



Board Meeting Recognitions
Tuesday, April 15, 2025

Southwest ES	Antonio Garcia
<p>We are pleased to recognize Antonio Garcia for his academic excellence and dedication to the SWE community. His heart is filled with enthusiasm and confidence, especially in academics. His perfect attendance is evidence of his commitment and love for learning. Antonio exhibits hard work, loyalty, and fairness through his participation in various leadership roles, such as the Safety Patrols and student council.</p> <p>Antonio is a Harry Potter fan, and like a true Hufflepuff, he has a unique ability to inspire others and bring the community together with his kindness and patience. Antonio utilizes a strong moral compass given to him by his parents, who are his greatest admiration and inspiration. He strives to embrace challenges and lead by example. Antonio, SWE is proud to call you OHANA!</p>	
Spicewood Park ES	Sean Manuel Figueroa-Cantu
<p>Congratulations to Sean Cantu-Figeroa for being Spicewood Park's Student of the Month! Over the years at Spicewood Park Elementary, Sean has shown tremendous growth and maturity. He has become a true leader on campus, always setting a positive example for others. From serving on the student council to participating in robotics and iPlay, Sean stays actively involved while continuing to excel in the classroom. He also helped pioneer our SPE 3D Printing Club, using innovation and teamwork to bring creative ideas to life. His dedication, leadership, and well-rounded involvement make him an outstanding role model. We're so proud to celebrate his accomplishments and see where the future takes him!</p>	
Resnik MS	Emeri Cade
<p>Emeri is a dedicated and hardworking student who consistently puts forth their best effort in all classes. Their commitment to academic excellence is matched by their strong character, displaying kindness, integrity, and respect toward peers and teachers alike. With a positive attitude and a willingness to help others, Emeri</p>	

exemplifies what it means to be an outstanding student and a role model within the school community.

At this time, we would like to recognize our top two graduating students from each high school.

SWHS Salutatorian	Austyn Walch
<p>Austyn Walch is the Southwest High School Class of 2025 Salutatorian. Austyn is a 4 year letterman in cross country and currently serves as the Vice President for the National Honor Society. She is a member of the National Technical Honor Society and Business Professionals of America and has earned her certification in medical assisting. Austyn is currently on track to earn her Associate's Degree from Palo Alto this spring, as she has taken dual-credit courses throughout high school. Austyn plans to attend the University of Texas in Austin, where she will major in Biology. Her ultimate goal is to become a dentist, and she plans to participate in marathons to continue her running journey. Southwest High School is so proud of you, Austyn! We cannot wait to see what the future holds!</p>	

SWHS Valedictorian	Isabella Moreno Sandoval
<p>Isabell Moreno Sandoval, the SWHS Valedictorian, is a true leader on campus. Isabella will be graduating with her Associate's Degree from Palo Alto College, and receiving her high school diploma, as she has challenged herself with dual credit courses throughout her high school career. She is the senior class historian, secretary of the National Honor Society, and parliamentarian for the Spanish Honor Society, and she participates in multiple other clubs. Along with her Associate's Degree, Isabella has earned her certification in medical assisting. Isabella has been accepted to and earned a full academic scholarship to NYU, where she plans to attend in the fall and major in Biology. Congratulations Isabella! We are so proud to call you a Dragon and can't wait to see what you accomplish next.</p>	

SWL Salutatorian	Jose Espitia, Jr.
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Jose Espitia, our valedictorian, is the kind of student who inspires everyone around him. He's taken on the challenge of dual credit courses like Art Appreciation, College Algebra, Sociology, and Calculus—not just to get ahead, but because he truly values learning. He's a proud member of the National Honor Society and spends time reading to elementary students, sharing his love for education with the younger generation. But what really sets Jose apart is his heart—he's always there for his family, helping out in any way he can. His dedication, kindness, and quiet strength have left a lasting impact on our school.

SWL Valedictorian

Daniela Olivo

Daniela Olivo, our salutatorian, may be quiet—but her impact is anything but small. A natural leader, she serves as President of the National Honor Society and Secretary for the Early College High School for Education and Training while also being actively involved in the Math Honor Society, Truancy Club, and Interact Club. Daniela is always the first to raise her hand—whether to tutor a peer in math or English, read to elementary students, clean up local parks, or lend a hand to a teacher in need. She juggles a demanding schedule of dual-credit courses gracefully, making even the hardest work seem effortless. Her drive, humility, and dedication speak volumes, and she leads not with words but with action and heart.

CAST STEM Salutatorian

Jiveth Nadine Phillips

As the Salutatorian of the Class of 2025, Jiveth Phillips has combined academic excellence with hands-on experience and strong leadership. Throughout high school, she has been an active member of the National Honor Society and a driver for the Electric Car team, showcasing her passion for innovation and teamwork.

She has also taken on key leadership roles, serving as Vice President of the Class of 2025 and as a Project Manager for a PBL initiative that was proudly presented at the SUSO conference. Her leadership style is driven by collaboration, creativity, and a strong sense of purpose.

Upon graduation, she plans to attend Texas Tech University to complete a bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering with a Pre-Professional focus in Physical Therapy.

With her dedication and drive, she is well on her way to making a difference in both engineering and healthcare!

CAST STEM Valedictorian

Jon Daniel Bustamante

As the valedictorian of the Class of 2025, Jon Bustamante has demonstrated a remarkable balance of academic excellence, leadership, and involvement in a wide range of extracurricular activities. Throughout high school, he has been an active member of the National Honor Society, the Technology Student Association, the Electrathon engineering team, and Theatre.

A passionate leader, Jon has served as President of the National Honor Society, Treasurer of the Technology Student Association, Historian for the Senior Class, and Secretary of the Thespian Society. These roles reflect his dedication to both service and creativity, as well as a commitment to building a stronger school community.

Upon graduation, Jon plans to attend the University of Texas at Austin to pursue a bachelor's degree in biology or nutrition, with plans to continue to medical school and become a dermatologist. With a strong foundation of leadership, ambition, and compassion, he is ready to make a lasting impact in the world of medicine!

Rising Star Awards

Our SWISD Rising Stars have shown incredible growth, making positive changes and improving attendance. We are confident that their hard work will continue to positively impact their entire school experience at Southwest ISD. The winners are:

Medio Creek Elementary - Ramonni Niles - Thompson
McNair Middle School - Christopher Cervantes Jr
Southwest HS - Bejiah Gutierrez

SWISD Fine Arts Recognitions

Natalia Perez, a dedicated and talented art student at SWHS, recently achieved a remarkable milestone in her artistic journey. Competing in a prestigious art

competition VASE, she received a perfect score, securing her place at the state level. With four years of experience in art, Natalia has consistently demonstrated passion, creativity, and an incredible work ethic. Her dedication has earned her numerous awards over the years, solidifying her reputation as a rising star in the art world.

Southwest Legacy High School is proud to recognize two outstanding senior artists who represented Southwest ISD with distinction at the recent Visual Arts Scholastic Event. Congratulations to **Grace Esparza** and **Amayrani Reyna-Campos**. As dedicated artists, these students placed in the top 10% of Region 20E, showcasing exceptional skill and artistic expression. Their hard work and passion for the arts have not only brought pride to SW Legacy High School but have also set a high standard for future artists in the district.

SWISD Athletics Recognitions	
Southwest HS Powerlifting Alexis Navarro is a sophomore who participated in powerlifting for the 1st time. She placed 2nd at regionals in the 114 lb. weight class which qualified her for state. Sofia Pusateri is a junior who is a back to back state qualifier. She placed 4th at regionals and at state in the 220 lb. weight class. Danieliz Villafane is a junior who is the Region 5 Champion in the 181 lb. weight class. She followed up that performance with a 2nd place finish at state. Benito Leal is a senior who qualified for state with a 950 lb. total. School record holder with a 225 lb bench press in the 123 lb. weight class. Grant Griffin is a senior and 4 year powerlifting participant who qualified for state with a 1200 lb. total. School record holder with a 335 lb. bench press and a total of 1230 lb. in the 148 lb. weight class. Diego Mascorro is a senior who qualified for state with a 1300 lb. total. School record holder with a 505 lb. squat, 315 lb. bench, and 485 lb. deadlift with a total weight of 1300 lbs in the 165 lb. weight class.	

Reagan Gonzales is a senior and 4 year powerlifting participant who qualified for state with a 1400 lb. total lifted at regionals.

Ethan Paz is a senior who qualified for state with a 1500 lb. total lifted at regional. School record holder with 425 lb. bench press in the 242 lb. weight class.

Southwest Legacy HS Powerlifting

We are honored to recognize our girls and boys powerlifting state qualifiers for the 2025 season. They represented Southwest Legacy and SWISD with great character and competitive spirit. We are proud to announce the following state qualifiers:

Girls

Sophomore **Savannah Vargas** Weight class 97 Totals 620 4th place

Junior **Marissa Chavarria** Weight class 181 Totals 985 3rd place

Senior **Yoseline Cruz** Weight class 181 Totals 860

Sophomore **Arianna Sanchez** Weight class 242+ Totals 1035 3rd place

Boys

Senior **Americo Munoz** Weight class 123 Totals 1000

Senior **Alexander Rivera Perez** Weight class 242 Totals 1730

Junior **Roland Segovia** Weight class 275

Southwest Dragon Boys Basketball

It is our honor to recognize the Southwest Dragon basketball team on their fantastic season. The Dragons were 22-15 overall on the season and advanced to the third round of the playoffs for the first time in 16 years. The Dragons defeated Highlands 84-50 in the Bi-district Championship and Leander 58-52 in the Area Championship. The Dragons were lead by a large of group of exceptional seniors: Joaquin Zamora, Aazeryuan Voss, Trey Martin, Travis Hune, Nathan DeLaGarza, AJ Franco, Enrique Torrez, and Nathaniel Serna. The Dragons will return four players next season, Jae'von Means, Austin Diggs, Elijah Sommers, and Isaiah Logan. Congratulations to Dragon basketball for a historic season and looking forward to many more.

Emerging Educator Awards

Arely Trevino
Jacklyn Segura
Serena Brown
Kamryn Jones
Gabriella Lopez

Big Country Elementary
Bob Hope Elementary
Elm Creek Elementary
Hidden Cove STEAM Academy
Indian Creek Elementary

Miranda Chavarri
Anatasia Mcallister
Miriam Garcia
Kaitlyn Gilbert
Illeana Salinas

Kriewald School of the Arts
Medio Creek Elementary
Sky Harbor Elementary
Southwest Elementary
Spicewood Park Elementary

Hannah Wagner
Luis Garza
Raul Ruiz
Joseph Cerda
Tylor Doege
Joe Vega
Michael Cornelius

McAuliffe Middle School
McNair Middle School
Resnik Middle School
Scobee Middle School
Southwest High School
Southwest Legacy High School
Crossroads Academy

District Winners:

Elementary District Emerging Educator
Candace Vega - Sun Valley Elementary

Secondary District Emerging Educator
Ivan Medina - CAST STEM HS