

The older that I get, the more that I describe life with analogies and metaphors. Maybe it's due to experience...maybe it's due to something else! Anyway, here's one: With football and band, having had the weekend off, the "eye of the storm" is dissipating over Ganado ISD. According to Wikipedia, the "eye" is described as, "a region of mostly calm weather at the center of a tropical cyclone."

Well, the storm made "landfall" on August 6th when all staff members officially reported. Since then, time has "blown by" and our awesome students and faculty accomplished many great things:

- (1) Teachers are faithfully implementing the new curriculum and positively welcoming the PLC format. Students are responding well with the shift from "procedural to conceptual" learning.
- (2) The Pride of the Tribe conquered countless halftimes, the Edna Invitational Marching Contest, and the Region 13 UIL Marching Contest. They are taking their Straight 1s to the Area Marching Contest this weekend in Odem. Go band!
- (3) The Ganado Youth Football Warrior Juniors and Bantam squads both cruised to Super Bowl victories while handling all teams, all season. These kids definitely need a trophy case...hat's off to the coaches, parent volunteers, and Warrior Cheerleaders!
- (4) The Grade 8 football Braves are undefeated having outscored opponents 289-46 through the first seven games. Yes, 289-46!
- (5) The junior high girl and boy individual district cross-country champions are both Ganado Junior High runners.
- (6) The varsity volleyball Maidens are planting a seed for future success having already won more games than the 2023 season.
- (7) The varsity football Indians are one win from securing the district championship. Playoffs will start on or about November 14th.
- (8) Ganado ISD dominated the Jackson County Youth Fair from Grand Champion animals to art, FFA projects, contests, and all other activities in between.
- (9) The district has successfully launched the implementation of PBIS, which recognizes and awards positive behaviors for students and staff by encouraging everyone to "Bring your Bow" each day. Be responsible, Offer respect, and Work together...skills for ANY age!
- (10) Ganado Elementary is cruising at a supersonic pace with parent lunches, community involvement, engaging lessons, and exceptional communication.
- (11) Ganado High's Dr. Yahagi gave a lecture entitled, "Quantum Mechanics Application of the Hemodynamics" at the University of Houston-Victoria. Many Ganado High students attended.

It's easy to see with no football, band, or major FFA activities since October 18th, things have been quite "calm." Nevertheless, the remaining half of the storm commences on Friday...Be ready! Be loud! Be supportive! This next stretch from now until Christmas Break is what it is all about, especially for our band and football team. This is my kind of storm! Like all storms, this one will completely pass. When it does, let's continue to hold our heads high, exhibit class, strive for excellence, and be tough...tenets that define Ganado!

Before I go, I want to send a sincere "shout out" to our incredible staff. What you are doing as a team is truly extraordinary. I would be nothing without you. Everything that we do is for the academic gain of our wonderful students. Most importantly, we want them to be "life ready." Always have NO FEAR and remember that, together, we can do anything.

Dr. Szymanski