



Meeting Date: February 26, 2026

Submitted By: Dr. Lacey Gosch
Title: Assistant Superintendent

Agenda Item: Consider and take action regarding approving the Proclamation to declare March 2026 as Social Workers Month. Theme: "*Social Workers: Uplift. Defend. Transform*"

CONSENT ITEM

RECOMMENDATION:

To approve the Proclamation to declare March 2026 as Social Workers Month for Judson ISD.

IMPACT/RATIONALE:

The annual Social Workers Month campaign is time to inform public, policymakers, and legislators about services social workers provide. School Social Workers are especially skilled in identifying and providing services to students who face serious challenges to school success, including poverty, disability, discrimination, abuse, addiction, bullying, loss of a loved one, and other barriers to learning. The time is always right for social work. More people are entering the field because they have a strong desire to help others and make our society a better place to live for all. Social work is one of the fastest growing professions in the nation according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics and expected to grow by 12 percent by the end of the decade. Social workers have played key roles in the Civil Rights and Women's Rights movements and pushed for social programs we now take for granted including the minimum wage, a 40-hour work week, Social Security and Medicare.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

Approval/Disapproval



**SOCIAL WORK MONTH 2026 PROCLAMATION:
"SOCIAL WORKERS: Uplift. Defend. Transform"**

WHEREAS, the Social Work Profession for decades has been dedicated to improving human well-being and enhancing the basic needs of all people—especially the most vulnerable among us particularly during the global pandemic;

WHEREAS, this year's Social Work Month theme, "Social Workers: Uplift. Defend. Transform." honors the prime mission of the Social Work profession - to enhance human well-being, meet the basic human needs of all people, and put special attention on the needs and empowerment of people;

WHEREAS, Social Workers are the largest group of mental health care providers in the United States, and work daily to help people—whether in person or remotely—overcome substance use disorders and mental illnesses such as depression and anxiety;

WHEREAS, Social Workers have always helped people overcome issues such as death and grief and helped people and communities recover from increasing natural disasters such as fires, hurricanes and earthquakes brought on by climate change;

WHEREAS, Social Workers have helped this nation live up to its values by successfully advocating for equal rights for all, including Black, Indigenous, People of Color, those who are LBGTQA, religious groups and others;

WHEREAS, the Social Work Profession is one of the fastest growing careers in the United States, with more than more than 810,000 social workers today and nearly 800,000 professionals expected to be employed as social workers by 2028;

WHEREAS, Social Workers have continued to push for changes that have made our society a better place to live, including a livable wage, improved workplace safety, and social safety net programs that help ameliorate poverty, hunger, and homelessness;

WHEREAS, Social Workers possess the necessary expertise to assist our nation in some of its most demanding concerns, including their health and well-being not only during the pandemic, but at all times, ensuring equal rights, improved health care and mental health care for all; and immigration reform;

WHEREAS, Social Workers work in all facets of our society to meet people no matter their circumstance and empower them to live to their fullest potential;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, I, Monica Ryan, Board President of Judson Independent School District, do hereby proclaim the month of March 2026 as National Social Work Month in Judson ISD. We call upon all citizens to join the National Association of Social Workers and Judson ISD in celebration and support of the Social Work Profession.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the Judson Independent School District on this 26th day of February 2026.

Ms. Monica Ryan, Board President

Ms. Lesley Lee, Board Secretary

