

October 19, 2015

This past week can only be described as a panoramic picture that spanned extremes. On one end, we dedicated a lot of time to addressing concerns that can always and easily be resolved when we put two or more heads together. Unfortunately, the cause for the concerns always creates frustration to so many way before the concern is resolved. For that, I always feel terrible and motivated to make things better. At the other end of the spectrum was *Celebration City* - one celebration after the other. Because there is a School Board meeting tonight where we will have a chance to discuss concerns, I will dedicate this entire blog only to the wonderful things that occurred this past week.

As I started the week I had the opportunity to drive around and see the progress on some of the construction sites. During my return drive to the office, I passed by the basketball courts and saw our [color guard](#) practicing. I just had to stop by and tell them how awesome they have been this season. Their contributions have certainly added so much to the half time show. Very nice!

[National School Lunch](#) week was celebrated this past week and many of our [administrators](#) set out to participate with our [food service personnel](#) in order to let them know how important their job is and how much they are appreciated. If the food portions were less than balanced, well..., perhaps there were some untrained, but very loving [volunteers](#).

At least one Superintendent and one Principal from every regional Service Center traveled to Austin this past week to enjoy a ceremony honoring Regional Teachers of the Year. Mr. Perez and I were fortunate enough to have the opportunity to accompany [Raquel Cardenas](#) (Elementary Teacher of the Year) and her [husband](#) as Raquel represented Region 15. Although the judges may have gotten it wrong at the elementary level, they managed to make the right choice at the secondary level. The Region 15 Secondary Teacher of the Year, [Mrs. Martha Saucedo](#) from Brady Texas, won the Texas Secondary Teacher of the Year.

Question: What has approximately 200 student participants, works hard from July through November, is entirely synchronized and just received Superior Ratings? [The Mighty Ram Band!](#) For the first time in six years, the Mighty Ram Band enjoyed across the board [Superior](#) ratings. I caught up with [Mr. Rios \(Band Director\)](#) and our band students in Laredo, and was delighted to see their [excitement](#) and sense of [accomplishment](#). They have worked so hard, and are most deserving of this honor.

To end the week, my family and I traveled to Eagle Pass and then Laredo to see some of our high school students compete. Our first stop was at the Eagle Pass Golf Course for the District Cross Country Meet. Our [Boys & Girls](#) Cross Country Teams have historically enjoyed a lot of success. This year is no exception. Both teams qualified for Regionals and our Girls team scored enough points to win the District Championship as a team. Qualifying for Regionals was not enough. Both first place runners (District Champions) are our very own [Max Smith](#) and [Megan Boenicke](#). Watching them cross the finish line in first place was a privilege for which I am thankful. They are great students and awesome runners. [Max](#) has a GPA of 3.89 and is ranked 6th amongst 773 of his classmates. [Megan](#) has a GPA of 4.3 is ranked 2nd amongst 735 of her peers. What an [honor](#) for their families, [team](#), and school.

After the Cross Country Meet we went on to Laredo where we saw our [Boys Varsity Football](#) team compete against Alexander. Supported by our community ([Band](#), [Cheerleaders](#), [Bells](#), [Sapphires](#), [Student Council](#), and family), the Rams engaged in a nail biter and managed to bring home a huge victory. After swapping touchdowns twice, Alexander threatened to score with only two minutes left on the clock. Thanks to a turnover recovered by [David Saldivar](#), our boys were able to go into overtime. In overtime, [Tyler Hopkins](#) kicked a 41 yard field goal to end the game, upset Alexander's Homecoming and help our Del Rio community end the week on an all-time high - [Go Rams!](#)

If we consider the tremendous successes accomplished by Tennis, Cross Country, Football and Band, we can't help but wonder what is next. Rest assured that right behind these fine students is another [Coach](#) and group of students who are [working hard](#) to add to the trophy case. [Girls Basketball](#) will officially start their practice this week. We wish them well and can't wait to see them create all that excitement. Good Luck Girls!

"There may be people that have more talent than you, but there is no excuse for someone working harder than you." – Derek Jeter.