

2017 State of the District Report “Making Excellence an Everyday Event”

**By Richard W. Grill, Superintendent
Presented to the Sabinal ISD Board of Trustees
December 11, 2017**

1. This report provides highlights of the Sabinal ISD for the 2017 calendar year, which includes achievements from January 2017 to present date.
2. 2017 was another outstanding year for our District with numerous achievements, which clearly reflect our mission statement: "Making Excellence an Everyday Event."
3. Student information:
 - ✓ Enrollment: 488
 - ✓ Economically disadvantaged: 66%
 - ✓ ELL : 5%
 - ✓ At-risk: 52.5%
 - ✓ Hispanic 77%
 - ✓ White: 22%
 - ✓ Mobility: ~11%
 - ✓ Average class size (districtwide): 14:1
 - ✓ Average attendance rate (districtwide): 96%
 - ✓ Transfer into district: 74 students; 15%
4. Staff information:
 - ✓ Employees: 79
 - ✓ Teachers: 38.5
 - ✓ Professional support: 6
 - ✓ Campus administration: 2
 - ✓ Central administration: 2.5
 - ✓ Instructional aides: 13
 - ✓ Auxiliary: 17
 - ✓ Teacher turnover: 21% (Regional average 19%)
5. Teacher recruitment and retention:
 - ✓ Sabinal ISD teachers are 100% certified for their assigned position (use of DOI to locally certify criminal justice instructor and elementary music teacher)
 - ✓ Sabinal ISD beginning salaries exceed most 2A schools. Across the State Sabinal ISD is very competitive with 3A-5A size schools. Our 10-month salaries: Step 0 \$37,907; Step 10 \$43,488; Step 20 \$51,263; and Step 30 \$58,988. Nearly 60% of our teachers, and all counselors, nurse & librarian receive a \$3500 stipend.
 - ✓ In comparison with the San Antonio (Bexar County) market, which Step 0 is \$51,000, we meet or exceed these higher paying districts after Step 15 through Step 30. Currently Sabinal ISD is ranked #15 for maximum 10-month (secondary core-content) teacher salary in our Region
 - ✓ Sabinal ISD provides a comprehensive and highly competitive extra-duty stipends to compensate staff for additional duty assignments, as well as stipends for additional degrees, licensures and "teacher shortage areas."
 - ✓ Sabinal ISD also provides a \$100/year longevity benefit payable in December of each year, as well as a paid \$10,000 life insurance benefit

6. Financial:

- ✓ \$5.4 million budget
- ✓ \$3 million fund balance
- ✓ \$1.04 M&O, \$0.03 I&S, Combined tax rate of \$1.07
- ✓ Assigned "State Property Values" (PV) for 2014, 2015 & 2016; appeal won 2015 & 2016
- ✓ Additional State Aid for Tax Relief (ASATR) funding ceased September 1, 2017; created funding shortage ~\$877,000 for 2017-2018 budget
- ✓ Reallocation of ~\$14,000 for teacher professional support and mentoring in December 2017
- ✓ For the tenth consecutive year, Sabinal ISD has received the highest financial rating by the State in its Financial Integrity Rating for the State of Texas (FIRST). In addition, for the fifth consecutive year Sabinal ISD has received a perfect rating score. Currently we have mitigated numerous State funding hardships and we have implemented an action plan for the future to keep the District solvent.

7. Positive instructional environment:

- ✓ Sabinal ISD supports teacher through meaningful collaboration, including PLC's, designed to promote unity, teamwork, conviction, and to identify barriers to academic achievement while preventing isolation
- ✓ Sabinal ISD utilizes the TEKS Resource System- an aligned and viable curriculum used by the majority of LEA's
- ✓ Sabinal ISD has small class size, with an overall average 14:1 teacher:student ratio
- ✓ Sabinal ISD has well mannered students, with few disciplinary issues; the board and administration support teachers with high expectations for good behavior that is conducive to teaching and learning
- ✓ Sabinal ISD administration and board of trustees provide a stable and supportive work environment
- ✓ Sabinal ISD provides higher than average teacher supply budgets despite recent budget cuts
- ✓ Teachers are the decision-maker of all textbook adoptions; the board expects that each child have a textbook for each class taken

8. Celebrations:

- ✓ 2017 Sabinal High School received 4 "Distinction Designations," placing the campus in the top 25% of comparable campuses in the areas of ELAR Academic Achievement; Math Academic Achievement; Science Academic Achievement; and Post-Secondary Readiness
- ✓ 2017 Sabinal Middle School received 1 "Distinction Designations," placing the campus in the top 25% of comparable campuses in the area of Student Progress
- ✓ 2017 Sabinal High School received a "Silver" rating as a "Best High School in Texas" from U.S. News & World report (received bronze award in 2013)
- ✓ Sabinal Elementary School was selected by Educational Results Partnership (ERP) and the Institute for Productivity in Education (IPE) as one of 727 public schools in Texas to receive the title of 2016 Honor Roll school (award was received on May 19, 2017)
- ✓ Improved High School dual credit opportunities
 - Currently 62 students are enrolled in our high school dual credit courses offered on-campus, with no tuition costs; and we anticipate 44 students will be enrolled in the spring semester for a possible total of 318 hours of college credit earned. In 2016-17 we only had 46 students (combined enrollment for fall and spring semester) who earned 138 credit hours. These students were bused to Uvalde for their dual credit

courses which required the students to pay 100% of their tuition. This is a great opportunity for our students and a great tuition savings for their parents

➤ New dual credit courses our students are enrolled in for 2017-2018:

- Microeconomics
- Composition I
- American Literature I
- Federal Government
- College Algebra
- Trigonometry
- Intro to Sociology
- Intro to Speech Communication
- Principles of Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security
- Law Enforcement I
- Advanced Technical Writing (paired with Dual Credit English Courses)
- Medical Terminology (paired with Anatomy and Physiology)
- Certified Nursing Assistant (offered through Goodwill's Good Careers Academy)
- American Sign Language

✓ Innovative CTE programs offered at Sabinal High School:

- Meat processing lab has re-opened to the public for retail sales on Friday's
- Culinary Arts program has started catering special events
- Criminal Justice (new program for 2017-18)
- Certified Nursing Assistant (new program for 2017-18)

10. Our efforts to teach our students in an exceptional 21st Century learning environment is a fact that makes Sabinal ISD uncommon compared to many school districts across our State. This is best revealed through the Texas Education Agency technology goals for public schools. Sabinal ISD exceeds 4 of the 5 State goals for the "Education Super Highway:"

- ✓ Goal #1: Provide 100 kbps per student
 - We currently provide 107 kbps per student
 - ✓ Goal #2: Provide 100% fiber availability in all learning environments
 - We currently meet this goal with fiber available throughout all facilities
 - ✓ Goal #3: 1 Gbps WAN per school in the district
 - We currently meet this goal with 1 Gbps WAN in all buildings
 - ✓ Goal #4: Wi-Fi available in every classroom
 - We currently have a strong Wi-Fi signal in every classroom in our district
 - ✓ Goal #5: \$3/Mbps monthly target
 - We are currently at \$19/Mbps monthly target post Erate
- ✓ We enjoy one of the best internet broadband widths of any school in the Nation. Our infrastructure allows us to Podcast, Skype, and Video stream in all locations throughout our schools; this video streaming capability allows us to offer our students and staff opportunities to view UIL events without cancelling school. We all should be proud to provide these services to our students and staff.

- ✓ All classrooms are equipped with: teacher computer, interactive white boards (Promethean Boards), student response systems, HD LCD projectors with integrated sound systems, documents cameras, and a minimum of 4 student use computers
- ✓ We have equipped our schools with 5- iPad carts, 3- iPod Touch carts, 11-Cromebook carts and 5-COWS (Computers On Wheels) which allows us to make any classroom, or anywhere other location in our schools, a computer lab. Gone are the days where a classroom is exclusively a computer lab, allowing greater flexibility of classroom assignments and access to computer labs. Each “cart” contains approximately 25 wireless devices.

11. Our board goal number four states, "Cultivate opportunities for student participation that extends beyond the classroom is best examined through the dedication of our staff and hard work of our students." Our extra-curricular programs offered in our schools can be best described as "Extra-Ordinary." We provided our students, their parents and the community with an abundant amount of PRIDE through the following achievements:

✓ Band

- 25 students auditioned for high school ATSSB Region Band; 7 students advanced to area; and 1 student made the ATSSB All-State Band
- 10 students competed in UIL Solo & Ensemble: 4 received division 1; 5 students received division 2.
- High School Band received sweepstakes UIL Concert and Sight-reading
- Middle School band went to UIL contest for the first time received average rating on stage and excellent rating for Sight-reading
- First Place band at Cotulla Marching Festival
- Best Brass at Cotulla Cowboy Roundup Marching Band Festival
- Best Woodwinds at Cotulla Cowboy Roundup Marching Band Festival
- Best Drum Majors at Cotulla Cowboy Roundup Marching Band Festival
- First Place band at Southwest High School Drums Along the Medina Marching Contest
- Best Music at Southwest High School Drums Along the Medina Marching Contest
- First Division at Region Marching Band Contest
- UIL Marching Contest in Hondo. Band received Division 1's and advanced to Area competition
- Area Marching Contest in Cuero. Band tied for second place
- UIL State Marching Contest at Alamodome
- Seven band members earned a chair at the Regional band contest and will advance to Area competition

✓ FFA

- Wool Judging Team 2nd, Revaldina District: 4th, Heart O' Texas Invitational CDE Contest; 5th, Hill Country Invitational CDE Contest; 6th, Angelo State University Invitational CDE Contest; 8th, Tarleton State University Invitational CDE Contest; and 8th, Area VII Contest
- Senior Prepared Public Speaking: 1st, Revaldina District Contest; and 4th, Area VII
- Greenhand Prepared Public Speaking: 3rd, Revaldina District Contest
- CDE Sweepstakes Award for Revaldina District (Real, Uvalde and Medina Counties), Single-Teacher Division
- 6 Lone Star FFA degree recipients, which is the highest degree of membership at the state level
- 1 Star Lone Star degree recipient, in the Top 8 in the state for his Star Lone Star Degree

- Sabinal FFA was recognized as a Silver-level Golden Horizon award in the state. The Golden Horizon award is an accumulation of successes and participations in all FFA events in the school year. The Silver-level means that Sabinal FFA was in the top 25 of all schools in the single-teacher division.
- State Agri-Science Fair, placed 5th place in his division
- Sabinal FFA participated in the Homesite Evaluation Judging Contest in Medina Valley for the first time, placing 4th in District
- Sabinal FFA competed in the Sonora LDE Contest. The teams received 1st place in Job Interview, 3rd in Senior Creed, and 4th in Greenhand Creed
- Sabinal FFA competed in the Kerr County Fair in Kerrville. A student won Champion Cross Borrow, Reserve Champion Cross Overall, and Reserve Grand Champion Swine.
- Sabinal FFA competed in the Revaldina District LDE Contest at Medina Valley high school. The teams received 1st in Job Interview, 1st in Ag Issues Forum, 2nd in Greenhand Creed Speaking, and 2nd Radio Broadcasting
- LDE Sweepstakes Award for Revaldinda District. 20 point victory for the Single-Teacher Division
- Area VII LDE Results, 2nd Greenhand Creed Speaking, qualifying to compete at state contest
- State qualifier, Greenhand Creed Speaking. Top 20 in the state out of over 800 entries
- Sabinal meats program is now open to the public on Friday's for retail meat purchases

✓ Culinary Arts

- Catered the 2017 One Act Play
- Catered the 2017 Farm bureau banquet
- Culinary Arts classes now offer “The Jackets’ Nest” teacher café serving lunch to the faculty once a month

✓ Athletics

- Girls Basketball (13-14 Overall) (8-4 District) 3rd Place finish in District 29, UIL Playoffs Bi-District Qualifier
- Boys Basketball (11-15 Overall) (1-11 District) 7th Place Finish in District 29
- Softball (17-12 Overall) (9-3 District) 3rd Place Finish in District 29, UIL Playoffs Bi-District Champions, Area Qualifier
- Baseball (13-10 Overall) (7-5 District) 3rd Place Finish in District 29, UIL Playoffs Bi-District Qualifier
- Track UIL Boys District Runner Up, Girls 3rd Place, Boys Champion Relay Team (4x100, 4x200), 18 Area Qualifiers, 8 UIL Area Champions, 8 UIL Regional Qualifiers, 3rd Place Regional Finish (4x100, 4x200 Relay)
- Tennis District Runner Up, 8 Regional Qualifiers, 1 Regional Runner Up, 1 UIL State Qualifier/3rd place Medalist
- Varsity Girls Cross-Country 4th place District Finish
- Varsity Boys Cross-Country 3rd place District Finish, Boys Regional Qualifier, 7th Place Team Finish, 2 UIL State Qualifiers, 1 State Medalist
- Volleyball (5-17 Overall, 2-8 District) 2nd place in District 29 2A, UIL Playoffs Bi-District Qualifier
- Football (7-4 Overall, 2-2 District) 3rd place in District 14 2A, UIL Playoffs Bi-District Qualifier

12. The "Get Fit" afterschool program (September-May) and the Camp Get Fit (June) summer youth program provided excellent opportunities for our youth to stay active, learn to eat healthy and be supervised in a structured environment. Both programs are free for youth ages 6-12, which is sponsored

by the Methodist Healthcare Ministries of South Texas (MHM). Combined, the two programs provided more than \$80,000 worth of student services as well as employment opportunities.

13. In Texas, there are only 562 of the 1024 public school districts that have a \$1.04 M&O tax rate; 37% of Districts have a tax rate higher than \$1.04 and than 4% of Districts have a lower tax rate. The following is a comparison of area school tax rates:

District	M & O Rate	I & S Rate	Total Tax Rate	How much more the Taxpayers from surrounding schools pay compared to Sabinal ISD Taxpayers	Rank <u>Low</u> to <u>High</u>
Sabinal	\$1.04	\$0.03	\$1.07		#2
D'Hanis	\$1.04	\$0.25	\$1.29	\$0.22	#5
Hondo	\$1.04	\$0.36	\$1.40	\$0.33	#8
Knippa	\$1.17	\$0.14	\$1.31	\$0.24	#7
Leakey	\$1.04	\$0.18	\$1.22	\$0.15	#4
Nueces Canyon	\$1.17	\$0.00	\$1.17	\$0.10	#3
Utopia	\$1.04	\$0.00	\$1.04	\$0.00	#1
Uvalde	\$1.17	\$0.15	\$1.32	\$0.25	#6
Area average	\$1.09	\$0.14	\$1.23	\$0.16	
State average			\$1.27	\$0.20	

TRE passed

Bond passed

14. In summary, 2017 has been another phenomenal year for Sabinal ISD! Sabinal ISD provides the students and staff low teacher-student ratios; modern facilities; the best technology; ample supply budgets; competitive salaries and benefits; a comprehensive, highly successful extra-curricular program; solid financials.