

March 23, 2015

The week prior to Spring Break ended on an absolutely positive note. I was able to participate with some wonderful students, witness some amazing instruction, enjoy some baseball, work on our elementary rezoning, and watch our middle school students participate in a track meet at Uvalde.

I felt terrible that I could not participate with the Garfield students in their Talent Show, so I did the next best thing, I stopped by and saw some students [rehearse](#) for what promised to be a fun show. Late in the evening I stopped by the [baseball field](#) to watch our baseball team begin their [District competition](#) against Laredo United. The evening was wonderful and the [game](#) was enjoyable.

On Thursday I traveled to Calderon Elementary to observe the technical support provided as part of the Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) grant. [Mrs. Debra Carter](#) from Region 15 did a tremendous job modeling a comprehension lesson. While at Calderon Elementary I took the liberty of visiting a classroom where I saw an excellent display of Step 5 of the Planning Protocol – [Differentiation](#); and then a second classroom where it was clear the teacher had done a [tremendous job](#) of preparing her room for instruction.

Friday, a group of us headed to San Antonio to consult with our demographer. After a very productive meeting we took the liberty of stopping in Uvalde to cheer on our DRMS students compete in a track meet. The [speeds](#), the [leaps](#), and [jumps](#) were every bit as exciting as the high school meet I enjoyed in the previous weeks.

Spring Break was a time to rest, enjoy [family](#) time with the [kids](#), [fish](#), and catch-up on office work; as well as enjoy some [student activities](#). Two particular activities which I greatly enjoyed were a [middle school track meet](#) in Eagle Pass and a [baseball game](#) against Laredo LBJ. I am always impressed with the [dedication](#) of [students](#) who choose to participate in [running events](#) – no breaks, no time outs, just [a lot of heart!](#)

As for baseball, I believe they played the best game of their season this past week. There was great [pitching](#), great [hitting](#) (I haven't seen a homerun this season, but I saw an awesome [triple](#)), and awesome [fielding](#). Great job boys!

I want to thank all those [coaches](#) that worked over the holidays to ensure their [student athletes](#) had a chance to [participate](#). I know that track, baseball, softball, powerlifting, and soccer all had a full week of events. Thank you for all that you do for our students. Finally, best of luck to our Boys and Girls Soccer teams as they head to the playoffs this Friday.

How time flies! Now we are back at work getting ready to finish the final stretch of the year. I want to take this time to remind teachers that even though the testing season is upon us there is no reason for you to panic and no time for increased anxiety – simply review. We trust that you have done everything you possibly could during the school year. We hope that principals will encourage their teachers, and teachers will encourage their students. Because of your efforts our District is on its way to being great!

For in the final analysis, our most basic common link, is that we all inhabit this small planet, we all breathe the same air, we all cherish our children's futures, and we are all mortal. – John F. Kennedy