



the weekly INSIDER



Webb County Sheriff Donates Backpacks and School Supplies to Kennedy- Zapata Elementary



The Webb County Sheriff's Office donated over 50 backpacks, along with school supplies to students from Kennedy-Zapata Elementary during a press conference held on August 26 at the school's library. The backpacks were all provided by The Star of Hope Organization, which is an initiative spearheaded by Sheriff Martin Cuellar since 2009. Their mission is to help provide school necessities for students in Webb County.

Eduardo Chapa, Public Information Officer with the Webb County Sheriff's Office expressed, "I love to see the smiles on the children's faces when they receive their backpacks with school supplies." "Thank you, Sheriff Martin Cuellar, and the Star of Hope Organization for your the greathearted donation, and for protecting our children in our community," said school principal, Thelma Martinez."

Superintendent's Corner

Greetings UISD Employees,

So far, the 2019-2020 school year is off to a great start. Our students are busy toiling away with their studies and perfecting their extra-curricular activities.

I would like to address a very critical situation that occurred last Friday that affected one of our high schools. Late Thursday evening, United ISD received a tip regarding an alleged shooting that was to occur on Friday (August 30) at United High School. United ISD Police Department conducted a wellness check/investigation and found no viable threat; however, the district did take proactive measures and increased law enforcement presence throughout the course of the school day. We thank all of our law enforcement partners who provided assistance.

The District continues to encourage all of our employees, parents, community partners, and students to advise us of potential threats compromising the safety of our students and staff members as all threats are taken seriously and are investigated. It is through everyone's efforts that we will continue to provide safe and secure learning environments for all. The District's position is to prosecute to the fullest extent of the law individuals who disrupt or threaten the safety of our schools.

In closing, I want to thank each of you for the hard work that you have put into making this school year a great success so far. Let's continue to make this the best year yet!

Warm Regards,

Roberto J. Santos
Roberto J. Santos
Superintendent

♦Remember to use our official hashtag **#WeAreUnitedISD** on everything you share on your school's social media; the community will love to know what's their children are achieving.

Have you seen the new commercials for United ISD or heard the official new song for our District?

If the answer is no, wait no more and check them out on

ITV's YouTube Channel @UISDInstructionalTV

Sames Kia In The Classroom



Sames Kia of Laredo continues to promote the importance of daily school attendance as sponsors of the 7th Annual "Kia in the Classroom" Car Giveaway program. Details of the program were discussed at a press conference held at the Sames Kia Dealership located at Mann Road and IH-35. One lucky United ISD high school student who has perfect attendance will win the keys to a brand new 2020 Kia Soul at the end of the school year.

"Sames is delighted to offer this program for the 7th year in a row," said Evelyn Sames, Dealer Principal for Sames. "Throughout our 109 years in business, we are very proud to say that we've been a great supporter of education and our students."

At the press conference, students from J.B. Alexander, L. B. Johnson, United, United South High Schools, student activity coordinators and school administrators were present.

The winner of this year's Kia Soul will also have the tax, title, and license paid for by the Laredo Federal Credit Union. A& K World Class Driving School will reward the winner with a driver's education course.

"On behalf of our Board of Trustees, I sincerely thank Sames Kia for continuing to offer this great incentive to our students. It's a remarkable partnership that we hope

to continue to have for many, years to come," said United ISD Superintendent Roberto J. Santos.

The Sames "Kia in the Classroom" program was created in 2013 to encourage the importance of daily school attendance at the high school level throughout the school year. Each time a student has perfect attendance for at least one nine-week period, they will be given a special voucher to drop off at the Sames Kia dealership which will be entered into the drawing for the 2020 Kia Soul.

A total of 16 semi-finalists, (four from each UISD high schools), will be selected for the final phase of the give-a-way. One student will win the automobile by random drawing and the remaining 15 semi-finalists will receive a tablet courtesy of Sames.

Previous winners of the Kia Car giveaways were Angelica Fierro from United High School from the 2013-14 school year and Ingrid Jimenez from United South High School for the 2014-15 school year. Leobardo Vasquez from Lyndon B. Johnson High School won the Kia Soul for the 2015-16 school year, Victoria Davila from United South High School won the Kia Soul for the 2016-17 school year, Mariana Pedroza from Lyndon B. Johnson High School won the 2017-18 Kia Niro, and most recently Guadalupe Zapata from United South 2020 Kia Soul.

United ISD Wellness Committee Hold Kick-Off Meeting



United ISD's Wellness Committee recently celebrated their 2019-2020 Wellness Program kick-off at the Pla-Mor Entertainment Center. The Committee consists of UISD employees who work closely with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas (BCBS), to help employees achieve and maintain optimum health. The committee members are situated at each UISD campus and administrative office. These individuals encourage

their immediate co-workers to adopt a lifestyle that involves healthy eating and regular exercise. The Wellness Committee also spearheads the annual Healthy Weight Challenge, which will begin on January 24, 2020. Teams of five people will set a weight loss goal and work towards that goal for a chance to win a \$10,000 prize from Healthy Wage. United ISD commends employees for making a commitment to living healthier lives.



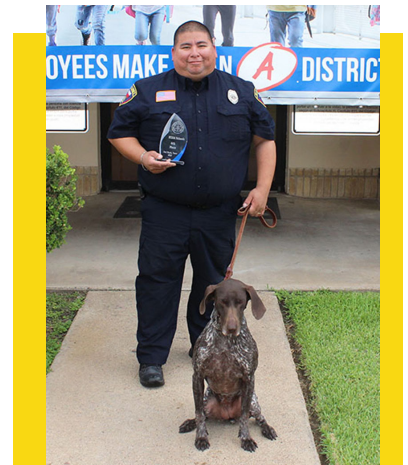
Quote of The Week

"No matter how much falls on us, we keep plowing ahead. That's the only way to keep the roads clear."

Greg Kincaid

U BELONG EVOLVE ACHIEVE

SOMETHING ABOUT U



Meet Ben Bondoc

Ben Bondoc is K9 Handler with the United ISD Police Department. He has been employed with the District for 24 years. Bondoc and K9 Partner Kyra recently took 6th place at the National Narcotic Detector Dog Association (NNDDA) Competition in Fort Worth, Texas. A total of 120 law enforcement K9 teams competed to be "top dog" title in the areas of accurate, timed searches for narcotics.

Q&A

Describe your job in three words?

Challenging, exciting, and rewarding.

What has been the best advice you have ever given to students?

Make everyday count! Listen to your parents and teachers and always make the right decisions.

What is one skill or talent that people would never guess that you had?

Grilling, Cooking and helping out my community.

Who has influenced you in life?

My Parents and My High School Coaches.

