine what it would look like to go to college...or step into a profession and use their abilities to serve others and have fun.



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JISD's Texas Academic Decathlon Teams Shine

Judson ISD high school students did a wonderful job at this year's Texas Academic Decathlon. 10 students earned 22 medals. Congratulations! The Texas Academic Decathlon provides high school students an chance to experience rigorous academic competition through participation in team activities in a number of different subject matters. At the same time the organization involves members of the business/industry community as active supporters to promote academic excellence. Through long term relationships, developed through joint participation, it all benefits the students and the community.

[TAKE A LOOK AT OUR STUDENTS' PERFORMANCES](#)

National Merit Finalist!

JECA Student Noah Zuckerman



Noah's father was on hand for the announcement

Judson Early College Academy student Noah Zuckerman was named a National Merit Scholar Finalist. Noah enjoys English and the usage of the language as well as the sciences and spending time with this family. While Noah is still considering his options, he is seriously considering attending the University of North Texas next year. National Merit Scholars are announced in May. We wish him luck in his future.

[MORE PHOTOS HERE](#)

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Rocket Student Trainer Subject of TV Feature



Go Public, in partnership with WOAI-TV and David Chancellor started a series of features that profiles great stories in education. Judson High School's Brandon Ivey typifies what Rocket Pride is and goes deeper in how public education serves students by helping them find and use their talents. Brandon blesses others with his gift of encouragement. The video below is just a clip of the bigger story airing Monday, February 18, 2019.

Brandon with photographer Alex Gamez, David Chancellor, and Coach Theresa Urbanovsky



Crestview Celebrates 6 TEA STARS!

Crestview Elementary School celebrated its six academic distinctions with a recognition assembly of all its staff members and Dr. Ball. This is a National Blue Ribbon School and it continues to get recognized by the Texas Education Agency (TEA). When you get all available distinctions that TEA measures, that is producing excellence in a way that only a small group of schools is showing. Distinctions were in Reading ELA, Math, Science, Academic Growth, Closing The Gap, and Post Secondary.



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Judson Education Foundation's Fiesta MEDALS!



The winner of the JISD/Judson Education Foundation Fiesta Medal Contest has been selected and here's what it looks like. The medals will be going on sale soon so be looking for more information in this weekly message and on the JISD website.

[DETAILS ON WINNER](#)

FEBRUARY 18TH

Professional Development Day
(District) Student Holiday

FEBRUARY 19TH

Judson ISD Board Meeting
ERC Board Room **at 6 pm**

FEBRUARY 25TH

Employee Service Awards
Performing Arts Center
6-8 pm

MARCH 8TH

Early Release For Students

MARCH 11TH-15TH

Spring Break. All District
offices and campuses closed

Rising Star Awarded At Patriot Nation



Veterans Memorial junior Sarah Raffel was recently selected as the recipient of the Rising Star award by the Assistance League of San Antonio. She was nominated by a former teacher based on her previous writing work. While she won with an essay she wrote for the contest, writing samples from her previous schools also helped in the selection process. She was surprised in one of her classes by Assistance League officials, Principal Greg Brauer, and Dr. Ball. Congratulations! She will read a poem that she has written at a Gala at the Witte Museum in March.

[MORE PHOTOS](#)



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