

## From the Superintendent

February 26, 2018

All of our lives are filled with activity. Most of these activities serve to put a smile on our face and make our days a little brighter. A few of our very special activities generate wonderful memories that we will cherish for the rest of our lives. When we generate those very wonderful memories, it is human nature to want to share them with our family and friends so that they can share in the joy with us. This is the basis of your heritage! Who are you and how did you become who you are? Your heritage is a compilation of all of those memories and activities that you have been a part of in your life.

In my case, my mom and dad have already gone to be with the Lord. There are many times that something wonderful happens in my life that I want to pick up the phone and share with my folks only to remember that they are no longer there at the other end of the phone. Has that ever happened to you? I cherish those moments too because it brings back many memories of the great times with my mom and dad when I was much younger or even the stories that they told my brother, sister, and I about before we were born. You see, their heritage and my heritage are one and the same since they are so closely linked together.

Did you know that RLISD/Western Falls County has a heritage as well? In fact, it has an extremely rich heritage. Did you know that there is an historical marker right now that is marking the site of an old frontier fort right here in Falls County, Fort Milam? Did you know that President Sam Houston met with the chiefs of the 11 Native American/Indian tribes that are native to Texas? Shortly after Texas had won its independence and become a separate nation, he met with the chiefs at the Falls on the Brazos to secure a peaceful co-existence between the peoples. Did you know that Charles Lindberg got lost in 1924 while flying from Florida to San Antonio to join the US Army Air Corps? He landed right here in Travis, Texas to ask for directions of a local farmer. Did you know that the Board of Trustees for the Lott ISD Lions and the Rosebud ISD Panthers came together in 1969 to begin a discussion that led to the creation of the Rosebud-Lott Cougars. These are just a few pieces of our heritage!

The next time you see an old yearbook just sitting there collecting dust, take a few minutes to pick it up, wipe off the dust, and look back at our heritage. The current fashions at the time are almost always worth a laugh or two. Maybe you can find pictures of your mom, dad, grandma, or grandpa. Did you know that RLISD was State Champions in Football 2002, or State Track Champions in 2014 & 2015? Do you know how many times that RLISD won the State Accounting Championship in the 1980's & 1990's? How many Sweepstakes Trophies has our Band earned over the years? Did you know that Coach Hoelscher actually held a state track record for many years? I believe that you will be amazed at how time slips away!

**Cougar Pride Heritage Lives in Each One of Us When We Honor Our Past!**

## December 18, 2017

### **CHRISTMAS, 1776**

This is the Christmas story of a brother and a sister, Kitty and Harry Tracy, who lived in Bordentown, New Jersey. Their father was a soldier in George Washington's army, which was stationed about seven miles away from them. It was such a short distance the children were almost giddy with the thought that their father would surprise them with a visit on Christmas Day. There was only a small problem with their dream – 1,500 Hessian troops and the British regulars who were camped between them and their father!

While the children hurried about to be sure that this Christmas was a day to remember, their mother was busy trying to put on a brave face for her children, determined that her children would not be disappointed this Christmas season.

Kitty Tracy was so proud of the gift she had for her father. While she was only eight years old, Kitty thought that the blue woolen socks that she had knitted for him were at least as nice as those knitted by much older girls. She couldn't help but exclaim to no one in particular that "...papa will really be 'sprised when he opens this gift!" Harry, of course, was occupied being the "man of the house" in his father's absence, and the ten year old had made sure that there was plenty of fire wood chopped and stacked to keep the family warm **and** to cook Christmas dinner!

As if it was a thought that had suddenly encroached on his excited mind, Harry asked, "What if he shouldn't come?"

Kitty quickly shot back, "Oh, he'll come! Papa never stays away on Christmas, does he mamma?" But a quick glance at Mrs. Tracy with the big tears in her eyes caused the conversation to take a serious tone.

"Mamma, don't you think he will come?"

"He'll come if he possibly can," says Mrs. Tracy; "and if he cannot, we will keep Christmas for whenever your dear papa does come home."

Being a practical young lady as well as a loving child, Kitty asks, "How is Santa going to know about it if we change the day?"

A family meeting that Christmas Eve determined that Christmas would be celebrated on Christmas Day and papa's gifts would be saved for his return. Later that evening, the children hung their stockings, but the normal excitement of Christmas Eve was missing.

On Christmas morning, Mrs. Tracy's brother brought the family a splendid turkey hidden under a load of wood because the Hessian soldiers occupying the town were particularly fond of turkey. Harry loved turkey, too. Kitty was fond of turkey as well, so when Mother said, "It's such a fine bird. It seems a shame to eat it without father." Harry and Kitty cried out in unison, "Let's save it for father!" It did seem strange to have no papa and no turkey on Christmas Day!

As day turned to evening and evening to night, family talk turned again to papa and hopes that he was warm and dry on the cold, wet evening. As the family dozed, firing could be heard in the distance.

Sunrise brought great excitement to Bordentown. A group of Hessians stopped long enough to report that General Washington and his army had surprised the Hessians and British in Trenton in the early hours of morning and completely routed them. Within minutes, all of the soldiers stationed in Bordentown had fled, and the village erupted in celebration! While the merriment was still at a fevered pitch, there came a knock on the Tracy's door. Before anyone could answer it, the door swung open and a tall soldier entered.

With a scream of delight, Kitty and Harry both flung themselves into papa's open arms! Although a day late, the Christmas of 1776 lived forever in the Tracy family.

I am unsure if the story of the Tracy family is true or a legend, but I do know that 1776 is not the last time in our nation's history that families have been separated at Christmas because of war. Please pause for a moment this year to remember the men and women of our military who are away from their families this Christmas season defending you and me!

By Barry Haenisch

**Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!**

November 28, 2017

Many think that you have to choose between positivity and winning. But the truth is you don't have to choose. Positivity leads to winning.

Michael Phelps was recently interviewed by Bob Costas where he described his approach to building a positive team before the 2016 Olympics in Rio.

*"Every now and then you hear a bunch of negative comments or someone complaining and during training camp at one of the meetings I said to the guys that we are getting ready to go to the Olympics, this is what we have to do and if there is a negative comment keep it to yourself. The more positivity we have as a team the better off we are going to be. As soon as I said that we all became closer and then we really started getting going."*

When I heard Michael say these words I was thrilled because he shared a truth with the world that I have witnessed countless times throughout the years. A team with talent can be good. But they must come together to be great. Positivity is the glue that enhances team connection and performance and it impacts office teams, school teams, church teams, and hospital teams as much as it does Olympic teams.

I've seen very positive teams with average talent accomplish more than anyone thought possible.

I've also seen negative teams with a lot of talent accomplish far less than everyone thought was possible.

Positive teams work together more effectively. They stay positive, connected and committed through challenges. They maximize each other's talent. They believe together and achieve more together.

Positive, high performing teams don't happen by accident. They are built by leaders and team members who reduce the negative and add a big dose of positive. When you subtract negativity and add positivity to your talent, the sky is the limit. -Jon Gordon-

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." – Helen Keller

"If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself." – Henry Ford

We have so much to be proud of in our RLISD family. Let's continue to encourage one another and focus on the positives around us as we move on to another level of greatness!

**Cougar Pride is Alive!**

## November 6, 2017      LOOKING IN MY REAR-VEIW MIRROR

Normally, I am not one to look back in a negative manner, figuratively speaking, but this very positive situation really occurred and I could not shake it so I wanted to share it with you. Of course, I am sure that most of you know about our hard-fought loss here at home on Friday night against Thorndale, 21-22. It was a heartbreaker to say the least! This is not the looking back that I am speaking of because our boys, fans, and coaches stayed in it the whole game and did their best. For that, they deserve our respect.

My rear-view mirror experience happened the next morning. We had three Cougars who had made it all the way to the State Cross-Country Championships in Round Rock. Emma's race began at 12:20 while Jeremy and Ty's race came right after her at 12:50. Emma ran sick but still finished in a respectable time. Jeremy finished 13<sup>th</sup> in the State and Ty came in shortly behind him. Once again, this is not the rear-view mirror experience that I am talking about. Out of the thousands of kids running XC across the state that never made it to this level, RLISD had three precious students that made it to the finals and finished at or near the top in their class. That is an awesome!

My rear-view mirror experience happened in between these two great events. Saturday was the big 100+ garage sale in Rosebud. Sherry had actually decided to participate as a seller this year instead of just buying up stuff from others. After we got it all set up Saturday morning, I returned into the house to drink my coffee, eat some breakfast, and catch a little Property Brothers before heading to Round Rock for the XC Meet. I said goodbye and left the house about 10:00. I could not slip out of our alleyway onto Main Street as I normally do every morning because of all the cars parked there. So, I went the other way and turned left on Linden to hit Main Street one/half block east. Turning right onto Main Street off of Linden was still no easy task. There were people on foot and in cars everywhere! Once I finally got on Main street headed east toward the loop, that is when I had my "REAR-VIEW MIRROR EXPERIENCE". I am on main street heading east when I look back in my rear-view mirror. As always, I can see the blinking red light at Highway 77 but this time the sight was quite different. There were cars and people as far as the eye could see on both sides of the road. Up and down Main Street I could see people jaywalking across the road. Cars were stopped in the road up and down that stretch dropping off or picking up their riders. Other cars were going around them on the wrong side looking for treasures and parking spaces. I am not complaining about the traffic! This was a glorious sight to behold! Thousands of visitors came into our town to participate in our City-wide Garage Sale. Sherry and I have been to Round Top on several occasions and that is what came to my mind at the time.

Even after I left, Rosebud and was on Hwy 53 headed to Temple (via Westphalia because I could not get through the City of Rosebud) the amazement continued. On that 18-20 mile stretch, there had to have been at least 30 garage sale signs along the road. I even saw two churches that were having their "Bake/Garage/Quilt Sale" to capitalize of the traffic that they knew would be flooding out to Rosebud that day. I talked with several folks at church this morning who said they observed the same thing on Highway 77 toward Waco on Saturday. Others were taking advantage of the flood of traffic to Rosebud!

Point being? Rosebud hosted it and they came!!! I know that Lott had a similar experience with their Haunted House on Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday. We are near enough to the big cities to entice them out to our country environments if we only offer something of interest to them. I would like to hear the volume of business at the CEFCO's or Dairy Queen or Dollar General or Hwy 77 Café or Lisa Ann's or Comolita's or Tasty Mart or Brookshire Brothers or Miller's on Saturday compared to any average Saturday. Would it be too much to have some type of event once a month in each of our towns to encourage the city folks to come out here and spend their money. Some common examples would be a monthly flea market, music venues (RIS or LES gyms), quilt shows, craft shows, tool shows, car shows, motorcycle shows, gun shows, or fairs just off the top of my head.

We have a great community with a tremendous pride! Let's invite the world to be a part of it; at least once or twice a month!

**Cougar Pride is Alive and Growing! Let's Feed the Cougar!**

October 16, 2017

The great Irish author, George Bernard Shaw, once said, "A Native American elder once described his own inner struggles in this manner: Inside of me there are two dogs. One of the dogs is mean and evil. The other dog is good. The mean dog fights the good dog all the time. When asked which dog wins, he reflected for a moment and replied, The one I feed the most." I have found this to be true in myself as well. There are so many days that I feel totally blessed and overwhelmed by the positive things I see occurring all around me in my life. I have a wonderful wife and sons who love me despite of myself. I have a wonderful church family who care for Sherry and I and share a vision of excellence for our wonderful community. I have a tremendous School Board that also shares that same level of excitement in seeing our kids and community excel. I am fortunate to work with a tremendous group of professionals who are doing an excellent job serving this community. I am privileged to serve the most respectful group of young ladies and gentlemen that I have ever had the honor or serving in 28 years in education. I serve a community full of folks that simply want to see the best for our kids. With all these wonderful blessings in my life, what do I find my mind dwelling upon in the wee hours of the morning: the negative. There seems to be something about our nature that continues to drift to the negative side of things. I firmly believe that there is positive and negative, good and bad in this world. Which one we choose to dwell upon is up to us!

Saul of Tarsus once said, 'whatsoever things are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, of good report; if there be any virtue, if there be any praise, think on these things'. For some folks in dire circumstances, that may really prove to be a challenge. However, that is not the case for those of us who are blessed to live here in RLISD. Our positive blessings truly do tend to be overwhelming at times. Here is a simple recap of the past week here in RLISD.

It has been an awesome week in ROLO Cougar territory. First, both of our boys XC teams winning district again and the Varsity moving on to Regionals. Then we have a freshman Lady Cougar who also qualifies for regionals in her first ever district XC meet. Our Cougar band posts two more Division 1 ratings in practice Marching competitions. Our girls VB team had two more huge wins on the road to move their record to 11-1 in district and set up the championship showdown with the Moody Bearkats here in Travis this Tuesday afternoon. All that considered, who will ever forget the Cougar FB team manhandling the Moody Bearkats here at home last night, 33-13. If that was not enough, we had the privilege to see them again on Channel 10 TV last night at 11:35 as KWTX invited our boys to come into their studio to be interviewed on TV (and free food). We have so... much to be thankful for and proud of here in Rosebud-Lott ISD!

**Way to Go Cougars! We are proud of you!!**

October 2, 2017

You know, we talk a lot about Cougar Pride here in Rosebud-Lott ISD and it is clear to see why. We have so much to be proud of in this Cougar Family! Our Cougar Football team had a rough season last year by going 2-8 and not winning a single game at home. Many teams would have a difficult time bouncing back from such a difficult season. Not our Cougars! They have jumped all over their opponents so far this year. So far, they have already earned a 4-1 record with two outstanding wins at home. That "no-quit" spirit is a lot to be proud of but we as Cougars have so much more. Our Lady Cougar Volleyball team has now begun the second half of their district volleyball season. With 14 games in district, our girls have already achieved an 8-1 with that loss being an uncharacteristic loss to the Moody Bearkats on their home court. Please be sure and come out to support our Lady Coogs for these final 5 games of district. If we can win out, they could be District Champs. On top of that, our Cross-country kids get up at the crack-of-dawn almost every Saturday morning to compete in distant meets usually against much larger districts. So far, they have already brought home many individual and group medals, including taking both the Boys and Girls Championship in Malakoff. This past Saturday, they competed against 3A, 4A, and 5A schools in Cameron. While our boys did very well and demonstrated great Cougar Pride, our Lady Coogs actually took 3rd place overall. The 2017-2018 school year is just getting started and we already have so much to be proud of in RLISD.

I would like take a moment to ask each of you to reflect with me on another area that holds a tremendous amount of Cougar Pride. **That area is our heritage!** Did you know that Charles Lindberg actually landed his airplane on a cornfield right here in Travis, Texas in 1923, on his way to San Antonio? Did you know that Davy Crockett and his Tennessee Volunteers passed over the Falls on the Brazos and right through RLISD on his way to the Alamo? Did you know that Sam Houston, then President of the Republic of Texas, met with the Native American (Indian) Chiefs of the 11 major Texas tribes right here in RLISD at the Falls of the Brazos River? Did you know that there was a town (Sarahville de Viesca) at the Falls of the Brazos as early as the late 1820's? After General Sam Houston, Santa Anna, and the Runaway Scrape passed through it in 1836 it was abandoned for a short time before being reestablished as Fort Milam. A historical marker marks this spot even today. Think about it, all of this and so much more happened right here in our community. We have an extremely rich heritage!

Sherry and I have been here 17 months now and you have heard me say many times how blessed we feel to be here in RLISD. I have observed many times now the outstanding accomplishments and character of this school system and community. Now, I have had the opportunity to discover a rich heritage and ancestry that goes back almost 200 years. Whether it be State Championships, academic championships, internationally known visitors, Presidential summits, or state historical battles, we have so much to be proud of here in RLISD.

**Proud to be a Cougar!**

September 18, 2017

2017-2018 has already been the year for outstanding, major events.

First, Cougarland was spotlighted on the KWTX Channel 10 Spirit Week. You all did such a wonderful job of showing off all the fantastic blessings that we live with each and every day here in our community. Not only do we have great kids but we also have a great community and school. I may be prejudice but I saw bits and pieces of all five days of the Spirit Week and I could not be prouder of our RLISD family.

Next, we had the long-anticipated Rosebud-Lott Elementary School Groundbreaking Ceremony this past Monday night here in Travis. In order to properly prepare for the festivities (i.e. – parking, location, refreshments, viewing the program, etc.) Mr. Sims and I had several discussions about how many folks we anticipated being present for the event. You guys were awesome as we honored our 9/11 heritage and celebrated this positive step forward as Americans and Cougars!! While no actual count was taken, over 200 bottles of water were taken, 500 cookies, and there were cars everywhere. I would also like to share a special word of thanks to our Volunteer Fire Departments in the cities of Rosebud and Lott. They turned out in force to keep the traffic moving and orderly. It is that kind of selfless dedication to our community and kids that makes RLISD a great place to raise a family. Cougar Pride is Alive!

Our next big event is Homecoming! Yes, it is already time for our annual Homecoming festivities. The bonfire will be this Wednesday night, September 20, in its traditional location on the north end of the Travis facility near the sight of the new elementary school. The festivities will begin at 6:30 p.m. with music and fellowship. At 7:00 p.m., our band, cheerleaders, athletes, and coaches will take over and celebrate for the next hour before the official lighting around 8:00 p.m. The Athletic boosters will have an eatable surprise for all who attend as long as the supplies last. Weather permitting, there will be a district-wide Pep Rally in Cougar Stadium on Friday afternoon at 1:30 p.m. RPS and LES students will be bused in to join the festivities. The Lady Cougar Volleyball team take on the Bosqueville Bulldogs in the Cougar Gym beginning at 4:00 p.m. The big Homecoming Football game is on Friday night at 7:30 p.m. against the Central Texas Christian School (CTCS) Lions. I hope you can make it out to see our boys rack up their third win of this very young season. Wow, what a week!!

These are great times to be a Rosebud-Lott Cougar. Please join me in encouraging our kids to “dream big” and “shoot for the stars”. Albert Einstein once said, “The people who are crazy enough to think they can change the world are the ones who do.” Our kids are our future, let’s encourage them to make this world an even better place than we are going to leave in their hands. Nelson Mandela said it this way, “It always seems impossible until it is done”.

**Cougar Pride Never Dies!**

September 4, 2017

Happy Labor Day everybody! I hope that you have all had a few days to spend relaxing and enjoying your family. Sherry and I had the opportunity to spend Sunday night eating Pizza Hut pizza at home with our boys and watching the Aggies play  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a football game. We also got to see "Guardians of the Galaxy 2" on pay per view. It was even better than the first if you are in to that and have not seen it yet.

Our kids and coaches have not slowed down much for the holiday weekend. On Friday night, our Cougar Football team opened up their 2017 season with a hard-fought win against the 3A Florence Buffaloes. Our boys may not be huge but they displayed tremendous Cougar Pride and determination by not quitting and holding off the much larger Buffalo team with a final score of 33-29 in their home stadium. Our next game is at home this Friday against the Chilton Pirates. This was a fantastic start for the new season! Way to go Coogs!! Then many of those same boys got up early Saturday morning to travel to Malakoff between Corsicana and Athens. Our Lady Cougar and Cougar Cross Country Teams both did an outstanding job and brought home many medals including gold! For the Lady Cougars, Lily Dawson took 1<sup>st</sup>, Emma Hering took 2<sup>nd</sup>, and Abbi Mondragon took 3<sup>rd</sup> to secure the first place team position for the entire meet. Our men did equally well with Jeremy Truesdale taking 1<sup>st</sup> place, Ty Stock 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Bryam Herrera 6<sup>th</sup> place, and Demonte Hargrove 7<sup>th</sup> place. Our JV Boys had a tremendous showing as well with Jose Perez, Jordyn Watson, Kaden Barnfield, John Blake Arndt, Jassiel Cortez, and Julian Reyna taking 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup> places respectively. Congratulations to Coach Hoelscher and both Cross-Country teams for getting off to another great start. I understand that both teams are bound for State competition this year.

It was a great start to the first week of school last week. It was not without its "bumps in the road" early in the week but I could not be prouder of how our well our campus staff pulled together with parents and Central Office personnel to iron out the new transportation routines. These changes were designed to reduce the amount of time our students are on the buses which was the biggest concern I had for our transportation system for the 2016-2017 school year. At the end of the day on Friday, all students had been delivered and all buses back in the barn by 5:15 in the afternoon. This is an improvement of 30-45 minutes over last year depending upon the bus route.

Our afterschool ACE program will begin tomorrow on the LES & RPS campuses. Our ACE directors have not changed so feel free to contact them if you have any questions.

The Rosebud-Lott Elementary School Groundbreaking Ceremony is set for Monday, September 11, 2017 beginning at 6:30 p.m. You are welcome and encouraged to attend as we celebrate this milestone occasion in the life of our community. There will be refreshments, drawings, renderings, and lots of fellowship to be had by all. I hope to see you all there on the grounds of the new RLES facility.

**Cougar Pride is Alive!!**

## August 21, 2017

Wow, what a wonderful first week back to school, at least for staff development. We still have another week before our kids return on August 28. Most of us began the week in our brand new matching polo shirts over at Riesel. Thank you to our Board of Trustees for the matching shirts. We came together with Riesel, Mart, and Hallsburg to hear a motivational speaker, Jim Bob Solsberg. While he was a little hard to hear because of the sound system, Jim Bob conveyed a powerful message of meeting the needs of all students. RLISD looked sharp and was the envy of the group. We came back here Monday afternoon for a fantastic lunch from The Chicken Place provided by Incommons Bank. The Chicken Cordon Blu was awesome. Thank you to our partners at Incommons Bank in Rosebud. We finished our busy Monday with our district convocation opened up by our Band and Cheerleaders. After a word of encouragement from our Board of Trustees, the staff spent the next two hours hearing from vendors and the RLISD Department heads about the upcoming year. If that day wasn't busy enough, each campus then turned around on Tuesday and had similar meetings all day long about what to expect on the campuses.

Wednesday through Friday were spent working with specific areas on the campuses. RLHS & RLMS met together both days to talk about individualized instruction, assessments, data, and intervention based upon that data. RPS and LES spent Thursday and Friday together at the FBC of Lott hearing the presenter, George Jacobis, teaching them how to use the Capturing Kids Hearts program to meet the needs of the individual children. It was great to see all of our staff having fun working together to improve ourselves for the benefit of our kids.

The 2016-2017 school year was outstanding in many ways. In order to continue this trend toward moving forward as an educational community, our focus is going to be upon meeting the needs, educational and emotional, of every child. Please help us help our kids grow!

The teachers are not the only ones who are already busy. We have had students all over the place up here practicing something at the High School for several weeks. We have had Football practice, Band practice, Volleyball practice, Cross Country practice, and Cheer practice for some time. We have already had several volleyball games as they are preparing to leave on August 30 for the KSA Tournament in Florida. Our boys had their first scrimmage yesterday, Saturday, here at home against the Axtell Longhorns. Please check out the RLHS website or Athletic Boosters Facebook page to see all of their schedules for the upcoming seasons. It is about to get very busy!!

I want to thank all of you who came out to participate with us on Thursday morning at 5:00 a.m. (or before) as KWTX Channel 10 out of Waco spotlighted the RLISD Cougars during their "Spirit Week". If you did not, please take the time to cut and paste this link to see some of the highlights. Cougar Pride is Alive and Growing!

<http://www.kwtx.com/content/news/KWTX-Spirit-Week-at-Harker-Heights-440892353.html>

**Go Cougars! Bring on 2017-2018!**

August 7, 2017

I hope that you have all had an outstanding summer vacation with plenty of rest and relaxation with your family. Sherry and I were able to do some camping at Speegleville Corps of Engineers Park in Waco with our boys. We were also able to go back to Hawaii where we honeymooned 30 years ago. We were also fortunate enough to attend a very powerful Eric Jensen conference in San Antonio about meeting the individual needs of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century student. It has truly been a fantastic summer!

The administrative team and I have been working very hard all summer with two weeks off for vacation to prepare for the upcoming school year. The 2016-2017 school year was outstanding with many fantastic stories to tell and memories to relive for years to come. It is only by working together as a team that we can continue the process of growing and improving. The Cougar Nation has a tremendous list of accolades to be proud of from the 2016-2017 school year. I believe it is important for each of us to understand that, "The moment you start reducing expectations you risk introducing complacency" (Peter Mandelson). Please join me in preventing complacency now by striving to be the best that we can be in everything that we do. Let's show the world what Cougar Pride is all about!

**Construction Update:**

The construction plans on the new facility and renovations are complete. They officially went out for competitive bid last week. Any interested contractor has until August 17 to get their bid in to our C.M.A.R. John Bennett with Erwin Construction in Waco. Based upon these bids, the last major hurdle before breaking ground will be the Board agreeing on a "Guaranteed Maximum Price" with our CMAR. As was promised, 'how far can we stretch our \$12M'? At this time, we have been working with estimates from our CMAR and now it is out for competitive bids. If you are new to the area, when the \$12M bond project is complete we will have a new elementary school in Travis, along with remodeling/renovations to the Band Hall, Ag Facility, Field House, Theater, Science Labs, and RLHS/MS Hallways.

**Important Upcoming Events and Dates:**

Football, Volleyball, Band, Cross Country, and Cheerleaders have already begun working out.

Thursday, August 10 – New Teacher Inservice Begins

Monday, August 14 – RLISD District-wide Convocation

Thursday, August 24 – Meet the Teacher Night from 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.

Monday, August 28 – School Begins at 8:00 a.m. sharp (be early)

Tuesday, August 29 – City of Rosebud Cougar Night from 7:00 – 10:00 p.m.