

SAN FELIPE DEL RIO CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

# HIGHLIGHTS

OUR DISTRICT OUR STUDENTS OUR PRIDE



Summer

Volume 16

2017



[www.sfdr-cisd.org](http://www.sfdr-cisd.org)



Time Warner Channel 39

## BLENDING ACADEMY CONTINUES TO CAPTURE KIDS' HEARTS



After EOC results, students gathered and shared their feelings. When Terry De Leon was holding back from crying students chanted, "Quiere llorar, quiere llorar." Others replied, "Se vale. You were here after school and gave it your best. It's your work." Tears followed by many stating all the pressure placed on them was worth it. Student, Juan Luevanos stated, "It's thanks to Miss. She was not embarrassed to sing to us, chant and do all these motions during teaching. Miss, if I were a teacher I would not do what you do, but you do it for us and it sticks in our heads." Others expressed they were thankful for Saturday camps, having two math classes, afterschool tutorials and Sunday study halls. All agreed with Mauro Jasso when he said, "I had never tried so hard on a test. I'm glad I did because I passed for the first time ever."



BASAA member, Lesley Aguayo, took her creativeness to the next level. She created a message board where students and staff give each other positive notes of encouragement for success.

## BV LONGHORN CHOIR TOUR, MAY 19, 2017



The Buena Vista Longhorn Choir performed around town singing and spreading the joy of Jazz music throughout the community. Students celebrated law enforcement week by thanking and encouraging the border patrol agents.

## TALENT



Buena Vista Stronghorns shined at their talent show on Tuesday, April 25, 2017. Students sang and danced the night away while performing a variety of acts. Judges tallied up the scores and it was a tight race for the top 6 winners! K-2nd winners: 1st place Ramon Maldonado, Jorge Limon, Emily Shao. 3rd-5th winners: 1st place Abram Ortiz, 2nd place Kimberly Turner, 3rd place Amaris Leon and Avery Williams.

## ELEMENTARY ALL-DISTRICT CONCERT, MAY 18, 2017



The all district elementary choir sang the night away at their spring concert. Students from every elementary school were featured singing a jazz themed show.

## MARQUEE NIGHT



On Tuesday, May 23, Buena Vista Elementary celebrated "Marquee Night". Students and their families shared in a spectacular event with projects created by students in the Gifted and Talented Program, the Art Academy, along with a special performance by the Buena Vista Choir. It was an evening enjoyed by all!

## BUDDY BENCHES



BV would like to acknowledge Danika Maddox for demonstrating true leadership. Danika approached the BV administrative team with a plan. She wanted to create buddy benches at BV so that any student who didn't have someone to play with could have a place to go and make a friend. She called these "Buddy Benches." Thanks to our parents and students, BV was able to make her proposal a reality on April 29th. Danika along with her parents, friends and supporters painted the picnic tables and benches in the BV recess area for all the Longhorn students to enjoy. Thank you Danika Maddox, for displaying the characteristics of the 7 habits of Leader In Me and inspiring others to do the same.

## BEAUTIFICATION



Buena Vista would like to thank all of the parent and student volunteers for all of the hard work, dedicated time, and donations to making our school shine. The paint, flowers, and plants made our school even more vibrant than before. This is a great example of community and parent involvement at its finest!

### DR. FERMIN CALDERON STAAR PEP RALLY



Students at Dr. Fermin Calderon Elementary are nothing short of amazing! They are fun, exciting and with STAAR testing coming up, they were ready to do their best on the test! The staff at Dr. Fermin Calderon hosted a pep rally to motivate and encourage students to work hard and be prepared. The students listened to some inspiring words from Coach Frenchey McCrea and participated in fun events. A big thank you goes out to our staff for participating and Mrs. Olga Torres-Saldua for organizing the pep rally!

### DR. FERMIN CALDERON ART SHOW



They say every minute a star is born and Dr. Fermin Calderon Elementary definitely did their part to show case their young stars with a spectacular art show. The aspiring artists, singers and dancers stepped into the spotlight on Thursday, May 25, 2017. The show featured artwork by students in all areas of the campus. The night also featured singing and dancing by students of all grade levels. There were also coloring books made by staff drawings and student drawings available. It was truly a night to remember! Special thanks goes out to our awesome art teacher Miss Erica Hernandez for organizing the successful event. A special thank you also goes out to our staff members, Mrs. A. Reed, Coach Juarez-Dobbins, Coach Cortinas, Coach Ponce and Coach Lerma for their help in making this event possible!

### DR. FERMIN CALDERON GT FAIR



Mrs. Fortunato's students showcased their talents at this year's Gifted and Talented fair on Wednesday, May 24, 2017. The students displayed their year's work and projects at the exhibit for their families and the community. Students in first grade ended the night with a play for the spectators in attendance. A big thank you goes out to Mrs. Fortunato for a successful GT showcase!

### DR. FERMIN CALDERON VOLUNTEER LUNCHEON



The PAWfect parents at Dr. Fermin Calderon were recognized for their time and dedication to our school for the 2016-17 year. They were treated to a special breakfast on Tuesday, May 23, 2017 and presented with gifts. Our school truly appreciates the support and countless hours provided to help meet student goals and helping our staff succeed. A special thank you goes out to Mrs. Luz Maria Rangel for dedicating the most hours at our campus and to also to our parental involvement aides, Mrs. Lorena Martinez and Mrs. Adriana Juarez!

### 5TH ANNUAL DISTRICT RELAYS AND TRACK MEET



Dr. Fermin Calderon Elementary students showed team spirit at the district's 6th Annual Relay and Track Meet held on Thursday, May 11, 2017. The students ran their hearts out and cheered their fellow teammates on as they raced in several of the track meet events held that day. A big thank you goes out to our school coaches, Coach Juarez- Dobbins, Coach Cortinas, Coach Ponce and Coach Lerma for preparing and helping make this event a successful one!

## SFMS SATURDAY CAMPS



SFMS had Saturday Camps for six weeks prior to our STAAR tests on May 8th and 9th. We had over 100 students attending, 10 staff members and several volunteers on our last Saturday, May 6th from 8-12 noon. We had a small carnival that included a motivational speaker, Pete Talamantez, prizes, food and a lot of fun!

## OH, THE PLACES THEY'LL GO!



Ruben Chavira Elementary School students were provided the opportunity to explore many possible careers choices all without ever leaving school. Mrs. Peggy Reina, a 3rd grade teacher, spearheaded a campus wide career fair that highlighted numerous occupations for students to consider for their futures. Community members, businesses and organizations enthusiastically presented to students of all ages about various professions and how children are able to start preparing now for success later in life. RCE staff and students are thankful for the investment our community makes in education.

## THANK YOU NURSE PADILLA - LIMON



We celebrated our Nurse Melissa Padilla-Limon on the week of May 8th. She goes above and beyond for our students, staff and parents and we thought it was only right to spoil her a little this week with treats, a cake and a breakfast; as well as special notes and announcements.

## LUISA ZARAGOZA



Tom Brokaw said it best when he said, "It's easy to make a buck. It's a lot tougher to make a difference." Mrs. Luisa Zaragoza is a bit of a legend at Ruben Chavira Elementary School and she is one of those teachers who has done just that. She has made a difference. Her influence and accomplishments are immeasurable as she has been molding young minds in the field of education for 42 years. When visiting her classroom you will see a bustle of activity, especially reading. Reading! Her current kindergarten students have been choosing their own literature and reading and testing AR independently since October. The academic ability she equips the children with is second to the confidence she instills in them. One of her kindergarten cuties, Sophia Cardenas, stated, "She is the best because she helps us learn everything. She helped me become a reader!" Sophia will miss her teacher dearly as she moves on to 1st grade next year, but she will have that teacher to thank for being ready to succeed and for fostering a sincere love of reading. As Mrs. Zaragoza retires this year, there will be countless people missing her and her contributions to so many throughout the years.

## CARDWELL FAMILIES IN ACTION



Over 350 families attended the Cardwell Families in Action Event designed to promote family wellness, health, and nutrition. Over 100 representatives from 21 community agencies set up booths offering services and valuable information. Students and parents had an opportunity to engage in various physical activities focusing on gross motor development.

## CARDWELL FATHERHOOD ENGAGEMENT



The Fatherhood Program at Cardwell held two events for fathers and other significant males that focused on family well-being and establishing positive peer to peer relationships. One of the events was held at the Cardwell playground with an obstacle course and another at the Del Rio High School Gym. Dads had an opportunities to spend quality time with their children exercising and playing basketball. Mr. Joe Nieto, Del Rio High School's Head Basketball Coach facilitated both events as he shared the benefits of physical activity with children.

## CARDWELL ABC-123 SATURDAY CAMP



Cardwell held the third and final Saturday camp with eighty students in attendance. Students participated in enrichment activities to promote school readiness in preparation for the LAP-3 assessment. This event was made possible with the Texas High Quality Pre-K Grant the school was awarded.

## SCHOOL READINESS PLANNING AT CARDWELL



Kindergarten and Pre-kindergarten cluster leaders met at Cardwell to review and revise the program's School Readiness Plan to close the learning gap between grade levels. This is the first year of collaboration within the school district to formulate a School Readiness Advisory Committee.

## SKIP AND MARGO DOOR JUDGES



NHE held a door decorating contest during College and Career Motivation Week. Skip and Margo Baker served as judges for the contest. The top winners earned a basket of teacher goodies along with Mr. Gattis discount coupons for all of the students in the class. Thank you Skip and Margo for your generosity and time. We enjoyed having you visit our campus.

## CTE PRESENTATIONS



On Tuesday, May 16th students from Del Rio High School came to visit our students. They shared the importance of being in school and working hard.

## CAREER DAY COLLAGE



North Heights students participated in Career Day on Wednesday, May 17th. Thank you to all of the local agencies that participated in the event.

## MYRIAH KERR, VERONICA HERNANDEZ AND WILD WEST TIMBERS



On January 18, 2017 Dr. Lonnie Green had their science fair hosted at their home campus. Students from Kinder-5th grade participated in various experiments which all were very well put together and very interesting. Various careers from our community volunteered as judges for our students. Outstanding participation and congratulations to our 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners and to our 1st place district science fair winners that went on to represent Lonnie Green on February 2nd.

## TEACHER APPRECIATION



There are never enough words to express our gratitude for all that they do for students each and every day. We enjoyed celebrating our teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week earlier this month. Pictured left to right: Marla Sanchez, Letty Cardenas, Dora Fernandez, Monica Aguirre and Chris Cardenas. These teachers won prizes that were donated to NHE to celebrate teachers. Thank you to the local businesses that donated gifts.



# SFDR 2017-2018 Teachers of the Year



Lourdes McClellan  
Irene Cardwell Elementary



Kathy Cavender  
Buena Vista Elementary



Ninel Vivanco  
Dr. Fermin Calderon Elementary



Michele Tschetter  
Ruben Chavira Elementary



Elda Saldivar  
Garfield Elementary



Billie Jo Cruz  
Lamar Elementary



Jonna Dewitt  
Dr. Lonnie Green Elementary



Janna Montoya  
North Heights Elementary



Marisa Soto  
San Felipe Memorial Middle School



Luis Esparza  
Del Rio Middle School



Glafiro Santellanes  
Del Rio Freshman School



Alejandra Torres  
Del Rio High School



Gloria Castaneda  
Blended Academy





On behalf of the San Felipe Del Rio CISD, and in recognition for your years of service, I would like to take this opportunity to extend a huge THANK YOU for your hard work and commitment to a career that requires endless amounts of dedication. May the blessings and joy you have brought so many, along with the satisfaction of a job well done, fill your new journey with happiness. You have made a lasting impact by inspiring with passion and guiding through example. Your professional expertise and friendship will be greatly missed. Wishing you success and happiness in all that you do! It is well deserved! CONGRATULATIONS! ENJOY YOUR RETIREMENT!!

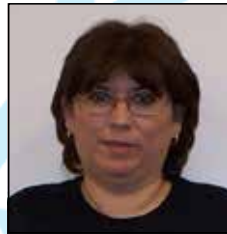
Carlos H. Rios, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools



Armando Paniagua



Cecilia Dominguez



Cruz Rodriguez



Deann Dunlap



Debra Treadway



Efrain Balderas



Esmeralda Barrera



George Carvajal



Gilberto Fernandez



Graciela Lopez



Guillermo Gomez



Herlinda Polanco



Hilda Rodriguez



Jezabel Freeman



Jose Briones



Josie Felton



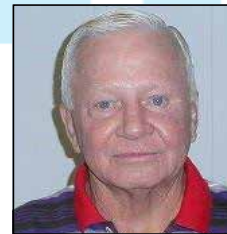
Jovita Jimenez



Juan Barrera



Kathleen Cavendar



Kenneth Hefner



Luisa Zaragoza



Maria Castellanos



Maria Elena Zuniga



Maria Valdez



Martha Salazar



Oscar Perez



Peggy Martin



Phyllis Rosalez



Rebeca Garza



Romelia Lomas



Romelia Ramirez



Rosario Granato



Roxana Ballard



Sandra Garcia



Sherrell McKenzie



Sylvia Cyprian



Velma Aguirre

## DEL RIO'S GOT TALENT!



On May 23rd Dr. Lonnie Green hosted a GT fair, Art Walk and talent show. Students created several interesting projects, displayed them in the cafeteria and invited their friends and parents to take a tour to learn about their projects. Art students also displayed their mask art projects as parents walked the cafeteria. Later in the evening, students hosted a talent show. It was a packed house at Dr. Lonnie Green! Students showed their talent by signing, acting, dancing and much more. Students will get a chance to later perform once again for the student body and teachers to show off their amazing talents.

## DISTRICT 5K WINNERS



On May 3rd, 2017, staff, students and parents participated in the Love Your Teacher 5K Fun Run/Walk!! Lonnie Green once again received the 1st place trophy for the highest participation in the district! Congratulations to all the participants who placed in the race and the support that was shown to our wonderful teachers! ONE TEAM ONE DREAM AT DR. LONNIE GREEN!

## DR. LONNIE GREEN CAREER DAY



April 7, 2017 Dr. Lonnie Green had one of the biggest career day turn outs from our wonderful community! It was a huge success from having EMS, Del Rio Fire Department, City of Del Rio and the Border Patrol vehicle. The students received a special surprise when the Methodist Air Life helicopter flew in. Thank you to the beautiful community of Del Rio for educating our youth. Here's to our future leaders!

## LAMAR CAREER DAY



Lamar students in K-5 enjoyed a fun-filled career day. Students enjoyed exploring an ambulance and fire truck, not to mention a helicopter that landed on our field. Inside, students rotated through stations to learn about careers ranging from Federal Probation to medical field to hair stylists. Pictures is Mrs. Mejia's first grade class with one of our guests, HEB Buddy.

## DINO DAYS



Lamar students in K-5 were treated to a field trip to Dino Days. Students enjoyed a scavenger hunt that taught them all about these prehistoric creatures. It was an out-of-this-world experience for all! This picture is of Miss Flores' Kinder class as they prepare for the adventure.

## AR CHALLENGE



A great after school activity at Lamar Elementary was our AR Challenge. Parents and students were invited to come after school and read together. Teachers encouraged readers and added to the fun with snacks, music and comfortable places to read. We reached our AR goal for the week in just one night! We appreciate all of the parents that came to support reading at Lamar!

## MATH CAMP



Lamar students in grades 3rd – 5th were selected to attend an after school Math Camp to help prepare them for STAAR testing. Teacher and students rotated through stations to practice math skills. Students played Math Battleship and Basketball while practicing much needed skills. Pictured is Ms. Dovalina who is working with a group of 3rd grade students.

## STAAR PEP RALLY



Teachers and students performed for a school-wide STAAR pep rally at Lamar Elementary. Students enjoyed being cheered on by their teachers and peers.

## DRMS ROBOTICS TEAM



The Del Rio Middle School Robotics Team competed at the 2017 VEX World's Competition in Louisville, Kentucky. The all-girls team was recognized and awarded with the Community Award. Del Rio Middle School is proud of their Robotics Team

## MIDDLE SCHOOL COACH OF THE YEAR



Congratulations to Claudia Talamantez for receiving the 2017 Middle School Coach of the Year Award.

### MR. ARIES



Mr. Aries was celebrated by our students at DRHS on May 2nd, 2017. It was a great evening of pageantry for our young men at DRHS. The winners were Mr. Aries Randy Martinez, 1st runner up Max Smith and 2nd Runner up Jorge Valenzuela.

### RELAY FOR LIFE



Del Rio High School Student Council participated in the Relay for Life 2017. The theme was "Around the World" and StuCo represented the country of Egypt.

### BATTLE OF THE CLASSES



Del Rio High School teachers showed their support for the DRHS students at the Annual Battle of the Classes 2017 by performing a dance and cheer.

### POWDER PUFF GAME



Student Council and RAM football hosted the 11th Annual Powder Puff game. This was a flag football game between the junior girls vs. senior girls where the football players acted as the coaches. The winner was the Class of 2018 Juniors with a score of 10-6.

### JUNIOR SENIOR PROM



Del Rio High School held the Junior-Senior Prom 2017 on May 6th at the Civic Center. The junior class did an exceptional job organizing an outstanding theme "Royal Ball" for the Seniors who enjoyed a wonderful evening with their classmates.

### LOVE YOUR TEACHER RUN



A great shout out to our Del Rio High School teachers who placed successfully at the I Love My Teacher 5K Run during Teacher Appreciation Week. Our DRHS winning teachers were Gisselle Rodriguez who placed 1st, Susan Cadena 2nd and Wilber Rivas who also placed 2nd.

## DECISION DAY



Del Rio School students are jumping for joy and celebrated Decision Day on May 17th. Seniors wore the shirt of the university that they plan to attend after graduation.

## ARTIST AT WORK!



Garfield Art Club students were at "work" showing off their creativeness at the city wide Earth Day celebration at the Civic Center. Directed by Vanessa Martinez, Garfield's art teacher, the students had a blast showing visitors how to create art out of recyclables. The crowd was amazed at what they could create from simple items they would normally throw away. Great job Art Club for showing the way to making art! We are GREATNESS, we are FAMILY, we are... GARFIELD!!



## GARFIELD ELEMENTARY 5TH GRADE



Every yesterday is a memory of dreams. Every tomorrow is a vision of hopes. We are greatness. We are family. We are Garfield Class of 2017!

## DO I SEE \$30? \$30 \$30 \$35? NOW UP TO \$35!



That's the bidding that happened at the 3rd Annual Fine Arts Night that was on Tuesday May 23rd at Garfield Elementary. The crowd were able to bid on art work created by the students at Garfield under the leadership of Vanessa Martinez, Garfield's art teacher. The crowd was then entertained by the magical melodies that were sung by the Garfield choir and played by the recorder group under the direction of Kasey Ristow, Garfield's music teacher. The Fine Arts Night is always a huge success and a success it was again! Way to "show it off" Garfield students, Mrs. Martinez and Ms. Ristow! We are GREATNESS, we are FAMILY, we are...GARFIELD!!

## WE CAN "DANCE OUR WAY" THROUGH THE STAAR TEST!!



That's the message the Dance Company dancers, directed by Diana Rodriguez the coach from the dance team, were showing to Garfield's 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders during a pep rally to give the kids one last "kick" of confidence right before they took their STAAR test. Way to kick it Dance Company!! We are GREATNESS, we are FAMILY, we are...GARFIELD!!

### EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS



Center Dariana Barrios-Salas Bronze Medal in Employability Skills and in Related Technical Math

### TEAM FAB



Left to right: Alejandro Pina, Feliciano Narvaez, Brenden Paradis. First Place at District and fifth at State Team Fabrication Welding Contest

### WELDING SKILLS USA



Ramon Sifuentes, Bronze Medal in Individual Speed Skills Welding at Skills U.S.A. Texas

### WELDING TREE



Agapito Urritia, First Place District and First Place State Welding Tree



Andrew Castro, First Place District and First Place State Welding Tree



Brandon Castellanos, First Place District and First Place State Welding Tree



Iyilia Falcon, First Place District and First Place State Welding Tree



Leonel Hernandez, First Place District and First Place State Welding Tree



Marisol Falcon, First Place District and First Place State Welding Tree



Ramon Sifuentes, First Place District and First Place State Welding Tree



Sergio Trevino, First Place District and First Place State Welding Tree

## WELDING SKILLS USA



From left to right, Mariana De Hoyos and Dariana Barrios-Salas, First in District and Second at State Industrial Rolling Cart.

From left to right, Carlos Bernal, Noe Leyva, and Segio (Steve) Trevino, First Place in District, First Place in State & Best of Show at State Skills U.S.A. Texas Industrial Storage Cabinet.

## DRFS



Creative Communications has helped to inspire, motivate, and encourage student writers with their national writing contests. The top entries nationwide are published in a hardcover anthology that will record the creative insights of today's student writers. This is not a contest that publishes every entry. So, it is an honor to be accepted and published in the book.

