



# the weekly INSIDER

## Johnson High School Commemorates Patriot's Day



L.B. Johnson High School Students gathered in their cafeteria for its first annual Patriot's Day in observance on September 11. They remembered the lives that were lost and the heroes who risked their lives saving others during the terrorist attacks in the United States on September 11, 2001.

Local First responders from Laredo Fire Department, Laredo Police and

U.S. Navy Officials took part in the celebration and spoke to the students on the events that occurred on 9-11. A video presentation was observed and a reflection was conducted by assistant Principal Juan Herrera. Student Council presented a wreath of roses as a heartwarming gesture to bring a sense of peace and remembrance.

## Superintendent's Corner

Greetings United ISD Employees,

It has been quite an eventful week around the District our students continue to push ahead through the year at full speed. While our students are busy with their studies, UIL, band, and/or athletics, they are also making time to get involved at their campuses. Our campuses have been buzzing with events such as Grandparent's Day ceremonies, Patriot's Day commemorations, Accelerated Reader kickoffs, and much more. I encourage you to peruse the pages of this week's United ISD Insider to see the many activities taking place in our district.

In addition, I would like to remind our employees to contribute to the Partners for Scholars (scholarship program) and the United Way. These campaigns are closing off their annual drives within the next few days. These entities provide many services in our community and Partners for Scholars provides scholarship opportunities for our graduates.

In closing, let's continue to make United ISD a place where our students, faculty and staff---- Belong, Evolve, and Achieve.

Regards,

Roberto J. Santos  
Superintendent



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

## Patricia Hinojosa Named TASSP Region One Outstanding Assistant Principal of the Year



Patricia Hinojosa, Associate Principal of Lyndon B Johnson High School Ninth Grade Campus in Laredo, Texas, has been selected to represent the Texas Association of Secondary

School Principals as a Region One Outstanding Assistant Principal of the Year. TASSP recognizes outstanding principals and assistant principals from the twenty region Education Service Centers in the state. School administrators are nominated and chosen by their peers within their regions. Nominations are based upon exemplary performance and outstanding leadership. As a Region One winner, Mrs. Hinojosa is eligible to compete for the state title of Texas Principal (or Assistant Principal) of the Year.

Patricia Hinojosa has been a member of the leadership team at Lyndon B Johnson High School since 2012. She attended Texas State University and earned a bachelor's degree in Business Administration. In addition, she attended Texas A & M International University and was awarded a Master of Education in Education Administration. Mrs. Hinojosa sees

herself as being a risk taker, a visionary, and leader of learners.

United ISD Superintendent Roberto J. Santos stated, "Mrs. Hinojosa is a major asset to our district and our students as both an Associate Principal and educator. I would like to commend Mrs. Hinojosa for making education her top priority. Congratulations, Mrs. Hinojosa, on garnering such an esteemed honor."

Mrs. Hinojosa, along with the winners from other regions, will be recognized during the Josten's Night of the Stars Awards Dinner on Tuesday, June 9, 2020, at the Hilton Anatole Dallas Hotel. Each honoree will be presented with an award and recognized in a commemorative book entitled Texas Principals, Texas Heroes. The TASSP Summer Workshop will be held June 10-12, 2020, at the Hilton Anatole Dallas Hotel.

## KGNS Anchors Read Stories To Students at Cuellar Elementary

KGNS held their annual "Disney's The Magic Of Storytelling" event at Cuellar Elementary this morning. Every year, KGNS donates Disney books to the students of United ISD. The students then have the pleasure of being read to by one of their

favorite news anchors. KGNS anchors Max Fernandez and Elizabeth Millner greeted the students, the principal Andrea Sánchez, and school librarian Sonia Alvarado. Max Fernandez read *50 Below Zero* by Robert Munsch to second grade students in the school's

library while Elizabeth Millner read *Something Good* by Robert Munsch to Ms. Jessica Martinez's fifth grade class. United ISD would like to thank KGNS for so graciously donating storybooks, and their time, to the students of Cuellar Elementary.



Max Fernandez reads *50 Below Zero* to second grade students at Cuellar Elementary.



Max Fernandez and Elizabeth Millner pose with some of the students who enjoyed their storytelling.



Elizabeth Millner reads *Something Good* to Ms. Martinez's fifth grade class.



## United South Magnet Students attend Logistics and Manufacturing Symposium

United South Magnet students, together with their teachers Mrs. Claudia Saenz and Clarissa Gonzalez, attended the Pathways For Trade Symposium at Texas A&M International University on September 10th and 11th. The two-day symposium focused on topics relating to the dynamic economies of the U.S., Mexico, and Canada, and the role of Laredo in ensuring a robust and sustainable environment for commerce.

The goal of the symposium was to bring "business owners who built important logistics and customs brokerage firms, banks, and real estate companies, to present facts on international trade and industry needs for the next 2-5 years." The Magnet students also enjoyed keynote speakers Sarah Goldfeder; Government Relations & Strategic Communications Consultant, Earnscliffe Strategy Group; and Todd Owen, Executive Assistant Commissioner, Office of Field Operations, U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

Ms. Goldfeder implored students to network with the representatives attending the symposium and cited the benefits of networking and internship opportunities. She also encouraged the students to study and understand the trends in their area of professional interest.





## United South High School Rho Kappa Inaugural Induction

The inaugural induction ceremony for United South High School took place on the evening of Monday September 9, 2019 at Texas A & M International University in the Student Center. We are pleased and honored to state that this is the first ever establishment of Rho Kappa National Social Studies Honor Society in Laredo, Texas.

This national honor society profoundly impacts our students by providing alternative methods to address & remedy complex challenges that plague our society. Members will also creatively solve problems & productively collaborate with others that might have opposing views. It also prepares them with lifetime knowledge, engagement, and active citizenship skills to be a more productive member within society.

The recently inducted students said of the program: "Without the blessing from our USHS Principal Mrs. Adriana Ramirez, the relentless determination of our advisor Mrs. Melissa Saenz, and the support of our co-advisor Ms. Fabiola Fernandez, this organization would have not come to fruition. We further extend our appreciation to Texas A & M International University

for hosting Rho Kappa's induction ceremony. In addition, we wish to express our gratitude to Texas A & M International University Honors Program Director & Associate Professor of History, Dr. Deborah Blackwell, who was the evening's keynote speaker."

Rho Kappa Social Studies Honor Society is the only national organization for high school juniors and seniors that recognizes excellence in the field of Social Sciences. In addition to providing recognition and opportunities for exploration in which the National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) hopes to encourage an interest in, understanding of, and appreciation for anthropology, economics, geography, history, political science, sociology, and psychology.

The special guest for this historical event were: UISD Associate Superintendent for Administration, Gloria Rendon; USHS Principal, Adriana Ramirez; USHS Magnet Dean, Sinneh Koroma; USHS Instructional Coordinator, Andrea Garza; and Rho Kappa's Interviewing Selection Committee: Azusena Arredondo, Charlotte Bunch, and Kevin Gonzalez.



## SOMETHING ABOUT U.



### Meet Claudia Saenz

#### Q&A

How many years have been with United ISD?

**I have been working at UISD for 11 years.**

Describe your job in three words?

**Challenging, rewarding, and fun!**

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

**As a high school teacher, I have the privilege of listening to students' concerns in terms of college or career choice. I always tell them that everything that matters in life is difficult at first and that they have to be brave, take risks, and learn from their mistakes.**

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

**I have studied five different languages, and I am fluent in three.**

Who has influenced you in life?

**My most significant influence is, without a doubt, my grandmother. She became a widow at a very early age and was left to take care of five children, including my father. With the example and support of her mother (who was also a teacher), she was able to attend college and obtain a doctorate in education. She devoted her life to teaching and worked for more than fifty years in Mexico; my grandmother left a legacy with her work and her life example that I will treasure forever.**

## Quote of The Week

*Peace of mind comes from not wanting to change others, but by simply accepting them as they are.*

*Gerald Jampolsky*

**U BELONG  
EVOLVE  
ACHIEVE**