

👁️ The Power of New 👁️

As I type this blog, I cannot believe that it is a new year. On top of that, today is January 31st which means in a few hours, we will experience a new month! Seniors will walk the stage and start a new life in less than four months...if you are a parent like me, you probably often wonder, "How did they grow so fast?" My two will be part of the Ganado High School Class of 2029 and 2031, respectively. At this rate, that'll be here in a few weeks! My mother told me before she passed to enjoy each day with your kids because in the blink of an eye, they will be grown and out of the house...

A new year is a new beginning. As we started the new semester, each principal held a school wide assembly to revisit campus procedures and expectations from the dress code and the use of electronic devices to tardies, absences, and everything in-between. Nothing was new, just revisiting and enforcing the approved 2023-24 Ganado ISD Student Handbook. I don't know if students read Facebook anymore and I am certainly not a Snapchatter or Instagrammer, but if they do, I want to give them a sincere THANK YOU! If you see one, please tell them, again, for me. They responded incredibly well. Additionally, I want to thank each principal for their leadership. It takes a team and we could not do it without Mrs. Palmer, Mrs. Guerrero, and Mr. Martin.

To expound on the above, I am going to ramble a bit! In this new era, values matter more than ever. I still believe in the power of a handshake, the Golden Rule (i.e., treat others the way that you wish to be treated), and dressing for success. Like the old saying, "Dress not for the job you have, but for the job you want." Let's face it, in the real-world, each and every occupation has some sort of required attire. Teaching positive habits in Grades preK-12 (e.g., care, discipline, fairness, manners, punctuality, etc.) will prepare our Indians and Maidens for real-life. I've said it 1,000 times, we have AWESOME students in Ganado ISD. Our district is small enough to truly make a difference. We won't settle for the status quo...our aim is take our students from "really good" to "great." Education isn't just about academics. Okay, ramble over...LOL

Do you see a theme here with the word "new?" I am super excited to announce that Melanie Chambless is our new Director of Curriculum and Instruction! Mrs. Chambless is in her seventh year at Ganado ISD and is departing the high school counselor position, whereas Krysta Frazier will now serve as counselor for Grades 6-12. Thank you Mrs. Chambless and Mrs. Frazier for accepting new roles!

Guess what, tomorrow, our new UIL district for 2024-2026 will be announced at 9:00 a.m. I know of at least one school moving down to Class 2A Division I and that's Danbury. The question is, will they be new to our district?

New Superintendent Shout-outs to: (1) Mrs. Ardner and her art students that advanced in competition and will have their work displayed at the Houston Rodeo: L. Andel, D. Zikuhr, A. Reid, Y. Guerrero-Brito, M. Lindsey, C. Brito-Lopez, and W. Mendoza; (2) Mr. Diaz and his Ag Mechanics students that excelled at the welding competition in Robstown; (3) Mrs. Keen and her junior high band students that performed at the Region 13 All Region Band Concert in Needville: C. Barajas, M. Griffin., and S. Barajas; (4) Mr. Skoruppa and his maintenance crew for reviving the old G-A-N-A-D-O building letters from storage and proudly installing them on the concession stand at The Hill; and (5) Coach J. Ervin and his Indians for being named the 2023 Ozarka Class 2A Football Team of the Year!

After writing "new" 16 times, it's time to go! Look for my new blog in a couple of weeks...that's 17!

Arrows Up,

Dr. Szymanski