



**LAREDO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT ~ 2400 SAN BERNARDO AVENUE ~ LAREDO, TX ~ (956)273-1000**

## **Student Services Committee Meeting**

Monday, May 4, 2026 11:00 AM

LISD Amber Yeary Board Room

### Table of Contents

Discussion and presentation on the Health Services Department, including:

- \* EKG Screening Clinic Summary
- \* Tdap/MCV4 Vaccine Clinics for Incoming 7th Graders

Discussion and presentation on the Fine Arts Department, including:

- \* ACE Awards Recipients by Campus
- \* Robstown Cotton Picker Mariachi Competition
- \* Needs Assessment by Program

Discussion and presentation on the Parent and Family Engagement Program, including:

- \* District Parent Advisory Council Meeting
- \* Campus Advisory Council Meetings

Discussion and presentation on the Athletics Department, including:

- \* Triple A Recipients by Campus
- \* SHAC Meetings for Laredo ISD
- \* Elite Student Award Recipients

Discussion and presentation on the Guidance & Counseling Department, including:

- \* Legacy Scholar Award and Spirit of Laredo Recipients
- \* Policy Review and Recommendation to Change:  
EIC Local-Academic Achievement: Class Ranking

Communication and Updates

Adjournment

Discussion and presentation on the Health Services Department, including:

- \* EKG Screening Clinic Summary
- \* Tdap/MCV4 Vaccine Clinics for Incoming 7th Graders

# Health Services Department

**M. Alejandra Peña**

**BSN RN**

**Director**

# Summary of EKG Screening Clinics

Campus	23-24	24-25	25-26
Cigarroa M.S.	50	62	107
Christen M.S.	48	32	49
Memorial M.S.	40	27	47
Lamar M. S.	85	75	118
<b>Total:</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>321</b>



# Summary of EKG Screening Clinics

Campus	23-24	24-25	25-26
Martin H.S.	106	87	163
Nixon H.S.	110	150	234
Cigarroa H.S.	106	146	238
Garcia ECHS	75	59	13
VMT	26	12	30
<b>Total:</b>	<b>423</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>678</b>



# Summary of EKG Screening Clinics

	23-24	24-25	25-26
<b>Middle School</b>	223	196	321
<b>High School</b>	451	463	678
<b>Total:</b>	<b>674</b>	<b>659</b>	<b>999</b>



# Summary of EKG Screening Clinics

Activity	23-24	24-25	25-26
<b>Band</b>	194	110	201
<b>Athletics</b>	222	378	599
<b>Cheer</b>	28	18	29
<b>Dance</b>	43	29	95
<b>ROTC</b>	50	66	75



# Summary of EKG Screening Clinics

Activity	25-26	
<b>Band</b>	201 / 787	26%
<b>Athletics</b>	599 / 2172	28%
<b>Cheer</b>	29 / 110	26%
<b>Dance</b>	95 / 122	78%
<b>ROTC</b>	75 / 192	39%



# Summary of EKG Screening Clinics

## Green- (Low Risk)

- No referral needed, student is able to participate in their extra-curricular activity.
- Parents are contacted and made aware of the results by phone. They have the option to receive a copy of the EKG for their records.



# Summary of EKG Screening Clinics

## Yellow- (Possible Risk)

- May participate in activity but must bring clearance within 3 months.
- Parents are contacted for a meeting with the school nurse. During the meeting they are provided with results and instructions.
- “Need to know” individuals such as coach/band director/dance instructor are made aware of result and pending clearance.

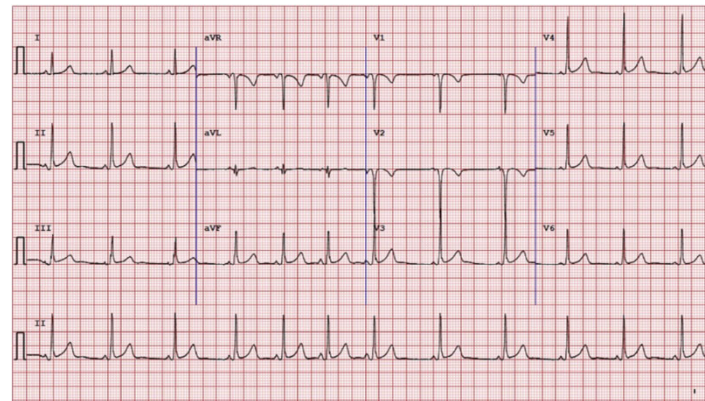
## Red- (High Risk)

- Must immediately stop participating in activity, and referral is made to cardiologist for evaluation.



# Summary of EKG Screening Clinics

Category	Results
Green	976
Yellow	23
Red	0



# Tdap/MCV4 Vaccine Clinics for Incoming 7th Graders

- The Tdap & MCV4 vaccines are due at age 11 and become a requirement for enrollment in the 7th grade.
- In an effort to facilitate registration for incoming 7th grade students, the Health Services Department hold vaccine clinics to administer Tdap/MCV4 vaccines.
- Clinics will be held **May 4th-7th** in partnership with the City of Laredo Public Health Department.

**STUDENT IMMUNIZATION CLINICS**

Obtain Required Immunizations for 7<sup>th</sup> Grade!  
Parents do **NOT** need to be present with proper consent!

**8:30 - 11:30 AM**

- 5/4** Christen Middle School
- 5/5** Memorial Middle School
- 5/6** Cigarroa Middle School
- 5/7** Lamar Middle School

**Proper Consent Required**

**Call Your School Nurse for More Information!**

# Tdap/MCV4 Vaccine Clinics for Incoming 7th Graders

- Health Services staff will be using Immtrac to check for any updated immunizations.
- Parents will be called to verify if the student has received the required immunizations at their physician or community clinics to update records.
- If student has not received immunizations parents will be made aware of upcoming clinic and consent forms will be sent home with students.

# Tdap/MCV4 Vaccine Clinics for Incoming 7th Graders

<b>Campus (7th grade enrollment)</b>	<b>Pending Tdap</b>	<b>Pending MCV4</b>
Christen MS (318)	124	134
Cigarroa MS (330)	114	119
Lamar MS (375)	72	74
Memorial MS (204)	81	82
<b>TOTAL (1,227):</b>	<b>391</b>	<b>409</b>

Discussion and presentation on the Fine Arts Department, including:

- \* ACE Awards Recipients by Campus
- \* Robstown Cotton Picker Mariachi Competition
- \* Needs Assessment by Program

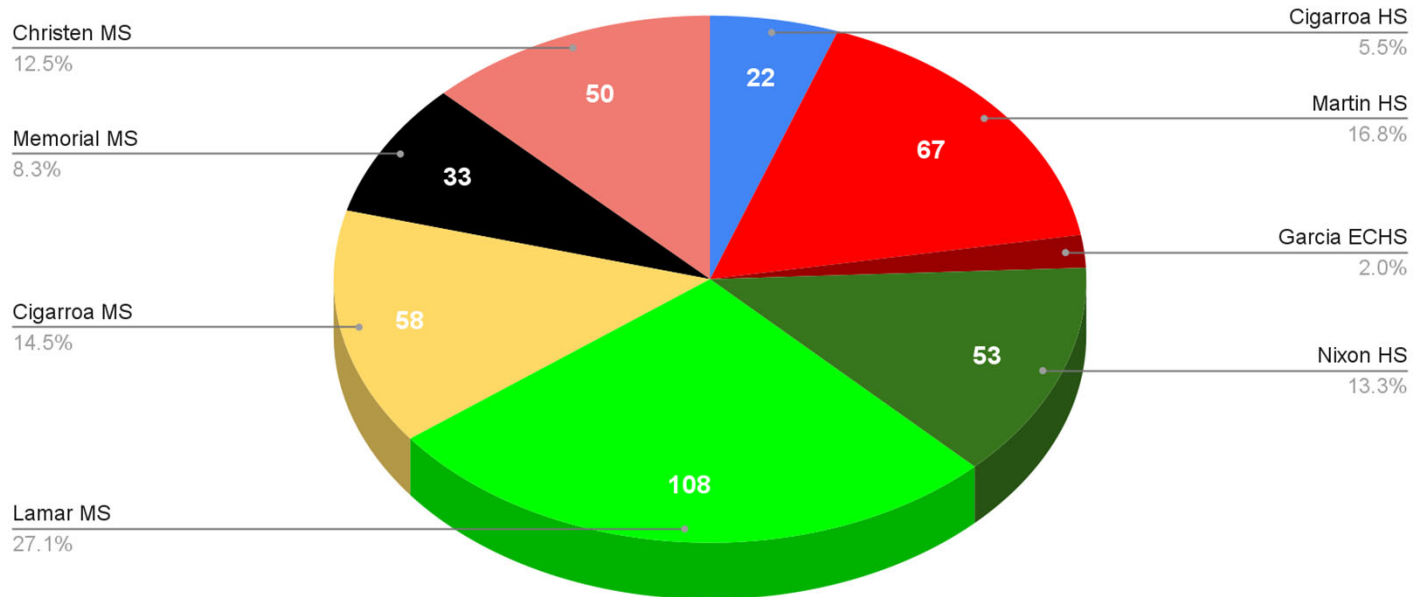
# Fine Arts Department

**Jose Iznola**  
Director

**Fred Rodriguez**  
Coordinator

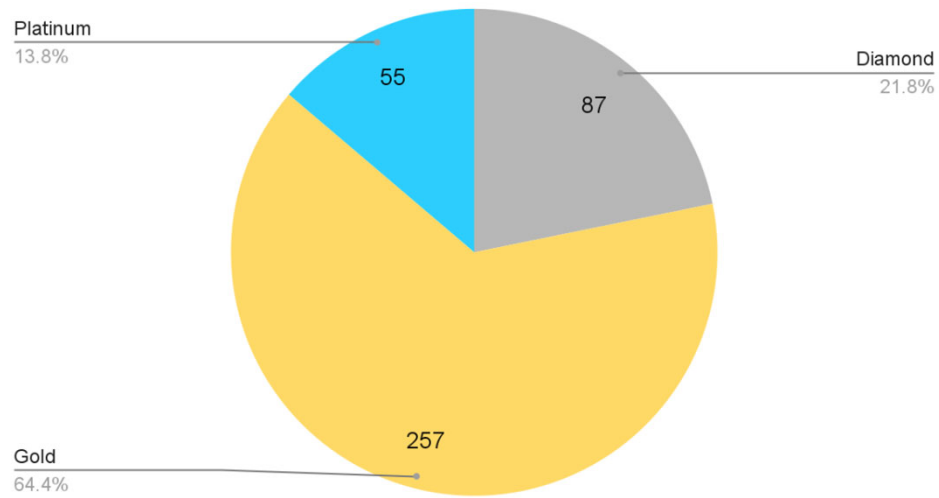
# ACE Awards by Campus

Count by Campus

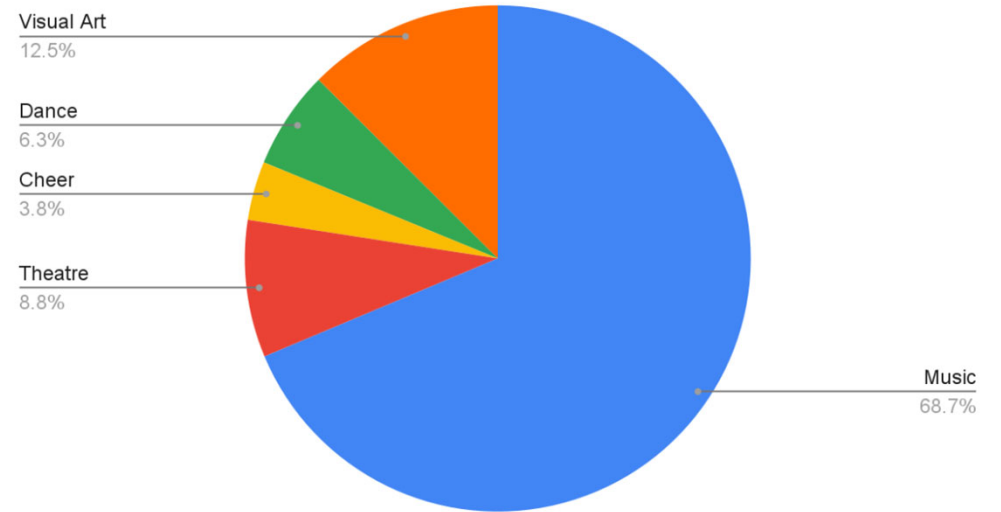


# ACE Awards

Count by Award

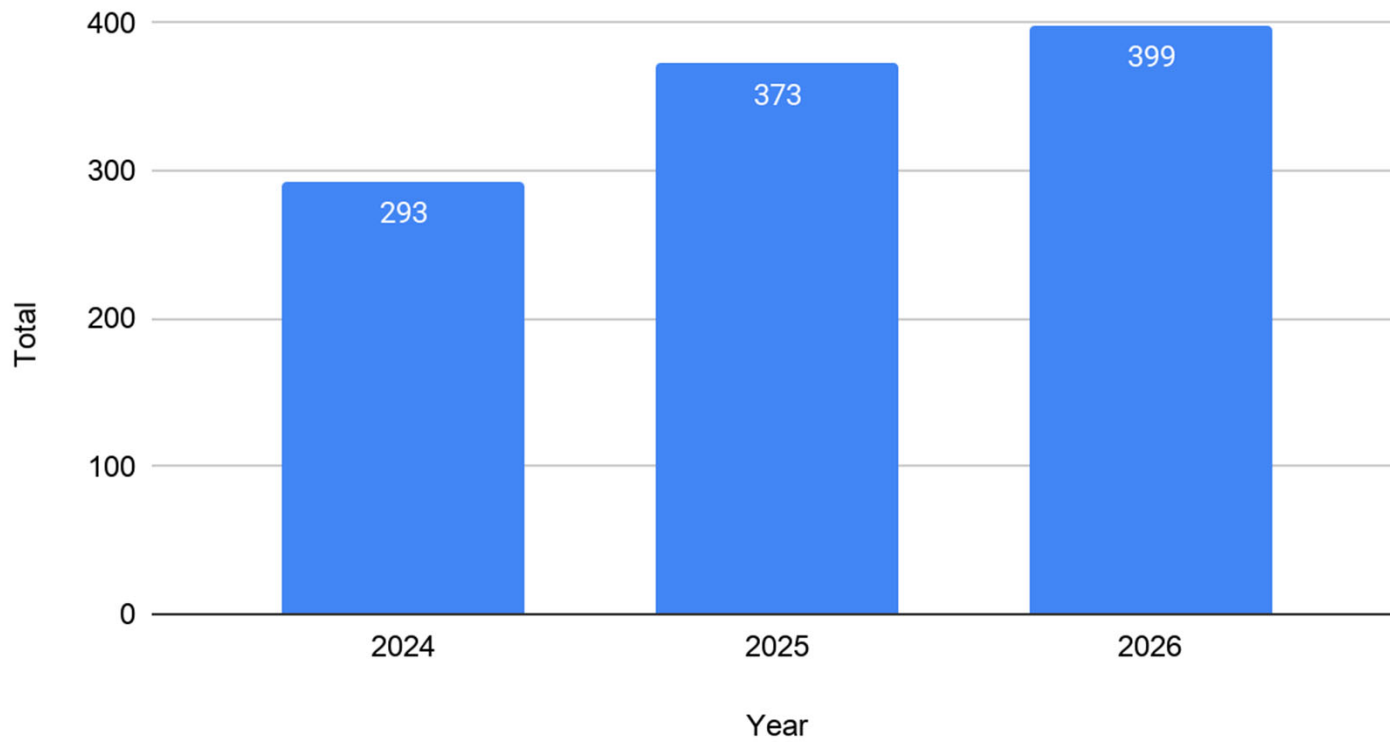


Count by Strand



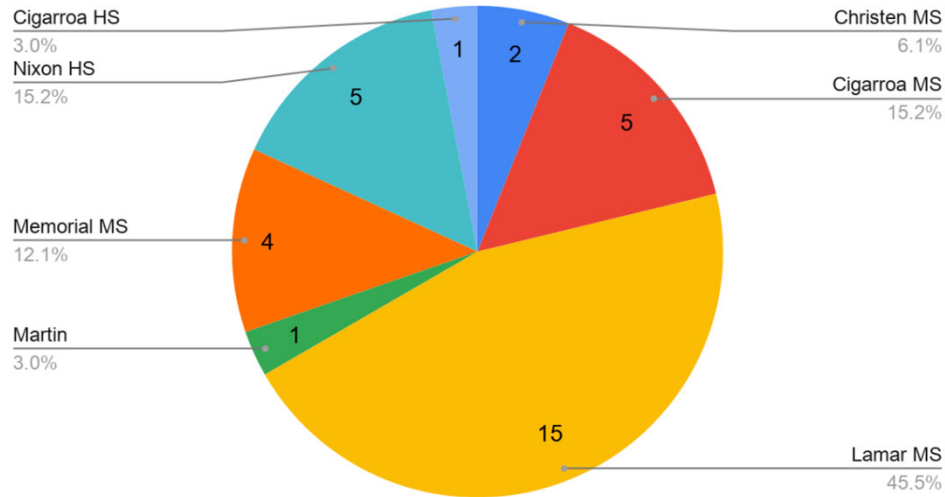
# ACE Historical Data

Total vs. Year

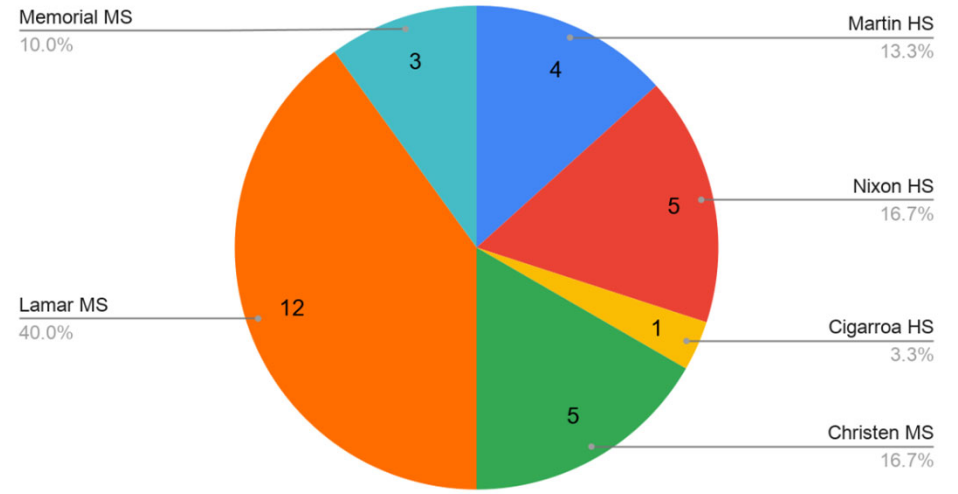


# Elite Award

2025 Count by School (29)



2026 Count of School (31)



# Robstown Cotton Picker Mariachi Competition - MHS



**Mariachi Los Tigres del Sur had an outstanding showing at the Robstown Cotton Picker Mariachi competition on April 11, 2026. The program secured numerous awards, including:**

## **High School Vocal Competition**

- 9th place: Aubrey Lozano
- 6th place: Aymar Cantú

## **JV (5A JV Open Division)**

- 1st division
- Best Violin
- Best Trumpet
- Best Armonia
- Best Vocal

## **Varsity (5A Encore Division)**

- Sweepstakes
- 6 Vocal Medals (awarded to Mateo Villarreal, Yamariz Guadian, Aubrey Lozano, Aymar Cantú, José Arellano, and Rhianna Vega)



# Robstown Cotton Picker Mariachi Competition - CMS

**Mariachi Los Tigrillos de Oro had also an amazing showing at the competition.**

## Middle School Vocal Competition

- 3rd place: Antonio Guzman
- 2nd place: Mikayla Villarreal

## JV (3C Beginner)

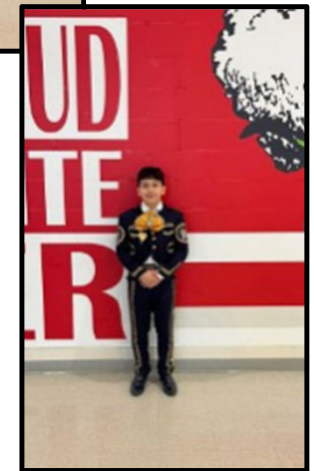
- Sweepstakes
- Best Vocal, Trumpet, Armonia, and Violin

## Varsity (3C Open Division)

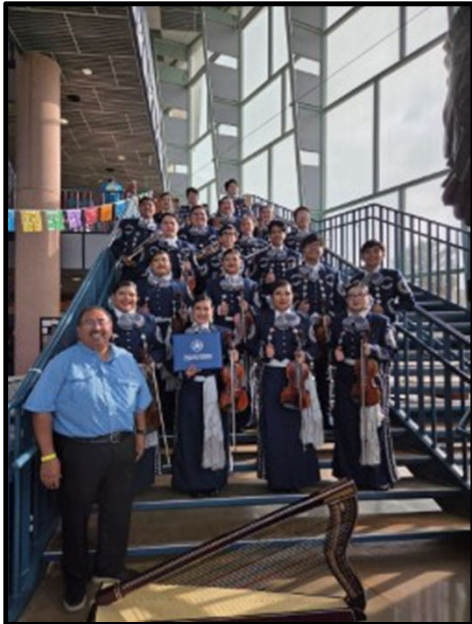
- Sweepstakes
- Best Violin, Trumpet, Armonia, and Vocals

## 10 Vocal Medalists

Mikayla Villarreal, Antonio Guzman, Ashley Melchor, April Melchor, Maximiliano Gutiérrez, Grace de la Rosa, María Camarillo, Lían García, Juan Romero, and Rafael Vallejo.



# Robstown Cotton Picker Mariachi Competition - CHS



**Cigarroa HS Mariachi also excelled in Robstown**

**Best in 5A:**

- Varsity Violins
- Trumpets
- Armonía
- Vocals

**Overall:** 4th place out of 16 Mariachi groups (4A–6A)

# Needs Assessment: Competitive Landscape & Challenges

Our district (5A/Region 14/Area G) faces unique hurdles for State-level advancement

## "Area G" Powerhouse Effect

Area G is one of the state's toughest, featuring perennial state finalists from the Rio Grande Valley. The high "scoring floor" requires professional-level show design just to stay competitive.

## Logistical Disadvantage

Competitions are 2.5–3 hours away in the Valley. Students must travel, manage complex logistics, and perform in high humidity, unlike local competitors.

## Technical Standards

OAP now demands advanced technical investments (LED lighting, digital projection, professional costuming). Lacking these puts talented students at a disadvantage.

## Expectations

High standards for cultural authenticity in South Texas. "Budget" attire/uniforms negatively impacts perceived proficiency compared to high-tier competitors.

# Needs Assessment

## Elementary Level

*Focus: Foundation, Literacy, and Exposure | Programs: General Music*

### Technology

- Interactive music software to align with TEKS standards.
- Sound-field amplification systems to ensure vocal clarity for the instructor.

### Curriculum

- State-adopted music textbooks and digital licensing.
- Transportation budget to provide early exposure to professional cultural and fine-arts opportunities.
- Teachers that have background in general music education.

# Needs Assessment

## Middle School Level

*Focus: Recruitment, Technical Proficiency, and UIL Preparation*

### Music

*Band, Orchestra, Mariachi*

#### **Inventory Renewal:**

Renewal of instruments to remove quality barriers.

#### **Uniforms:**

Intermediate-level performance attire (polos or formal vests) for UIL Concert and Sightreading.

### Performing Arts

*Theater, Dance, Cheer and Squads*

#### **Floorings:**

Adequate dance floors in rehearsal spaces to prevent shin splints and injuries.

#### **Technical Theater:**

Portable LED lighting kits and basic sound boards for campus and non major performances.

### Visual Arts

*Art*

#### **Program Support:**

Maintenance of equipment (i.e. Kilns) and high-quality consumables (clay, acrylics, canvases) to prepare for any art competition or display.

# Needs Assessment

## High School Level

*Focus: Excellence, Competition, and Career Readiness*

### Band & Cultural

*Area G Standard, Mariachi, Folklorico*

#### Custom Design & Logistics

Funding for arrangements, drill, etc. (\$25k) and protection for instruments and audio equipment .

#### Uniforms & Sound

Authentic Mariachi trajes, Folklorico vestuarios, wireless mics, and specialized flooring for dancers.

### Visual & Theater Arts

*Digital Media, Photography, OAP*

#### Visual Arts (Art I-IV, AP)

Digital Arts Lab (Adobe CC/Wacom) and portfolio-grade photography gear for career readiness

#### Theater Arts

Annual budget for UIL Unit Set pieces and professional makeup/costuming.

### Spirit & Performance

*Cheer, Pep Squad, Dance*

#### Safety & Choreography

- Competition-grade tumbling mats for Cheer safety.
- Professional clinician stipends to ensure competitive parity in Area dance competitions.

**Academic Master Schedule:** In talking to head band directors, we discussed that speaking to school principals will be crucial to intentionally allot time to vertically align fine arts programs with middle school in order to maximize growth opportunity.

# Needs Assessment

## Return On Investment

*Research from the Texas Cultural Trust and Texas A&M confirms that students engaged in the arts significantly outperform their peers across all district success metrics.*

### 1. The Academic Dividend

**College Readiness:** Fine Arts students score 150+ points higher on the SAT and are 42% more likely to attend a four-year university.

**STAAR/EOC Mastery:** Arts-involved students are 112% more likely to achieve "Masters Grade Level" on state assessments.

**Fiscal Impact:** Higher attendance rates directly increase ADA funding for the district.

### 2. The Competitive Dividend

**Executive Function:** High-stakes competition serves as a laboratory for grit and rapid decision-making.

**District Reputation:** UIL success creates a "halo effect," boosting community prestige.

**Scholarship Yield:** Collegiate scholarships often exceed the district's total annual investment.

### 3. Social-Emotional Impact

**Campus Safety:** Arts participation is linked to a significant decrease in disciplinary referrals.

**Public Support:** Programs act as the district's "front porch," building community pride.

**Bottom Line:** A "maintenance" budget keeps the lights on; an "excellence" budget turns students into high-achieving leaders who put our district at the forefront of the State of Texas.

Discussion and presentation on the Parent and Family Engagement Program,  
including:

- \* District Parent Advisory Council Meeting
- \* Campus Advisory Council Meetings

# Parent and Family Engagement Program

**Claudia Y. R. Garcia**  
Coordinator

# District Parent & Family Engagement Policy

## Policy Presentation Channels

- District Parent Advisory Council
- DEIC Members

**Parental Policy Changes:  
None Requested**



# Campus Parent Advisory Council Meeting

- All schools successfully held their CPAC Meetings with their parent councils.
- Changes to school parent policy and/or compact will be in effect for the 2026-2027.



Parent & Family ENGAGEMENT LEEDS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT				
C-PAC/Title 1 Annual Meetings				
Campus Name	Date of First C-PAC Meeting	Date of Last C-PAC Meeting	Date of First Title 1 Meeting	Date of Last Title 1 Meeting
Dr. Leonides G. Ciganna High School	6/13/2025	4/9/2026	9/27/2025	9/9/2026
C. Miller Elementary		4/13/2026	10/23/2025	10/27/2026
M.B. Larson Middle		4/7/2026	10/17/2025	10/28/2026
J.W. Niemi High School		4/7/2026	9/27/2025	9/4/2026
K. Tavel Elementary	4/9/26	4/9/2026	9/10/2025	9/11/2026
Alma Pierce		3/27/2026	3/17/2026	3/17/2026
Zachry Elementary	3/23/2026	3/21/2026	9/9/2025	10/19/2026
Bruni Elementary	8/26/2025	4/8/2026	9/23/2025	10/1/2026
C.M. Macdonell	8/13/2025	3/30/2026	9/19/2025	09/19/2026
H. Ligarte	8/27/2025	3/23/2026	9/29/2025	9/30/2026
J.A. Kewas		4/7/2026	9/25/2025	10/9/2026
Santa Maria Elementary		4/3/2026	9/27/2025	9/4/2026
M. S. Ryan Elementary	02/18/2026	03/19/2026	09/25/2025	10/23/2026
T. Sanchez/Ochoa Elementary	3/30/2026		10/10/2025	10/17/2026
Hector J. Garcia Early College High School		4/13/2026	10/03/2025	10/27/2026
Heights Elementary		4/13/2026	9/10/2025	9/17/2026
F. Falas Elementary School		3/31/2026	9/19/2025	10/19/2026
J. Z. Luyendicker Elementary		3/27/2026	9/24/2025	9/25/2026
L. J. Christen Middle		4/24/2026	9/11/2025	9/24/2026
R.T. Martin High School		3/26/2026	9/12/2025	11/3/2026
A.T. Dowling Elementary		4/9/2026	9/9/2025	9/17/2026
J.C. Martin Elementary		4/13/2026	10/20/2025	10/24/2026
L. Dechra Elementary		3/25/2026	9/29/2025	10/19/2026
Santa Nina Elementary	4/13/2026	4/13/2026	10/17/2025	10/24/2026
Dr. Joaquin G. Ciganna Middle School		4/22/2026	9/9/2025	9/10/2026
D. D. Hecker Elementary		4/9/2026	9/25/2025	10/22/2026
Don Jose Gallego Elementary		4/30/2026	9/19/2025	10/1/2026
Memorial Middle	4/29/2026	5/4/2026	10/21/2025	10/23/2026

Discussion and presentation on the Athletics Department, including:

- \* Triple A Recipients by Campus
- \* SHAC Meetings for Laredo ISD
- \* Elite Student Award Recipients

# Athletics Department

**Luis E. Escamilla**

Director

**Mary Encinas**

Assistant Athletic Director

**Fares Shrek**

Assistant Athletic Director

# TRIPLE A AWARD CEREMONY

*Honoring middle and high school student-athletes with perfect Attendance,  
C's Honor Roll, and a winning Attitude*





## **TRIPLE A AWARD RECOGNITIONS**

**Honoring student-athlete achievement with the following criteria:**

- **A Honor Roll**
- **Perfect Attendance**
- **Winning Attitude (Zero Disciplinary Referrals)**

**Measured Every Grading Period**

# Triple A Recipients by Campus



High School	ADA	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Martin	93.94%	27	22	25	74
Nixon	94.92%	80	43	69	192
Cigarroa	92.94%	30	38	46	114

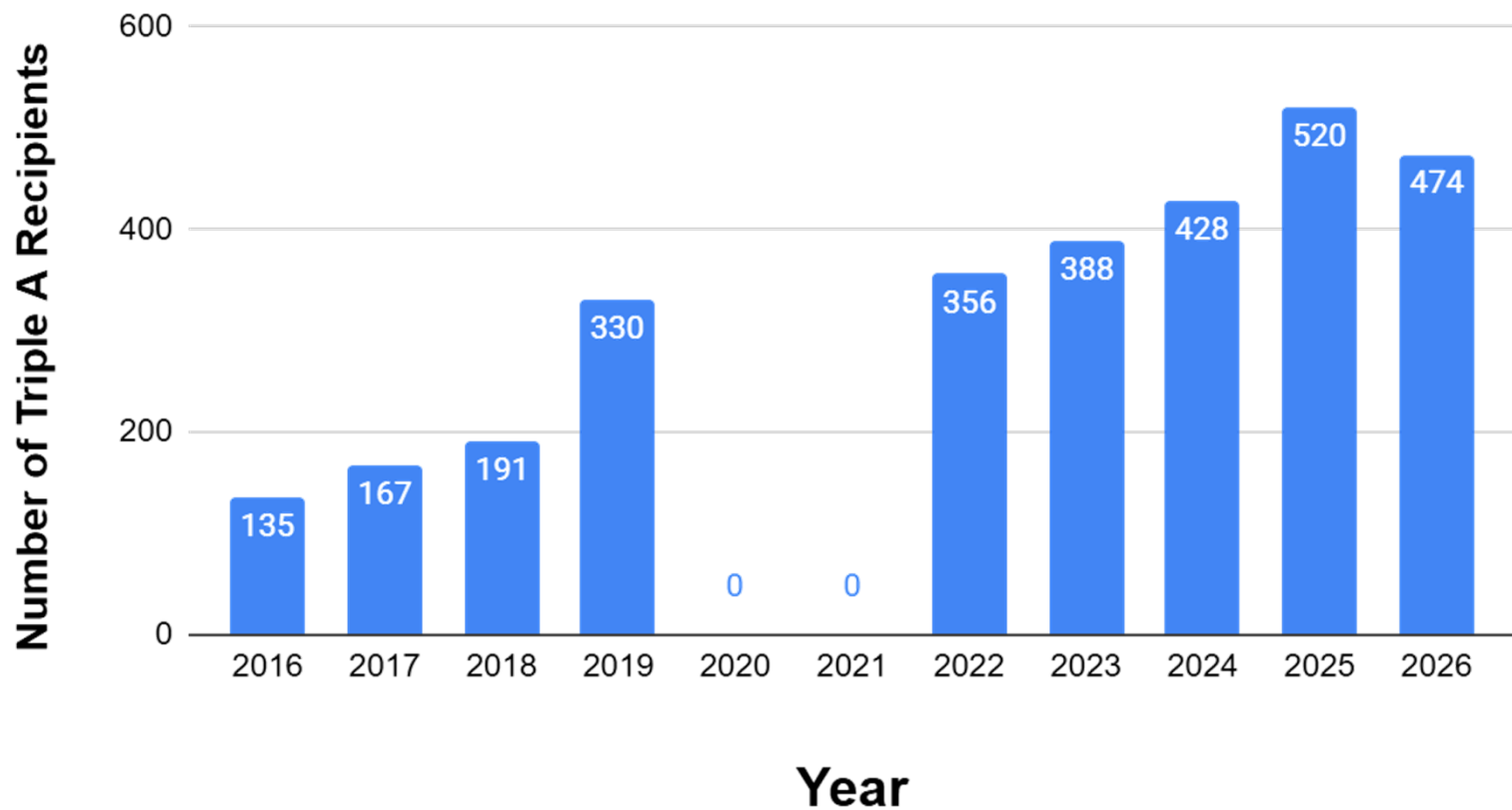
# Triple A Recipients by Campus



Middle School	ADA	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Christen	94.87%	2	5	8	15
Lamar	94.25%	1	13	28	42
Cigarroa	92.64%	3	5	11	19
Memorial	94.21%	2	5	11	18

# Triple A Recipients by Campus

Triple A Data



# Triple A Recipients by Campus

Wglssp	646716468	646816469	64691646 :
Martin High	93.97	93.82	93.94
Nixon High	95.47	94.96	94.92
Cigarroa High	92.99	92.64	92.94
Christen Middle	93.72	93.81	94.87
Lamar Middle	94.55	94.85	94.25
Cigarroa Middle	92.71	92.47	92.64
Memorial Middle	94.88	94.41	94.21
Average	94.04	93.75	93.97

# SHAC Meetings for Laredo ISD



# SHAC Meetings for Laredo ISD

Date	Topics	Presenters
September 9, 2025	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Local Wellness Policy Review</li> <li>2. Senate Bill 12 Health Services Consent &amp; Flu Vaccines at School</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Director of Child Nutrition- Mr. Robert Cuellar</li> <li>2. Director of Health Services- Mrs. Ale Pena</li> </ol>
October 14, 2025	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Dangers of Energy Drinks</li> <li>2. Hands Only CPR</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. City of Laredo Health Supervisor - Mr. Homero Cantu</li> <li>2. Director of Health Services- Mrs. Ale Pena</li> </ol>
November 11, 2025	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Fentanyl Poisoning Awareness</li> <li>2. Complications of Hyertension/Stroke</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Substance Abuse Coordinators- Ms. Cindy Lopez &amp; Ms. Yolanda Mendoza</li> <li>2. Doctor's Hospital Director - Ms. Hilda Escalante</li> </ol>
February 16, 2026	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Freestanding Emergency Room Services</li> <li>2. Let's Talk About Teen Dating Violence</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Doctor's Hospital Supervisors - Ms. Perla Chavez &amp; Ms. Rosa Rodriguez</li> <li>2. Casa De Misericodia - Ms. Thelma Arambula</li> </ol>
April 14, 2026	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Summer Meals Program 2026</li> <li>2. Suicide Prevention</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Director of Child Nutrition- Mr. Robert Cuellar</li> <li>2. Border Region Program Administrator - Mr. Francisco Sanchez</li> </ol>

Discussion and presentation on the Guidance & Counseling Department,  
including:

- \* Legacy Scholar Award and Spirit of Laredo Recipients
- \* Policy Review and Recommendation to Change:
  - EIC Local-Academic Achievement: Class Ranking

**Consistent  
Application for  
Graduating Class**

The District shall apply the same class rank calculation method and rules for local graduation honors for all students in a graduating class, regardless of the school year in which a student first earned high school credit.

**Calculation**

The District shall include in the calculation of class rank grades earned in high school credit courses taken at any grade level, unless excluded below.

The calculation shall include failing grades.

**Exclusions**

The calculation of class rank shall exclude grades earned in any local credit course; any course for which a pass/fail grade is assigned; any distance learning course, unless the course is either assigned to the student by the District or offered as a course option along with traditional District courses; or through credit by examination, with or without prior instruction.

---

**Note:** The following provisions shall apply to students in the graduating classes of 2023, 2024, and 2025.

---

**Weighted Grade  
System**

**Categories**

The District shall categorize and weight eligible courses as Advanced/Dual Enrollment, Honors, and Regular in accordance with provisions of this policy and as designated in appropriate District publications.

*Advanced / Dual  
Enrollment*

Eligible dual enrollment and Advanced Placement (AP) courses for which a student takes and scores at least a 3 on the corresponding AP exam shall be categorized and weighted as Advanced/Dual Enrollment courses.

*Honors*

Eligible courses identified as Honors in appropriate District publications and AP courses for which the student does not take the corresponding AP exam or does take the exam but scores below a 3 shall be categorized and weighted as Honors courses.

*Regular*

All other eligible courses shall be categorized and weighted as Regular courses.

**Weighted Numerical  
Grade Average**

The District shall assign weights to semester grades, including failing grades, earned in eligible courses and calculate a weighted numerical grade average, in accordance with the following:

Category	Weight
Advanced/Dual Enrollment	multiplied by 1.15
Honors	multiplied by 1.10

Category	Weight
Regular	multiplied by 1.00

The District shall record unweighted numerical grades on student transcripts.

**Note:** The following provisions shall apply to students beginning with the graduating class of 2026.

**Weighted Grade System**

Categories

The District shall categorize and weight eligible courses as Advanced/Dual Enrollment, AP, Honors, and Regular in accordance with provisions of this policy and as designated in appropriate District publications.

*Advanced / Dual Enrollment*

Eligible dual enrollment and Advanced Placement (AP) courses for which a student takes and scores at least a 3 on the corresponding AP exam shall be categorized and weighted as Advanced/Dual Enrollment courses.

*AP*

Eligible AP courses for which the student does not take the corresponding AP exam or does take the exam but scores below a 3 shall be categorized and weighted as AP.

*Honors*

Eligible courses identified as Honors in appropriate District publication shall be categorized and weighted as Honors courses.

*Regular*

All other eligible courses shall be categorized and weighted as Regular courses.

Weighted Numerical Grade Average

The District shall assign weights to semester grades, including failing grades, earned in eligible courses and calculate a weighted numerical grade average, in accordance with the following:

Category	Weight
Advanced/Dual Enrollment	multiplied by 1.15
AP	multiplied by 1.10
Honors	multiplied by 1.05
Regular	multiplied by 1.00

The District shall record unweighted numerical grades on student transcripts.

---

**Note:** The following provisions shall apply to all students, regardless of their graduating class.

---

**Transferred Grades** When a student transfers grades for properly documented courses that would be eligible under the Regular category and the District has accepted the credit, the District shall include the grades in the calculation of class rank.

When a student transfers semester grades for courses that would be eligible to receive additional weight under the District's weighted grade system, the District shall assign additional weight to the grades based on the categories and grade weight system used by the District only if the same course is offered to the same class of students in the District.

*Letter Grade  
Conversion*

Letter grades shall be assigned the following values if a numerical value is not provided:

A+ = 98	B+ = 88	C+ = 78	D+ = 68
A = 95	B = 85	C = 75	D = 65
A- = 92	B- = 82	C- = 72	D- = 62

F = Numerical average if so transcribed; if not, the number assigned shall be 59.

**Local Graduation  
Honors**

For the purpose of determining honors to be conferred during graduation activities, the District shall calculate class rank in accordance with this policy and administrative regulations by using grades available at the time of calculation at the end of the third nine-week grading period of the senior year.

For the purpose of applications to institutions of higher education, the District shall also calculate class rank as required by state law. The District's eligibility criteria for local graduation honors shall apply only for local recognitions and shall not restrict class rank for the purpose of automatic admission under state law. [See EIC(LEGAL)]

Grades received in May for dual enrollment courses shall be included in the calculation of class rank for the purpose of applications to institutions of higher education, but shall not be included in the calculation of class rank for the purpose of determining honors during graduation activities.

**Valedictorian and  
Salutatorian**

The valedictorian and salutatorian shall be the eligible students with the highest and second highest rank, respectively. To be eligible for this local graduation honor, a student must:

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT  
CLASS RANKING

EIC  
(LOCAL)

1. Have been continuously enrolled in the same high school in the District for the four semesters immediately preceding graduation;
2. Be graduating after exactly eight semesters of enrollment in high school; and
3. Have completed the foundation program with the distinguished level of achievement.

*No Ties*

In order to recognize only one student as valedictorian and one student as salutatorian, the District shall calculate weighted numerical grade averages to a sufficient number of decimal places so that no ties exist among eligible students.

**Highest-Ranking Graduate**

The student meeting the local eligibility criteria for recognition as the valedictorian shall also be considered the highest-ranking graduate for purposes of receiving the honor graduate certificate from the state of Texas.

# Guidance & Counseling Department

**Cindy L. Dominguez**  
Director

# Legacy Scholars Award- Application Process

- 1) Application opens from October - December for students in their junior year of high school.
- 2) Students submit transcript, complete three essays, must live within Webb County, and plan to attend a college/university in Texas.
- 3) Volunteer raters review applications and rate through rubric system as set by SAAF.
- 4) Selected students are announced in March.



# Legacy Scholars Award- Applications

Campus	Total Submitted
Martin High School	28
Esther G. Buckley ECHS	50
Nixon High School/BIPS ECA	68
Cigarroa High School/SPECHS	32
Hector J. Garcia ECHS	79
<b>Laredo ISD Total</b>	<b>257</b>

# Legacy Scholars Award- Recipients 2026

Campus/District	Number of Awardees
Harmony School of Excellence	1
St. Augustine High School	1
Julieta & Frank Staggs Academy of International and STEM Studies - TAMIU ISD	1
Joseph W. Nixon High School-LISD	11
Esther G. Buckley ECHS-LISD	2
Hector J. Garcia ECHS-LISD	1
John B. Alexander High School-UISD	15
United High School-UISD	4
United South High School-UISD	1
New Harvest Christian Academy	1

# Spirit of Laredo Award- Application Process

Participants must submit a 90-second (or less) video addressing all 3 topics listed below.

- 1) **Dreaming Big for Laredo:** If you could wave a magic wand, what would you immediately change about Laredo? And what would you keep the same?
  
- 2) **What Moment Changed You:** We encounter lessons, setbacks, and challenges every day. Share a moment or experience that changed you as a person. What did you learn about yourself? How did you change? What insights did you learn and how did that re-frame your perspective?
  
- 3) **Laredo 2050:** Imagine you had the opportunity to speak to city leaders and business owners. What could Laredo become? What is your vision for Laredo in 2050?



# Spirit of Laredo Award-Recipients 2026

	<b>Student Name</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Total Scholarship</b>	<b>Killam Development, LTD.</b>	<b>Laredo Chamber of Commerce Foundation</b>
<b>1st Place</b>	<b>Alberto Vargas</b>	<b>Hector J. Garcia ECHS</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>2nd Place</b>	<b>Yvana Guzman</b>	<b>Hector J. Garcia ECHS</b>	<b>\$1,500</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>	<b>\$500</b>
<b>3rd Place</b>	Regina Verboonen	John B. Alexander HS	\$750	\$500	\$250

# EIC Local-Academic Achievement: Class Ranking

The valedictorian and salutatorian shall be the eligible students with the highest and second highest rank, respectively. To be eligible for this local graduation honor, a student must:

1. Have been **continuously enrolled in the same high school in the District** for the **four semesters immediately preceding graduation**;
2. Be graduating after **exactly eight semesters of enrollment in high school**; and
3. Have completed the foundation program with the **distinguished level of achievement**.



# Proposed Addition to Policy: Top Ten

The **Top Ten Graduates** shall be the ten eligible students with the highest cumulative class rankings. To be eligible for this local graduation honor, a student must:

- Be enrolled in the same high school in the District for the four semesters immediately preceding graduation;
- Be graduating after exactly eight semesters of enrollment in high school; and
- Have completed the foundation program with the distinguished level of achievement.



# Local Graduation Honors



- For the purpose of determining **honors to be conferred during graduation activities**, the District shall calculate class rank in accordance with this policy and administrative regulations by using grades available at the time of calculation at the end of the third nine-week grading period of the senior year.
- For the **purpose of applications to institutions of higher education**, the District shall also **calculate class rank as required by state law**. The District's eligibility criteria for local graduation honors shall apply **only** for local recognitions and **shall not restrict class rank** for the purpose of automatic admission under state law. [See EIC(LEGAL)]

# Top Ten Recognition Criteria & Implementation (Class of 2030 & Beyond)

- Effective beginning with freshmen in the 2026–2027 school year (Class of 2030)
- Establishes a fair and equitable system for all current students
- Recognizes students who have earned and maintained a Top Ten ranking at their enrolled high school
- Maintains integrity and consistency across all campuses
- Aligns with the current valedictorian and salutatorian policy



Communication and Updates

Adjournment