

Superintendent's Message – November, 2018

Recent national events have placed images of hateful violence and bigotry at the forefront of the daily news. As a nation, we mourn the victims of hate crimes, ethnic intimidation and violence. In times when hate speech leads to horrific crimes, we must help our children understand that our democracy depends upon civil discourse and the rights of all our citizens are paramount.

Common acts of kindness occur daily in our schools. Our teachers, principals and staff continually find ways to recognize the positive behavior of our students. Last week I visited our elementary schools' assemblies where they recognized different virtues: kindness, safety, respect, healthy living and energy efficiency; themes our children were being taught in meaningful ways.

Friday night at the LBJ game at Big Spring, we watched players from each team stand together as an expression of unity in the face of tragedy. Our coaches collaboratively determined that while we are rivals, we needed to emphasize togetherness in an atmosphere where rivalry does not overtake sportsmanship and to express support when mourning a classmate.

We are privileged to be granted the opportunity to educate our future – our students. I want to express gratitude to our teachers, staff, parents, and community who find it in their hearts to help our young people understand civility, kindness, and love are essential virtues. We are all better when we put aside our differences and focus on what unites us rather than being consumed by our divisions.

Educationally yours,

Jerry Wilson, PhD