



S.F.D.R.C.I.S.D.

HIGHLIGHTS

Our District, Our Students, Our Pride

Fall 2014

Volume 5

2014-2015



CSI in the Classroom

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) department is proud to announce the first ever Forensic Science class at Del Rio High School. The new course, incorporating a multitude of unique and exciting activities, is taught by Ms. Amy Gloria, and is being offered as a 4th year science credit for students interested in pursuing a career within the field of Forensic Science. In this course, students take a structured and scientific approach to the investigation of crimes of assault, abuse and neglect, domestic violence, accidental death, homicide, and the psychology of criminal behavior.

Head Start Turns 50!



On September 17th, dressed in red white and blue, the Irene Cardwell Head Start students, families, and staff joined the nation in celebrating 50 years of Head Start empowering families and changing the lives of over 31 million children. The celebration included a KWEX interview with Mrs. Linda Guanajuato-Webb and campus-wide pep rally with Mayor Roberto Garza, Former DRPD Police Chief, James Debrow, Chief Instructional Officer for Elementary Schools, Aidee Garcia, Director of Fine Arts, Juan Nanez, DRPD Lieutenant Steven Webb, and members of the Policy Council as the guests of honor.

Wind Turbine Contest



Teaching young learners is a responsibility that Cardwell staff do not take lightly. Thus, in preparation for an upcoming school-wide activity, staff participated in a wind turbine contest. The overall goals were to experiment with various types of materials which could be utilized and to brainstorm teaching opportunities to inspire creativity and higher order thinking in students.

Lamar Elementary Literacy Night



Lamar Elementary hosted its first Literacy Night on Wednesday, October 1, 2014. Parents and children were invited to come and explore the wonders of books through reading. Our librarian, Mrs. Sandra Garza, demonstrated how to use Renaissance Learning to parents in attendance. Students had a great time reading to their parents. We look forward to our next Literacy Night on November 12, 2014!

Lamar Elementary Open House



Lamar Elementary greeted several hundred parents on Thursday, October 9, 2014, for our annual Report Card Night/Open House. Students enjoyed visiting their classrooms and teachers enjoyed sharing the work their students have done in class with their parents. Students also visited with their different specials teachers, such as PE and Art, during the event. Students were able to participate in a raffle for door prizes as well. It was a successful night of parent involvement and we thank all the teachers, parents, students for taking part in a great night at Lamar Elementary.

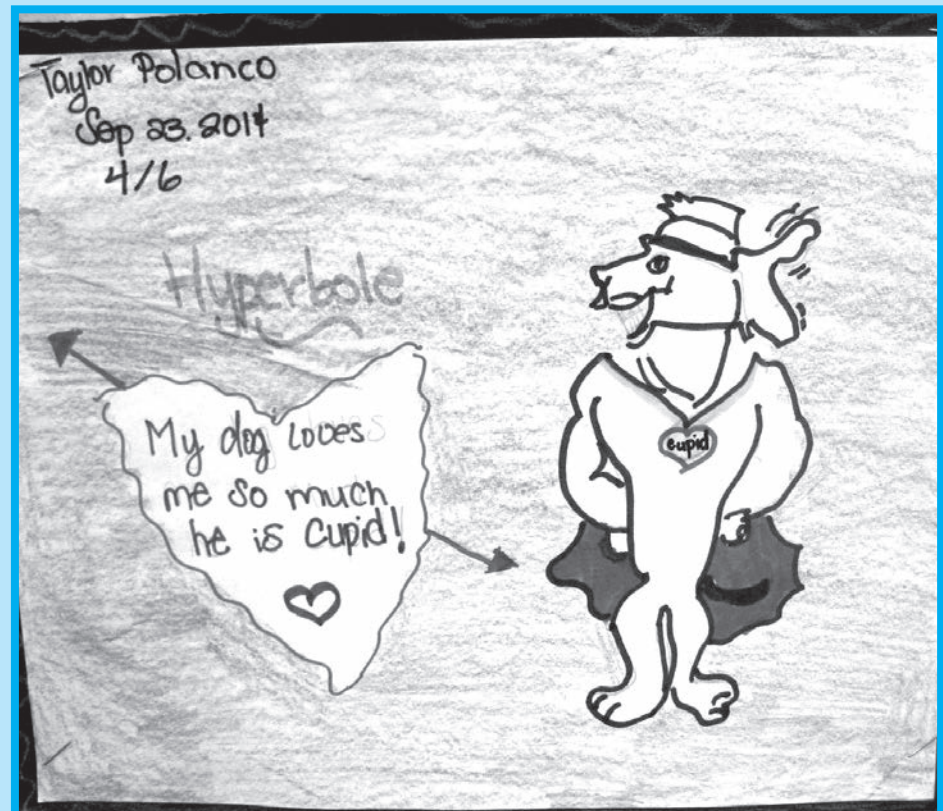
Lamar Elementary Student Council - Bulding Leaders!



Student council officers at Lamar Elementary attended the annual “Leaders “R” Us” conference held at the Del Rio Civic Center on Thursday, September 22, 2014. Students were able to interact with the other councils from other elementary campuses in the district. Officers were informed on how to be effective leaders and participated in various team building activities. “It was really great. We got to learn about what leaders are. We got to participate in great activities that involve being a great leader”, said Jonathan. *Lamar Elementary Student Council Officers: Front Row from left to right: Historian – Saby Salas, Adriana Palacios – Treasurer, Barbara Martinez – Secretary, Jonathan Rodriguez – Vice President, Luis Pablo Galaviz – President. Back Row from left to right : Student Council Sponsors – Mrs. Bertha Aguirre and Mrs. Laura Martinez*



Band students at SFMMS have been hard at work the first six weeks! They have learned to read music the same way we read a book, and to handle their instruments properly in a band setting. Additionally, band students are working together as a team in class on the music that they play, how to be responsible with materials and to keep a positive attitude.



ELA classes at SFMMS have been hard at work the first 6 weeks. Along with reading on their own and taking AR tests, they read two short stories to help focus on fiction. While reading “Eleven” and “All Summer in a Day”, students used the stories to understand plot diagrams. After learning the vocabulary needed to understand a drama, they read the play, “Damon and Pythias”.



SFMMMS Math classes stayed busy with many awesome activities the first 6 weeks. Students learned how to locate, compare, and order integers on a number line, all about prime and composite numbers, how to find the prime factors of composite numbers with factor trees, and how to use the order of operations to simplify expressions. Then, they jumped right into decimals and fractions. Converting fractions to decimals, converting decimals to fractions, and adding and subtracting decimals were all mastered.

Ruben Chavira Elementary School is LEADING The Way!



Ruben Chavira Elementary School is LEADING the way to greatness in Del Rio! Staff and students are applying The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People in order to empower students to become strong, life-long leaders through taking ownership in their learning. This approach enables students to create and focus on goals and to be positive influences on others. Mr. Mike Fritz comes to Del Rio with a wealth of knowledge and is training the staff on how to implement this school wide leadership model.

RCE Student Council WINS Again!



Ruben Chavira Elementary School Student Council has once again been recognized with the NAESP Award by the National Association of Elementary School Principals which recognizes outstanding effort and success of elementary student council organizations. Ruben Chavira Elementary has received this award more often than any other elementary school in Del Rio. Through STUCO, Ruben Chavira Elementary students learn about teamwork, community service, and government in a student-friendly environment outside of their normal course work.

LGE Andale Del Rio



Dr. Lonnie Green Elementary third grade students participated in the annual Andale Del Rio physical challenge. The community has this health fair and family run/walk annually and invites the elementary campuses of our district to be a part of it. This year Dr. Lonnie Green Elementary placed first in the competition that involved demonstration in basketball skills, accuracy and speed.

LGE Honor Student Council

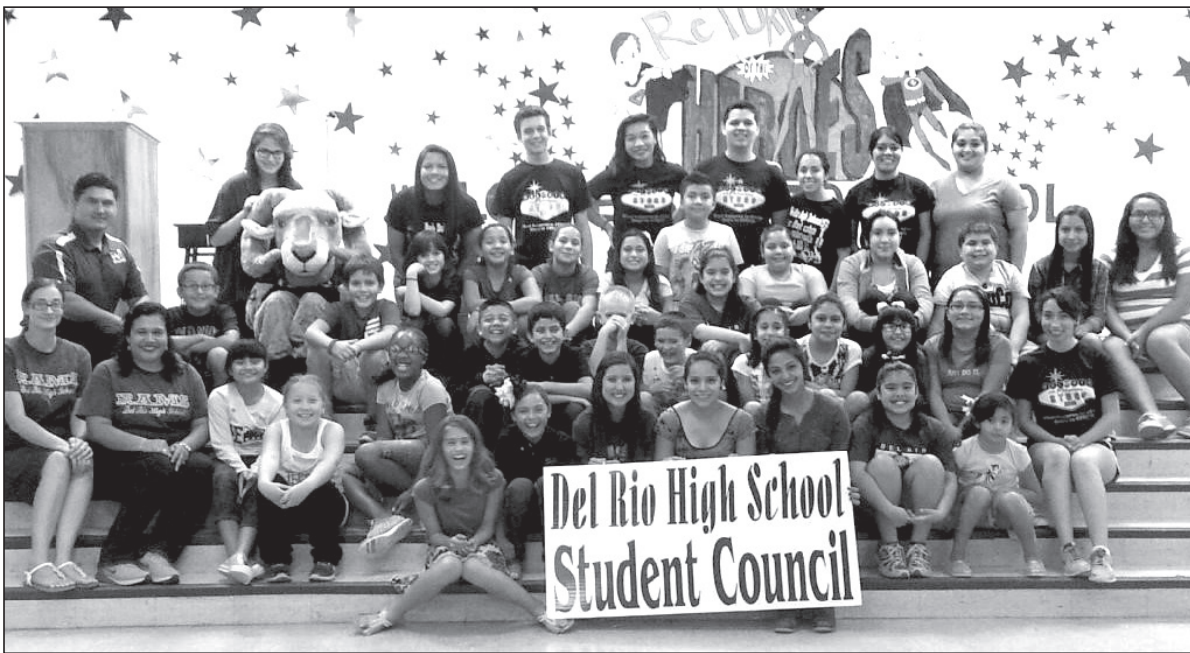


As the dismissal bell rang to mark the end of another day, a group of eager, excited young children hurried into the Dr. Lonnie Green Cafeteria, ready to give their time and their talent for their beloved K-5th grade elementary school. The students weren't just a random group of kids; they are the proud members of the Dr. Lonnie Green Elementary Honor Student Council.

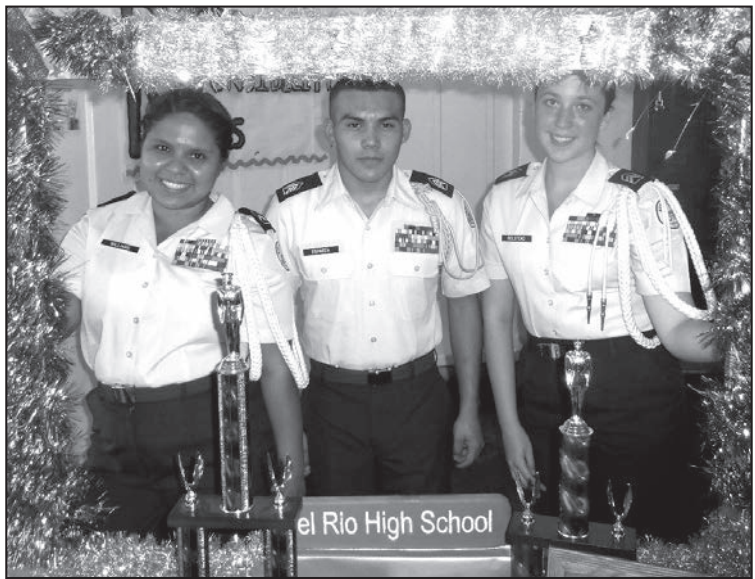
LGE Panther Young Notes



The Panther Young Notes Choir from Dr. Lonnie Green Elementary has been chosen to perform during pre-game activities on October 18, 2014 as the San Antonio Spurs play a highly anticipated rematch against the Miami Heat. The choir was chosen from among 100 applicants from San Antonio and other surrounding areas. The Panther Young Notes are under the direction of music teacher Isaac Aldaco. "I am very proud of my students and the hard work they have done to get to this point," stated Aldaco. Aldaco went on to say that the audition process to get into the choir was not easy. "Students must first exemplify outstanding academics as well as exceptional citizenship before they can even be considered for an audition. There were over 120 students auditioning and only 68 made the final cut."



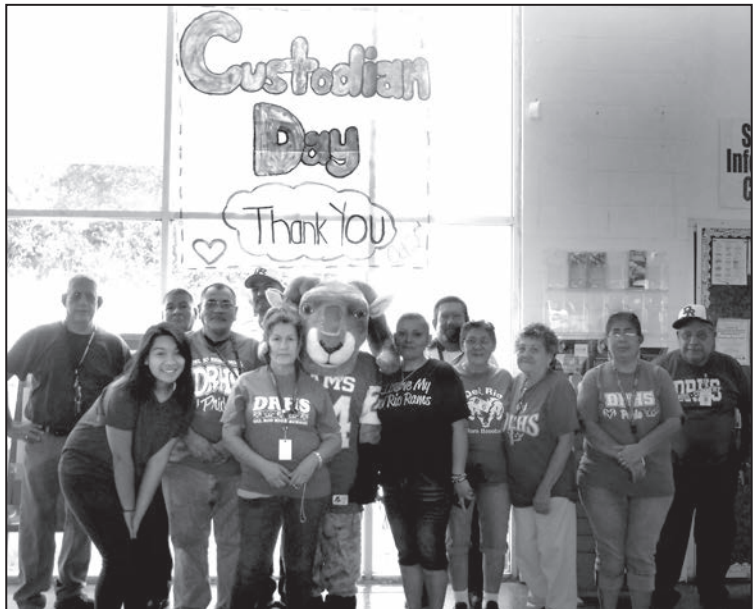
Del Rio High School Student Council went to Ruben Chavira Elementary School on Friday, September 5th to share in a mini leadership conference with the fourth and fifth grade Student Council. The students did icebreakers, played games, met the Ram Mascot and learned about teamwork, leadership, and anti-bullying.



On Sept. 18th during open house, Del Rio high School student council held their annual Club Fair in the cafeteria where parents and students got a chance to receive information about the many clubs/organization that DRHS has to offer.



Del Rio High School student council shows their support for breast cancer awareness by sponsoring RAMS wear PINK on Wednesdays for the month of October.



On October 2nd, Del Rio High School student council celebrated Custodian Day by making goody bags and decorating their doors with "THANK YOU" signs.



Del Rio High School student council supports the fall sports by participating in the pep rallies every week on Friday mornings before school by involving the student body and teachers with games.

Unbeatable



The Del Rio Middle School Cross Country Teams have had a perfect season. Both 7th and 8th grade students, boys and girls, they have swept every competition thus far. Coach Stephen Thomas and Coach Alexandria Smith started preparing their athletes since early summer and their dedication and hard work has definitely paid off. Del Rio Middle School will be hosting the 29-6A District Cross Country Meet on Saturday, October 25, 2014. Go Queens! Go Rams!

See You At The Pole



More than 250 Del Rio Middle School students participated in this year's "See You at the Pole" on Wednesday, September 24th at 7:00 a.m. "See you at the Pole" is a student-initiated, student-organized, and student-led event where students gather at the flag pole in prayer and positive reflection. This event runs in conjunction with the global day of prayer. The theme this year was "Never Stop Believing".

New York Bound



Del Rio, Texas will be proudly represented at this year's Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City. The 8th Grade Dance Team from Del Rio Middle School was invited to perform in this event and our students have been working feverishly throughout the summer and this year to raise funds to get there. The young ladies have been practicing and perfecting their routine that will be televised around the world. As part of their trip, the young ladies will also have a week's worth of amazing tours and sightseeing opportunities throughout New York City. The team is under the direction of Ms. Kayla Lopez.

Best of the Best



Mrs. Maria Hudgins is one of only 20 teachers in the entire state of Texas recognized as this year's very best. Mrs. Hudgins is an English teacher at Del Rio Middle School. At the end of the last school year, Mrs. Hudgins was selected as the campus' Teacher of the Year. She was then selected as the District's Secondary Teacher of the Year. During the summer, she was notified that she had been selected as Region 15's Teacher of the Year. She currently represents this vast West Texas region with over 60 school districts. The state of Texas is divided into 20 regions, each one with a representative vying for the prestigious Texas Teacher of the Year Award. Mrs. Hudgins and her family will be attending a ceremony in her honor in Austin on October 24, 2014. The State winner will be announced at this ceremony. Del Rio Middle is honored and privileged to have Mrs. Hudgins as part of its team. Best wishes, Mrs. Hudgins!



Family Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) is a national organization which encourages personal growth, leadership development, preparation for the future, and family and community involvement through family and consumer sciences education. Students work long hours preparing for local, state and national competitions in which they compete against other schools in various events. The FCCLA sponsor is Mrs. Erica Bradley.



Students at Del Rio Freshman School have been hard at work keeping up with their studying, homework, tutorials, projects, and striving ever so hard to capture that elusive top spot in the overall student ranking. Through all of the stress and pressure, some students have found the time for extra-curricular activities; be it sports, clubs or organizations. Four DRFS student organizations can be frequently spotted through the campus halls, before and after school, painting posters, taking pictures, planning events or engaging in some friendly competition.



The Yearbook Committee is comprised of students wishing to play a role in creating a memory book full of pictures, names and events which will serve as a historical record of their first year in high school. Members attend sporting events, club meetings, pep rallies and activities hoping to capture the perfect picture showing their classmates hard at work in the classroom and on the playing field. The Yearbook Committee sponsor is Mrs. Dolimer Sanchez.



The DRFS Chess Club meets twice a week to participate in friendly, albeit fierce, competitions. Members eagerly arrive with their chess boards in stow and challenge others to informal, as well as timed matches. Students of all levels compete and engage in exciting and thrilling battles which help to improve logical thinking skills, memory, concentration and creativity. The Chess Club sponsor is Jec Castaneda.



At Del Rio Freshman School, where each student received a tablet as part of the District's 1:1 Initiative, class officers and representatives created posters encouraging students to practice proper tablet use and responsibility. Pictured are: Historian Jessica Barragan, Vice-President Jackie Vasquez, President Janel Meza, Secretary Montsserrat Ochoa, Representative Angel Ramirez, Representative Vivian Rodarte and Treasurer Cesar Reyes.



Garfield Elementary 5th grade students enjoyed a day out on the House Boat. The trip was not only a fun trip but educational as well. The students studied many science concepts on the houseboat as well as during a hike.



Garfield Elementary 4th grade students attended the archeology fair. Students walked to the Whitehead Museum and participated in many hands on activities. Students learned firsthand many concepts through the presentations in this fair.



Garfield boys participated in the bi-national health week soccer game. The boys placed 2nd, earning a school trophy and individual medals. The students played a soccer game against a school from Ciudad Acuna. The game was played in the spirit of health, wellness and friendship.



Garfield Elementary participated in the annual Andale Del Rio Elementary School relay race. Third grade students represented Garfield very well. The students earned 2nd place in the relay race. Andale Del Rio gives our community an opportunity to promote health and wellness for all.



Garfield Elementary Student council started its year off with great recognition. For the first time, Garfield Elementary received the National Excellence Awards for Student council. Leading the Garfield Student council this year are: President - Destiny Jenkins, Vice President - Adan Hernandez; Secretary - Natalia Pena, Treasurer - Uritzy Gonzalez; Historian - Lena Hackney Sponsors: Rocio Pena and Amber Diaz



Members of the Laughlin A.F.B. community presented to Dr. Fermin Calderon 5th grade students during National Hispanic Heritage month. Presenters discussed the importance of maintaining their Spanish language, heritage and culture. Our students had the opportunity to hear from a variety of individuals from different Hispanic countries and regions throughout the world.



Dr. Fermin Calderon collected over 590 gently used children's books to help support HEB Read 3 Book Drive Challenge. Pictured are: Melina Martinez, Antonio Mascorro, Brian Jimenez-Rodarte, Jaslynn Montalvo and Adalemy Rodriguez. These students were just a few that made donations.



Dr. Fermin Calderon 4th and 5th grade students had the opportunity to visit with David Edward Garcia. He is a motivational Hispanic youth speaker, who traveled across the Texas-Mexico border inspiring our youth to work hard and follow their dreams!



Dr. Fermin Calderon Elementary 3rd graders participated in the annual Andale Del Rio events on October 4, 2014. Great team work! Pictured are (Back row) Anali Rivera, Baldemar Hernandez, Adan Gallegos, Jerry Marrufo, Domingo Sanchez, Desiree Coronado, Alexia Gomez, (Front row) Alan Dobbins and Naila Galvan.

The Buena Vista UIL Spelling Dream Team



This year's team is hard at work preparing for what hopes to be another exciting season. The students have definitely developed a taste for success, and they have learned that the driving force behind this success has come from hard work and determination. The students are taught early on that "knowledge" is their super power! This, along with a commitment to excellence, has proved to be a winning combination. The Buena Vista UIL Spelling Dream Team is led by 4th Grade Teacher Mrs. Olga Calderon. The Mighty Longhorns would like to welcome everyone to come out this year and cheer on all the UIL events. Team work makes the dream work!

Andale Del Rio Health Fitness Fair



Congratulations to these 3rd grade Buena Vista students that participated and took 3rd place in a basketball game against all other elementary schools.

National School Lunch Week



Healthy minds need healthy, nourished bodies, school meals we will strive to provide students with the nourishment they need to excel. San Felipe Del Rio CISD schools have continuously made changes to ensure that school meals contribute positively to student's health and well-being. This special week is a chance to celebrate these positive, healthy changes occurring in school lunches in our district.

Assisting the cafeteria staff and serving students lunches were: Yanakany Valdez/Chief Financial Officer, Cindy Salas/Principal, Jennifer Billings/Assistant Principal, and Ana Martinez Buena Vista Counselor.



North Heights Elementary second grade cluster and their students conducted an investigation that dealt with function and design. Science TEKS 2.5D combine materials that when put together can do things that they cannot do by themselves such as building a tower, bridge, house and justify the selection of those materials based on their physical properties.



A generous mix of North Heights Elementary staff, students and parent volunteers joined an extremely hardworking crew from Home Depot to begin a project that is sure blossom after receiving a \$1000 grant to build and maintain a family garden.



North Heights Elementary celebrated Constitution Day with their own parade of proud little American Elementary students on September 17, 2014. The students wore hand-made hats using the color red representing blood, blue representing justice and freedom, and white representing purity, the colors of the American flag.



For the second year in a row, North Heights Elementary Student Council proudly accepted the NAESP Honor Student Council trophy. The students worked very hard throughout last year to serve the school and community participating in various events. The council sang Christmas carols to the residence of La Vida Serena Nursing Home as well as donating scarfs to the residents.