

# The Harlandale Report

from the

## Desk of Superintendent Soto



**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2020**

Dear Harlandale Family,

I hope you are all feeling as excited and proud as I am. We have had an amazing past two weeks transitioning back to in-person learning. As the positive rate percentages go down, we are allowing more students to come back to in-person learning. Everyone at Harlandale ISD has done an amazing job at making sure our students are in a safe learning environment. I would like to commend our teachers first and foremost as we know that this new normal is not an easy task. You have all demonstrated where your true passion is at...our students' success. As I have visited your classrooms it fills me with pride to see how each one of you is teaching both virtual and in-person. Keeping your students engaged has not been an easy task but you all have gone above and beyond not only to make that happen but to get creative with your teaching techniques making learning fun for all of our students.

Another wonderful group of individuals whom I must mention is our principals. This month is national principals month and here at Harlandale ISD we have the best principals. It is because of their leadership that we have been able to have a smooth transition despite the uncertainty we have been living in these past months.

This month we also celebrated our custodians. We wouldn't be able to operate if it wasn't for the amazing custodial staff that we have at Harlandale ISD. Our schools and classrooms are constantly being cleaned and disinfected. I know that they make sure that everything is safe and ready to be used by our students and staff. Please thank them every time you see them in one of our facilities.

This week we concluded our Hispanic Heritage Literature week. Our board of trustees attended different elementary schools and read books that feature the Hispanic culture to our students. It was a great success. Thank you to everyone that participated!

We also recognized our teachers of the year from 2019-2020 who were not able to be recognized last year due to the pandemic. We had a drive through ceremony at central office and I want to let them know once again how proud and thankful I am of each one of them for making a difference in our students' lives.

Another exciting project is the launch of our biweekly [Harlandale Highlights](#) videos. We want everyone to know what a great family we have here at Harlandale ISD. This is a great way to highlight our staff, our students and all the amazing things happening in our district. If you haven't had a chance to watch it I encourage you to do so.



### Important Dates

- Instructional Choice Survey Number Two**  
Wed., October 14, 2020
- Board Meeting**  
Mon., October 19, 2020
- Mobile Food Pantry**  
Tues., Oct. 20, 2020
- Volleyball Frontier Game**  
Fri., Nov. 13, 2020

We are fast approaching the end of the first nine weeks...can you believe it? Remember that parents must fill out surveys again for each of their students so they can decide what type of learning they will be participating in for the next nine weeks. Please encourage them to take the survey online posted on our [Harlandale.net](#) website. The survey closes Wednesday, October 14.

Once again, thank you for making our school district a wonderful place for learning. Remember that we are always available to help you in any way we can. Thank you for your hard work and remember that we are stronger together and closer than ever.

Sincerely,

*Gerardo Soto*

Gerardo Soto  
Superintendent of Schools



Harlandale ISD and the Board of Trustees celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month by reading a book to students.



HISD recognizes the 2019-2020 teachers of the year from each campus with a drive-by parade.



Thank a custodian! We honored our custodians on Oct. 2 for their continuous work to keep us safe this year.

*Stronger Together.  
Closer Than Ever.*



CONNECT WITH US



@HarlandaleFamily



@HarlandaleISD



@HarlandaleISD