



Always Innovating

**South
Texas ISD**

RIO GRANDE VALLEY | GRADES 6-12

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STISD.NET

Letter from Dr. Marco Antonio Lara, Jr.

STISD is known throughout the region, state, and nation as an educational pioneer, offering South Texas students innovative and high-quality instructional programs to prepare them for college, career, and life.

Our teachers drive the success of these programs, bringing to their classrooms a love of the profession, a belief in the abilities of all students, and expertise in their subjects. Many of our Career and Technical Education (CTE) teachers also bring with them industry experience and valuable insight into future professions. Teachers do much more than teach skills and relay important facts and figures to students; they instruct, support, counsel, and build up students every day.

Recognizing the impact a good teacher can have on a child, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) launched the Teacher Incentive Allotment (TIA) program, creating the opportunity for school districts throughout the state to offer monetary incentives for educators. Competitive compensation has been and continues to be a priority for our district, and we are excited to announce our district's pursuit of this program.

We know we have the best educators here at STISD, and we have the data to back it up; our teachers are consistently ranked among the best in the state and nation. Their positive effects on the students of the RGV are undeniable, and the opportunity to compensate them more for the work they are doing is beyond exciting.

Although there is still much work to be done, the approval of our application for the TIA Local Designation System by TEA this summer brings us one step closer to offering higher teacher salaries. I want to thank our district community for the collaboration and hard work put in to get us to this point.

I look forward to announcing more good news as we continue through the process and begin seeing our teachers benefit from this program.

Have a wonderful year!

Sincerely,
Marco Antonio Lara, Jr., Ed.D.

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