BASAA member, Lesley Aguayo, took her creativeness to the next level. She created a message board where students and staff give each other positive notes of encouragement for success.

After EOC results, students gathered and shared their feelings. When Terry De Leon was holding back from crying students chanted, “Quiere llorar, quiere llorar.” Others replied, “Se vale. You were here after school and gave it your best. It’s your work.” Tears followed by many stating all the pressure placed on them was worth it. Student, Juan Luevanos stated, “It’s thanks to Miss. She was not embarrassed to sing to us, chant and do all these motions during teaching. Miss, if I were a teacher I would not do what you do, but you do it for us and it sticks in our heads.” Others expressed they were thankful for Saturday camps, having two math classes, afterschool tutorials and Sunday study halls. All agreed with Mauro Jasso when he said, “I had never tried so hard on a test. I’m glad I did because I passed for the first time ever.”

The Buena Vista Longhorn Choir performed around town singing and spreading the joy of Jazz music throughout the community. Students celebrated law enforcement week by thanking and encouraging the border patrol agents.
Buena Vista Stronghorns shined at their talent show on Tuesday, April 25, 2017. Students sang and danced the night away while performing a variety of acts. Judges tallied up the scores and it was a tight race for the top 6 winners! K-2nd winners: 1st place Ramon Maldonado, Jorge Limon, Emily Shao. 3rd-5th winners: 1st place Abram Ortiz, 2nd place Kimberly Turner, 3rd place Amaris Leon and Avery Williams.

The all district elementary choir sang the night away at their spring concert. Students from every elementary school were featured singing a jazz themed show.

On Tuesday, May 23, Buena Vista Elementary celebrated “Marquee Night”. Students and their families shared in a spectacular event with projects created by students in the Gifted and Talented Program, the Art Academy, along with a special performance by the Buena Vista Choir. It was an evening enjoyed by all!

BV would like to acknowledge Danika Maddox for demonstrating true leadership. Danika approached the BV administrative team with a plan. She wanted to create buddy benches at BV so that any student who didn't have someone to play with could have a place to go and make a friend. She called these “Buddy Benches.” Thanks to our parents and students, BV was able to make her proposal a reality on April 29th. Danika along with her parents, friends and supporters painted the picnic tables and benches in the BV recess area for all the Longhorn students to enjoy. Thank you Danika Maddox, for displaying the characteristics of the 7 habits of Leader In Me and inspiring others to do the same.

Buena Vista would like to thank all of the parent and student volunteers for all of the hard work, dedicated time, and donations to making our school shine. The paint, flowers, and plants made our school even more vibrant than before. This is a great example of community and parent involvement at its finest!
Students at Dr. Fermin Calderon Elementary are nothing short of amazing! They are fun, exciting and with STAAR testing coming up, they were ready to do their best on the test! The staff at Dr. Fermin Calderon hosted a pep rally to motivate and encourage students to work hard and be prepared. The students listened to some inspiring words from Coach Frenchey McCrea and participated in fun events. A big thank you goes out to our staff for participating and Mrs. Olga Torres-Saldua for organizing the pep rally!

Mrs. Fortunato’s students showcased their talents at this year’s Gifted and Talented fair on Wednesday, May 24, 2017. The students displayed their year’s work and projects at the exhibit for their families and the community. Students in first grade ended the night with a play for the spectators in attendance. A big thank you goes out to Mrs. Fortunato for a successful GT showcase!

The PAWfect parents at Dr. Fermin Calderon were recognized for their time and dedication to our school for the 2016-17 year. They were treated to a special breakfast on Tuesday, May 23, 2017 and presented with gifts. Our school truly appreciates the support and countless hours provided to help meet student goals and helping our staff succeed. A special thank you goes out to Mrs. Luz Maria Rangel for dedicating the most hours at our campus and to also to our parental involvement aides, Mrs. Lorena Martinez and Mrs. Adriana Juarez!

Dr. Fermin Calderon Elementary students showed team spirit at the district’s 6th Annual Relay and Track Meet held on Thursday, May 11, 2017. The students ran their hearts out and cheered their fellow teammates on as they raced in several of the track meet events held that day. A big thank you goes out to our school coaches, Coach Juarez- Dobbins, Coach Cortinas, Coach Ponce and Coach Lerma for preparing and helping make this event a successful one!
SFMS SATURDAY CAMPS

SFMMS had Saturday Camps for six weeks prior to our STAAR tests on May 8th and 9th. We had over 100 students attending, 10 staff members and several volunteers on our last Saturday, May 6th from 8-12 noon. We had a small carnival that included a motivational speaker, Pete Talamantez, prizes, food and a lot of fun!

OH, THE PLACES THEY’LL GO!

Ruben Chavira Elementary School students were provided the opportunity to explore many possible careers choices all without ever leaving school. Mrs. Peggy Reina, a 3rd grade teacher, spearheaded a campus wide career fair that highlighted numerous occupations for students to consider for their futures. Community members, businesses and organizations enthusiastically presented to students of all ages about various professions and how children are able to start preparing now for success later in life. RCE staff and students are thankful for the investment our community makes in education.

THANK YOU NURSE PADILLA - LIMON

We celebrated our Nurse Melissa Padilla-Limon on the week of May 8th. She goes above and beyond for our students, staff and parents and we thought it was only right to spoil her a little this week with treats, a cake and a breakfast; as well as special notes and announcements.

LUISA ZARAGOZA

Tom Brokaw said it best when he said, "It's easy to make a buck. It's a lot tougher to make a difference.” Mrs. Luisa Zaragoza is a bit of a legend at Ruben Chavira Elementary School and she is one of those teachers who has done just that. She has made a difference. Her influence and accomplishments are immeasurable as she has been molding young minds in the field of education for 42 years. When visiting her classroom you will see a bustle of activity, especially reading. Reading! Her current kindergarten students have been choosing their own literature and reading and testing AR independently since October. The academic ability she equips the children with is second to the confidence she instills in them. One of her kindergarten cuties, Sophia Cardenas, stated, “She is the best because she helps us learn everything. She helped me become a reader!” Sophia will miss her teacher dearly as she moves on to 1st grade next year, but she will have that teacher to thank for being ready to succeed and for fostering a sincere love of reading. As Mrs. Zaragoza retires this year, there will be countless people missing her and her contributions to so many throughout the years.
Over 350 families attended the Cardwell Families in Action Event designed to promote family wellness, health, and nutrition. Over 100 representatives from 21 community agencies set up booths offering services and valuable information. Students and parents had an opportunity to engage in various physical activities focusing on gross motor development.

Kindergarten and Pre-kindergarten cluster leaders met at Cardwell to review and revise the program’s School Readiness Plan to close the learning gap between grade levels. This is the first year of collaboration within the school district to formulate a School Readiness Advisory Committee.

The Fatherhood Program at Cardwell held two events for fathers and other significant males that focused on family well-being and establishing positive peer to peer relationships. One of the events was held at the Cardwell playground with an obstacle course and another at the Del Rio High School Gym. Dads had an opportunities to spend quality time with their children exercising and playing basketball. Mr. Joe Nieto, Del Rio High School’s Head Basketball Coach facilitated both events as he shared the benefits of physical activity with children.

Cardwell held the third and final Saturday camp with eighty students in attendance. Students participated in enrichment activities to promote school readiness in preparation for the LAP-3 assessment. This event was made possible with the Texas High Quality Pre-K Grant the school was awarded.
North Heights students participated in Career Day on Wednesday, May 17th. Thank you to all of the local agencies that participated in the event.

There are never enough words to express our gratitude for all that they do for students each and every day. We enjoyed celebrating our teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week earlier this month. Pictured left to right: Marla Sanchez, Letty Cardenas, Dora Fernandez, Monica Aguirre and Chris Cardenas. These teachers won prizes that were donated to NHE to celebrate teachers. Thank you to the local businesses that donated gifts.
SFDR 2017-2018
Teachers of the Year

Lourdes McClellan
Irene Cardwell Elementary

Kathy Cavender
Buena Vista Elementary

Ninel Vivanco
Dr. Fermin Calderon Elementary

Michele Tschetter
Ruben Chavira Elementary

Elda Saldivar
Garfield Elementary

Billie Jo Cruz
Lamar Elementary

Jonna Dewitt
Dr. Lonnie Green Elementary

Janna Montoya
North Heights Elementary

Marisa Soto
San Felipe Memorial Middle School

Luis Esparza
Del Rio Middle School

Glaﬁro Santellanes
Del Rio Freshman School

Alejandra Torres
Del Rio High School

Gloria Castaneda
Blended Academy
On behalf of the San Felipe Del Rio CISD, and in recognition for your years of service, I would like to take this opportunity to extend a huge THANK YOU for your hard work and commitment to a career that requires endless amounts of dedication. May the blessings and joy you have brought so many, along with the satisfaction of a job well done, fill your new journey with happiness. You have made a lasting impact by inspiring with passion and guiding through example. Your professional expertise and friendship will be greatly missed. Wishing you success and happiness in all that you do! It is well deserved! CONGRATULATIONS! ENJOY YOUR RETIREMENT!!

Carlos H. Rios, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
On May 23rd, Dr. Lonnie Green hosted a GT fair, Art Walk and talent show. Students created several interesting projects, displayed them in the cafeteria and invited their friends and parents to take a tour to learn about their projects. Art students also displayed their mask art projects as parents walked the cafeteria. Later in the evening, students hosted a talent show. It was a packed house at Dr. Lonnie Green! Students showed their talent by signing, acting, dancing and much more. Students will get a chance to later perform once again for the student body and teachers to show off their amazing talents.

On May 3rd, 2017, staff, students and parents participated in the Love Your Teacher 5K Fun Run/Walk!! Lonnie Green once again received the 1st place trophy for the highest participation in the district! Congratulations to all the participants who placed in the race and the support that was shown to our wonderful teachers! ONE TEAM ONE DREAM AT DR. LONNIE GREEN!

April 7, 2017 Dr. Lonnie Green had one of the biggest career day turn outs from our wonderful community! It was a huge success from having EMS, Del Rio Fire Department, City of Del Rio and the Border Patrol vehicle. The students received a special surprise when the Methodist Air Life helicopter flew in. Thank you to the beautiful community of Del Rio for educating our youth. Here’s to our future leaders!

Lamar students in K-5 enjoyed a fun-filled career day. Students enjoyed exploring an ambulance and fire truck, not to mention a helicopter that landed on our field. Inside, students rotated through stations to learn about careers ranging from Federal Probation to medical field to hair stylists. Pictures is Mrs. Mejia’s first grade class with one of our guests, HEB Buddy.
Lamar students in K-5 were treated to a field trip to Dino Days. Students enjoyed a scavenger hunt that taught them all about these prehistoric creatures. It was an out-of-this-world experience for all! This picture is of Miss Flores’ Kinder class as they prepare for the adventure.

A great after school activity at Lamar Elementary was our AR Challenge. Parents and students were invited to come after school and read together. Teachers encouraged readers and added to the fun with snacks, music and comfortable places to read. We reached our AR goal for the week in just one night! We appreciate all of the parents that came to support reading at Lamar!

Lamar students in grades 3rd – 5th were selected to attend an after school Math Camp to help prepare them for STAAR testing. Teacher and students rotated through stations to practice math skills. Students played Math Battleship and Basketball while practicing much needed skills. Pictured is Ms. Dovalina who is working with a group of 3rd grade students.

Teachers and students performed for a school-wide STAAR pep rally at Lamar Elementary. Students enjoyed being cheered on by their teachers and peers.

The Del Rio Middle School Robotics Team competed at the 2017 VEX World’s Competition in Louisville, Kentucky. The all-girls team was recognized and awarded with the Community Award. Del Rio Middle School is proud of their Robotics Team

Congratulations to Claudia Talamantez for receiving the 2017 Middle School Coach of the Year Award.
Mr. Aries was celebrated by our students at DRHS on May 2nd, 2017. It was a great evening of pageantry for our young men at DRHS. The winners were Mr. Aries Randy Martinez, 1st runner up Max Smith and 2nd Runner up Jorge Valenzuela.

Del Rio High School Student Council participated in the Relay for Life 2017. The theme was “Around the World” and StuCo represented the country of Egypt.

Del Rio High School teachers showed their support for the DRHS students at the Annual Battle of the Classes 2017 by performing a dance and cheer.

Student Council and RAM football hosted the 11th Annual Powder Puff game. This was a flag football game between the junior girls vs. senior girls where the football players acted as the coaches. The winner was the Class of 2018 Juniors with a score of 10-6.

Del Rio High School held the Junior-Senior Prom 2017 on May 6th at the Civic Center. The junior class did an exceptional job organizing an outstanding theme “Royal Ball” for the Seniors who enjoyed a wonderful evening with their classmates.

A great shout out to our Del Rio High School teachers who placed successfully at the I Love My Teacher 5K Run during Teacher Appreciation Week. Our DRHS winning teachers were Gisselle Rodriguez who placed 1st, Susan Cadena 2nd and Wilber Rivas who also placed 2nd.
Del Rio School students are jumping for joy and celebrated Decision Day on May 17th. Seniors wore the shirt of the university that they plan to attend after graduation.

**ARTIST AT WORK!**

Garfield Art Club students were at “work” showing off their creativeness at the city wide Earth Day celebration at the Civic Center. Directed by Vanessa Martinez, Garfield’s art teacher, the students had a blast showing visitors how to create art out of recyclables. The crowd was amazed at what they could create from simple items they would normally throw away. Great job Art Club for showing the way to making art! We are GREATNESS, we are FAMILY, we are…GARFIELD!!

**GARFIELD ELEMENTARY 5TH GRADE**

That’s the bidding that happened at the 3rd Annual Fine Arts Night that was on Tuesday May 23rd at Garfield Elementary. The crowd were able to bid on art work created by the students at Garfield under the leadership of Vanessa Martinez, Garfield’s art teacher. The crowd was then entertained by the magical melodies that were sung by the Garfield choir and played by the recorder group under the direction of Kasey Ristow, Garfield’s music teacher. The Fine Arts Night is always a huge success and a success it was again! Way to “show it off” Garfield students, Mrs. Martinez and Ms. Ristow! We are GREATNESS, we are FAMILY, we are…GARFIELD!!

**WE CAN “DANCE OUR WAY” THROUGH THE STAAR TEST!!**

That’s the message the Dance Company dancers, directed by Diana Rodriguez the coach from the dance team, were showing to Garfield’s 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders during a pep rally to give the kids one last “kick” of confidence right before they took their STAAR test. Way to kick it Dance Company!! We are GREATNESS, we are FAMILY, we are…GARFIELD!!

**DO I SEE $30? $30 $30 $35? NOW UP TO $35!**

Every yesterday is a memory of dreams. Every tomorrow is a vision of hopes. We are greatness. We are family. We are Garfield Class of 2017!
### EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS

Center Dariana Barrios-Salas Bronze Medal in Employability Skills and in Related Technical Math

### TEAM FAB

Left to right: Alejandro Pina, Feliciano Narvaez, Brenden Paradis. First Place at District and fifth at State Team Fabrication Welding Contest

### WELDING SKILLS USA

Ramon Sifuentes, Bronze Medal in Individual Speed Skills Welding at Skills U.S.A. Texas

### WELDING TREE

#### Agapito Urritia, First Place District and First Place State Welding Tree

#### Andrew Castro, First Place District and First Place State Welding Tree

#### Brandon Castellanos, First Place District and First Place State Welding Tree

#### Iyilia Falcon, First Place District and First Place State Welding Tree

#### Leonel Hernandez, First Place District and First Place State Welding Tree

#### Marisol Falcon, First Place District and First Place State Welding Tree

#### Ramon Sifuentes, First Place District and First Place State Welding Tree

#### Sergio Trevino, First Place District and First Place State Welding Tree
Creative Communications has helped to inspire, motivate, and encourage student writers with their national writing contests. The top entries nationwide are published in a hardcover anthology that will record the creative insights of today's student writers. This is not a contest that publishes every entry. So, it is an honor to be accepted and published in the book.
CONGRATULATIONS
CLASS OF 2017