

February 21, 2016

When blessed with the opportunity to see the intricate work of many, I am left in awe at the commitment parents, students and staff dedicate to the many opportunities available for our District. This past weekend was a perfect occasion to take a step back and smile about the greatness our District showcases. A simple drive to and around the Alamo City gave me, and so many parents, the opportunity to cheer for our SFDRCSID students participating in [middle school track](#), girls' [basketball](#) playoffs, girls' [softball](#), middle school [UIL](#), more [girls softball](#), and finally [high school track](#). As an added bonus, I was able to watch my [own](#) middle school [kids](#) participate in their activities.

We could not have hoped for better weather than what we enjoyed at the Medina Valley Track Meet this past weekend. On Friday afternoon our DRMS students were comfortable in their track gear and able to enjoy the [fellowship](#) and [competition](#) that comes with track season. Some kids threw the [shot put](#), others threw the [discus](#), some [jumped](#), others [jumped really high](#), and everyone [cheered](#) for each other. Our middle school kids were [great](#)!

After a couple of hours of middle school track we raced to a [girls'](#) playoff game in San Antonio. As rewarding as it was to see our girls finish their season in style, it was just as rewarding to see the DRHS [Tennis Team](#) and [DRHS Girls' Softball](#) Team take a break from their own competition and stop by to cheer their classmates. Congratulations to our Girls basketball team on a wonderful season.

[Saturday morning](#) we joined other [early risers](#) at the San Antonio ISD Athletic Complex and cheering for our girls as they won their fourth consecutive softball game. Although our girls' bus was burglarized, leaving them short on equipment, their spirits were high, their [fans](#) were happy and their bats were strong. Our girls went on to win 5 games before dropping their final tournament game. It is absolutely pleasing to see our Girls' softball team enjoy this much [success](#).

Next, we took a short drive to Atascosa, TX, where we saw almost 200 of our middle school students receive almost all of the [awards](#) given at the South Texas Academic League (STAL) Tournament of Champions. It was wonderful to see our students [enjoy](#) each other's [company](#) and especially nice to see so many parents travel to cheer on their kids. I enjoyed tremendously the satisfaction expressed by our UIL coaches when they saw their [teams](#) recognized on stage - visit our SFDRCSID Facebook page to see how many students competed and won!

Before returning to Del Rio, we returned to the softball [tournament](#) and then stopped by [Medina Valley](#) to see our [high school](#) students [finish](#) their [track meet](#). Our kids gave their [parents](#) a lot to be proud of, [worked hard](#) and enjoyed themselves. To say the least, this weekend was [awesome](#)!

I would like to close this blog with some thoughts about collaboration, selflessness and team work. Over the past three weeks I've been a sort of National Primary Elections junkie. Although I don't know what watching a soap opera is like, I will be willing to wager that it is a lot like watching these National Primaries and all the television coverage that goes with them. I am amazed how individuals from within the same political party are willing to destroy each other for personal glory. Unfortunately, this type of glory will be short lived for some, does not advance our country's interest and the devastation to their own organization and their organization's ideals will endure beyond any personal glory.

With that said, in our beautiful community, it is up to us to join forces and work for the greater good. Our own organization will be best served if we learn from the collaboration, selflessness and teamwork of our students - such as those that I was blessed to participate with this past weekend – and self-reflect to ensure we are far removed from the demagoguery of those seeking personal glory. We may not always agree about the best approach (block schedule, reading program, planning protocol, rezoning, etc.) to serve our children but I am certain that we should agree on a process that solicits the selfless participation of others, fully understanding that we will support a shared decision in the best interest of our children.

“It is not incumbent upon you to complete the work, but neither are you at liberty to desist from it.” – (The Sages who wrote the Talmud)