

Community Connection March 2023



Congratulations to the Waco High School Boys Varsity Soccer Team on becoming Bi-District Champions! They beat Lake Creek 4-2 in the first round of playoffs on March 24. The Lions advance to the second round of playoffs on Monday, March 27.

Waco ISD Soccer Playoffs: WHS vs Georgetown at Paul Tyson Stadium on March 27, Kick-Off 7:00 p.m.

We are extremely proud of the WHS Girls Varsity Soccer Team and the UHS Varsity Soccer Team on an incredible season and competing in the first round of playoffs.

Waco ISD Art Show

Students across the district had the opportunity to showcase their amazing artwork to family and friends at the Waco ISD Art Show.

Please [click here](#) to view more photos from the event.



One-Act Play Contest

The WHS Theater Arts Department earned 1st place in the District 22-5A One-Act Play Contest earlier in March. The team advanced to the Bi-District Contest held on March 23, and received the title "Alternate to Area."



State Powerlifting Meet



Congratulations to the UHS Girls Powerlifting Team on a successful competition at the Texas High School Women's Powerlifting Association (THSWPA) State Powerlifting Meet.

Awards

2nd Place in 181lbs Weight Class
Cristal Sanchez - 1020lbs

5th Place in 259+lbs Weight Class
Samantha Thaemert - 890lbs

Congratulations to Ivan Diaz on winning 198 lb. regional powerlifting division and moving on to state. Ivan set a regional record with a 440 lb. bench press.

Ivan did an amazing job representing Waco High School at the state meet and placed 7th.

Future Chef Elementary Culinary Competition



3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students from across the district rolled up their sleeves and donned their chef hat to compete in the 2023 Future Chef Elementary Culinary Competition. This year's theme was "Complete the Plate." Students were asked to prepare their favorite fruit or vegetable side dish. They did a fantastic job preparing and presenting their recipes to judges!

2023 Future Chef Grand Prize Winners:

- Health-Conscious Foods - Jayvyn Evans, Broccoli Salad, Alta Vista
- Simple, Kid-Friendly Preparation - Kensly Laster, Guac-o Chip-o Dip-o, Parkdale
- Fun, Kid-Foods - Kailyn Maldonado, Taste the Rainbow Kabobs & Dip, Lake Air
- Best Table Presentation - Alyson Roque, Calabazitas, Crestview
- Best Fruit Side Dish - Ximena Romero, Fruit Tacos, Kendrick
- Best Vegetable Side Dish - Arike Etet Utan, Magic Noodles, South Waco
- Judge's Choice - MacKynzie Davis, Winter Fruit Salad, Lake Air

Please [click here](#) to view more photos from the event.



Women's & Men's Empowerment Summit

This year's Waco ISD Men's and Women's Empowerment Summits were a success thanks to the help of our community partners. Thank you McLennan Community College, Texas State Technical College, and the Junior League of Waco for hosting the events. Also, thank you to our keynote speakers Derrick Johnson and Rocki Howard, and the many community partners and volunteers for providing this incredible experience to our secondary students.

To view more photos from each summit, please click below:



Book Vending Machines



West Avenue Elementary School recently held a ribbon cutting for its book vending machine. This is the district's sixth campus to receive a machine. The machine is used as an incentive to encourage reading and good behavior. Students have many opportunities to earn tokens to use the machine depending on the campus.

Thank you Kiwanis Club, Extraco Bank, Stilwell and Clark Roofing for your generous donations to West Avenue.

The following campuses currently have book vending machines:

- [Provident Heights Elementary School](#)
- [West Avenue Elementary School](#)
- [Mountainview Elementary School](#)
- [Cedar Ridge PDS Elementary School](#)
- [Hillcrest PDS](#)
- University High School

Please click on a campus above to view more photos.



Women's History Month

During the month of March, campuses across the district celebrated Women's History Month. Several libraries created special book displays. At the Greater Waco Advanced Health Care Academy (GWACHA) students were assigned a research project on notable women in the healthcare industry.



Teachers of the Year

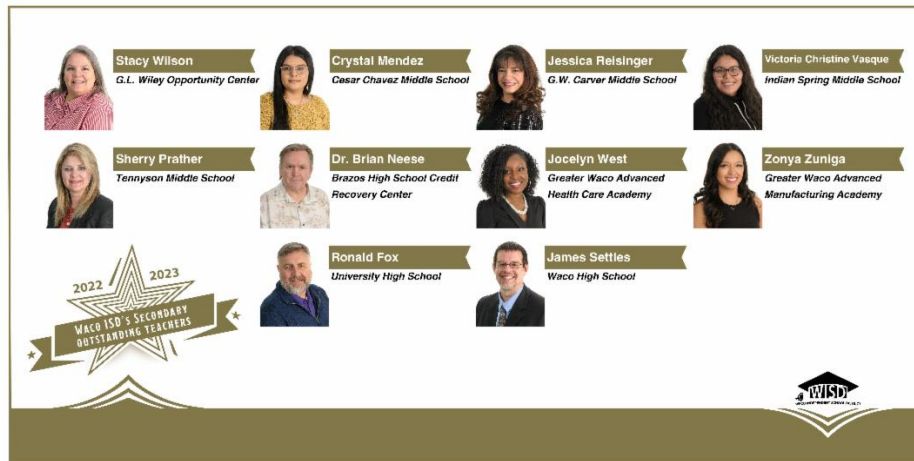
 Kaylee Arthur <i>Alla Vista Elementary</i>	 Clarisa Gallegos <i>Dell's Hill Elementary</i>	 Michael Isenberg <i>Brook Avenue Elementary</i>	 Stephanie Llano <i>Cedar Ridge Elementary</i>
 Rubi Ruiz <i>Crestview Elementary</i>	 Cassandra Murillo <i>Dean Highland Elementary</i>	 Sue Garth <i>Hilcrest P.D.S.</i>	 Doyce A. Burkley <i>J.H. Hines Elementary</i>
 Robyn Zechmann <i>Kendrick Elementary</i>	 Kayla Overby <i>Lake Air Montessori Magnet</i>	 Jennifer Davidson <i>Mountainview Elementary</i>	 Mario Guevara <i>Parkdale Elementary</i>
 Cathy Montemayor <i>Provident Heights Elementary</i>	 Rebecca Wakefield <i>South Waco Elementary</i>	 Nikitha Hartfield - Ephraim <i>West Avenue Elementary</i>	

2023
WACO ISD'S ELEMENTARY
OUTSTANDING TEACHERS



These 25 teachers from across the district have a combined total of 249 years of service in education with 193 years serving the students, families and community of

Waco ISD. Please join us in thanking each of these incredible educators for how they are leading from the heart. Also, mark your calendars for May 23, we will announce our District Outstanding Teachers of the Year for elementary and secondary at the Texas Sports Hall of Fame in Waco.



Message from the School Board President



Dear Waco ISD Community,

Thank you to all of our incredible community members who attended this year's Waco ISD Empowerment Summits. The attendance from community members this year was heartwarming to see. Our students truly benefit from seeing the support they have across the community and we are so thankful for you.

I am thrilled with the progress happening on our 2021 bond projects. Just a few weeks ago the final beam was placed on the G.W. Carver campus. We are getting closer to our completion date and opening in the Fall of 2023 and are excited about the opportunities this campus will bring to our students, staff, and the community.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Korteweg

Board Meeting Recap

Did you miss the March 23rd Board of Trustees meeting? Get an update by watching the meeting recap video.

[Click here](#) for the full board meeting from March 23, 2023.

The next Regular meeting will be held on Thursday, April 27, 2023, beginning

at 6:00 p.m. in the WISD Conference Center, 115 S 5th Street, Waco, Texas.



Outstanding Community Partner

Each month, Waco ISD recognizes a community partner making a difference for students with the Award for Outstanding Community Partners. This recognition celebrates the theme for the 2022-2023 school year "Lead from the Heart" and acknowledges the impact our community partners make in the lives of our students and staff.

In March, Communities In Schools was selected to receive the award for their generous contributions to Waco ISD.

Please follow this [link](#) to learn more.



Message from the Superintendent

Dear Waco ISD Community,

The Waco ISD Board of Trustees approved a \$300 back-to-school allowance to assist teachers, master teachers, dyslexia specialists, librarians, library media specialists, speech pathologists, assistant speech pathologists and reading recovery lead teachers with the purchase of supplies and materials for classroom set-up

for the 2023-2024 school year.

Our students have provided us with a lot of opportunities to celebrate this month. The Waco High Boys Varsity Soccer team remains in the second round of playoffs, the Association of Future Educators (TAFE) students advanced to Nationals, and our students were honored at the Heart of Texas Regional History Fair.

Staff celebrations are ramping up as well as we celebrate our campus teachers of the year and the 99 Waco ISD teachers who received Texas Incentive Allotment Designation from the Texas Education Agency.

We will continue to share these celebrations with you as we close out the school year. As always, thank you for your continued support of our students and staff.



Sincerely,

Susan Kincannon, Ed.D.

2021 Bond Project Updates

G.W. Carver had its topping off ceremony where the final beam of the building was placed. This was the same beam the community recently signed.

Please [click here](#) for more photos.



Exciting progress is being made with the district's 2021 bond projects.

Visit [2021 Bond Projects](#) for regular project updates.



Community Resources



We can all play a part in helping to keep Waco ISD safe! Our anonymous online reporting system, STOPit, is available to all students, staff, families, and the community. You can report bullying, violence, and other safety concerns anytime by following this link: www.wacoisd.org/STOPit.

A promotional graphic for Waco ISD's free bus rides. It has a green and yellow background. Text includes "Free Bus Rides for all Waco ISD students", "More Information", "254-750-1900", and "www.waco-texas.com/transit". A play button icon is overlaid on the phone number. On the right, there's a Waco ISD bus and a "FREE APP RIDE SYSTEMS" badge.

Did you know ALL Waco ISD students ride FREE on the Waco Transit System? Yes, even during summer break! Take advantage of this great resource today.

Visit <http://wacotransit.ridesystems.net/routes>
Download the Ride System app.

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