



Newsletter

NUESTRA JUVENTUD OUR YOUTH NUESTRO FUTURO OUR FUTURE



OUR MISSION

We are dedicated to the intellectual, personal, social, emotional and physical growth of students. Our highly qualified staff recognizes the value of professional development in order to rigorously challenge our students. Our teaching practices are both reflective and responsive to the needs of our students. Through diversified experi-

OUR VISION

To prepare and motivate our students for a rapidly changing world by instilling in them critical thinking skills, a global perspective, and a respect for core values of honesty, loyalty, perseverance, and compassion. Students will have success for today and be prepared for tomorrow's societal and global challenges

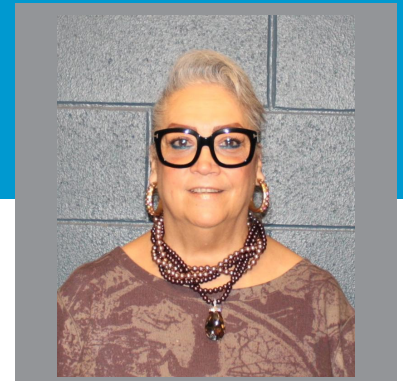
Mr. Godoy Praises the Students and Staff



Walking into M. L. Garza - Gonzalez, as a visitor I was struck by how inviting the school atmosphere is. The hallways were bright and colorful with several student projects on display. The employees were friendly, everyone greeting me as I walked by. I was able to catch Mr. Ricardo Godoy,

principal, for a few minutes from his hectic schedule to get an update on how the school year was shaping up.

Ricardo, is a bundle of energy and seems to be everywhere at once. He was eager to take a minute to let me know how happy and pleased he is with the school, the children, faculty and staff. He gives credit to the team for the atmosphere and successes. "M. L. Garza - Gonzalez Charter School is a fabulous school because of the wonderful students who choose to attend our school and the excellent faculty and staff who work here." The year is off to a great start, Ricardo Godoy assures me that more good things are on their way.



SUPERINTENDENT

Mrs. Bernal became the second superintendent at the Charter School, when Dr. Garza-Gonzalez, retired last year. Mrs. Bernal has motivated her staff to think outside the box and keep students front and center.

She sets challenging expectations and empowers her staff to succeed. She motivates others to do more than they intended and often even more than they thought possible.

RED RIBBON WEEK

Mr. Godoy shared a number of events and activities that had happened recently. The Red Ribbon Week events were a great success. The children were especially interested in the visit from the firemen and fire trucks at the school. The also enjoyed many of the other activities. Grandparents, who attended the grandparents day, were highly complementary.





Veterans Day Celebration

Veterans make up 9% of the adult population in Texas. Our school children have parents, aunts, uncles and grandparents who have served in one of the many branches of the service. Honoring those who have served is an important tradition at our school. This year, Army Maj. Victor Ramos, maintenance director for Beeville ISD was guest speaker at the Garza-Gonzalez Charter School event. He livened up

Ramos' four brothers were all Marines, and he enlisted in the Marine Corps. He described being chosen as a guidon bearer, or a flag carrier, despite his short stature. He joked that Marines had invented the microwave oven, saying he and his comrades used C4 explosives to heat up coffee in 10 seconds.

His talk was inspiring to many of the students. So many of our children have relatives, who have served. Mr. Ramos speech made the students appreciate how much the men and women who serve sacrifice.

Veterans Days is a time to reflect upon the sacrifices that secured me a good home.

Superintendent Dee Dee Bernal told the students Veterans Day is a day to both celebrate the men and women who got to return from tours of duty and to remember those who didn't come back. They "gave the most precious gift that anyone could give: They gave their lives for our country, for the freedoms that we all take for granted here," Bernal said. "Every individual who served in any of the armed services wears the badge of bravery."



Reforest Texas

Science teacher Ruben Orta and a few students knelt on the grass outside the school. The students planted a young oak tree and 100 seedlings. This was part of a statewide effort to address climate concerns by students. A group of students who were tired of adults and celebrities just talking about climate change decided to use social media to start school planting trees. Our students encourage others to get involved!



the crowd by leading students in the Marine Corps battle cry, "Oorah!"

Ramos lived in Corpus Christi until he was in seventh grade, when his father decided the family would become migrant farm workers. They cut grapes in California, dug up potatoes in Idaho and found work in other states over the following years.

- ◆ THE ARMY
- ◆ THE NAVY
- ◆ THE MARINES
- ◆ THE AIRFORCE
- ◆ THE COASTGUARD



Our Children's Wisdom

In this time when it seems that our nation and communities are being torn into groups and factions, the wisdom of children brings me hope. Recently the children planted trees to address concerns about the planet. They were turned off by the grown-ups and "celebrities" being disrespectful and choosing to name call rather than take positive action. One of the children said, **"Maybe its time for the celebrities and politicians to go back to kindergarten!"** and learn how to behave.