



GANADO ISD

Excellence Since 1900

PO Box 1200 • 210 S 6th St • Ganado, TX 77962 • Phone: 361-771-4200

Superintendent: Jonathon A. Szymanski, Ph.D.

Positivity Trumps Negativity

If you are not POSITIVE about Ganado ISD, you may need to check your pulse! Congratulations to Maiden Softball for winning its first State Championship in school history on May 29, 2025! This occurred 162 days after Indian Football won its first State Championship and 199 days after The Pride of the Tribe finished 2nd at the State Marching Contest! Wow.....can you say what a GREAT year? Much like the state championship football game, the state championship softball game was a thriller. This group of Maidens never let an obstacle stop them! Hat's off to the amazing Maiden coaching staff, led by first year head coach – James Harp – and his two assistants, Malina Andel and Matthew Ervin.

On August 4, 2025, staff members will return for the 2025-26 academic year, whereas we will embrace and celebrate our 125th Anniversary as a district. The Good Lord blessed us when he placed us in Ganado. Our community is passionate, supportive, and committed to the success of its children and all things Ganado ISD! Many districts “say that,” but in Ganado, it is clearly evident because we “walk the walk.” Ganado ISD has sought excellence for 125 years and guess what, we will continue to do so for at least the next 125 years. Excellence feeds on high expectations, a “can do – no fear attitude,” and positivity.

Positivity is often over looked, but it is paramount to success. It is easy to find negativity in any situation, ride that wave with others, and hide in chaos; weaknesses are hidden in chaos. When this becomes routine, cultures crumble, minimums become maximums, excuses prevail, and “I can’t” wins. The fact that the word impossible spells I’M POSSIBLE is proof that everything begins with a positive mindset. In a district, school, business, organization, or home, a positive mindset starts and ends with the leader. John Maxwell summed it up best: “The pessimist complains about the wind. The optimist expects it to change. The leader adjusts the sails.” Way to go Ganado ISD by letting positivity trump negativity for 125 years.....good always wins!

As I watched the highly accomplished Class of 2025 enter the “real world,” I could not help but think of the fabulous educators and employees in Ganado ISD. While I have only been part of two graduations, I am incredibly grateful that we have caring educators that are positive, team players, and always put the interests of the students first. Additionally, I am grateful that the district leaders promote a culture of positivity in their respective schools and departments. Lastly, I am grateful that my two kids – Ty and Bella – attend Ganado ISD which is the highest compliment one can give any school system.

There is an obvious theme to this blog and that is to stay positive. Walt Whitman concurred and wrote, “Keep your face always toward the sunshine and shadows will fall behind you.” We have something special brewing in Ganado ISD. I am going to say that again. We have something special brewing in Ganado ISD. We will continue to learn from the past and build an even better future in both academics and extracurricular activities. While there will always be hurdles and naysayers, I am confident that we will continue to achieve success at unprecedented levels due to our outstanding students, staff, and community.

Arrows Up,
Dr. Szymanski

GES Principal: Amanda Beldin, M Ed
GJHS Principal: Kendra Guerrero
GHS Principal: Bryan Martin

Athletic Director: Josh Ervin
Girls Athletic Coordinator: Malina Andel

ARROWS UP!