



# UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Roberto J. Santos  
Superintendent

September 1, 2009

Greetings Parents/Guardians:

We are off to a great start and we anticipate another stellar year at United South High School. I look forward to leading the charge of educating your child, and I am especially pleased about this opportunity to work with such outstanding educators at this campus. However, I firmly believe that we (educators) are only a small piece of your child's educational development, and I will need your unconditional support to monitor your child's study habits, attendance, and commitment to success. As a team, we can move your child one step closer to a post-secondary opportunity.

Please take the time daily and ask your child if he/she has homework and understands the content for the day. All teachers at USHS provide tutorials if your child needs additional help. In addition, our webpage <http://ushs.unitedisd.org> has many helpful resources that can guide your child and you to complete assignments. Again, by working collaboratively we can achieve the best opportunities for success. Moreover, it is also important that students take a proactive role to receive a quality education. This means he/she must report to school/ class on time, listen to instructions the first time given, follow directions, come prepared with the necessary school supplies, turn in assignments on time, spend time studying for tests, be accountable for his/her actions, and exhibit good character. By having good school habits, your child should not have any problems mastering the subject matter.

Our target goals for this year include but are not limited to the following statements:

- ⌘ Become the first Secondary Exemplary Campus
- ⌘ Increase communication between school and parents
- ⌘ Increase parent involvement
- ⌘ Eliminate tardiness
- ⌘ Have 100% uniform and dress code compliance
- ⌘ Eliminate electronic/telecommunication (Cell Phones) infractions. Remember, all telecommunication or electronic devices must be off and not visible during the academic day (Bell to Bell)
- ⌘ Eliminate students' use of vulgarity (the school environment is not the appropriate place for this type of language).
- ⌘ Practice better study skills (Most students spend less than 15 minutes preparing for test/quizzes and do not turn in their homework---keep in touch with your child's classroom responsibilities) You can contact your child's teacher through our website: <http://ushs.unitedisd.org> or call the school number at 473-5400. Also, the counselor's corner on the website has many useful study skill/strategies links.
- ⌘ Take home progress reports for all classes every three weeks to parents
- ⌘ Respect each others opinions and individualities
- ⌘ Increase student UIL Academic participation (join our teams and represent our school)
- ⌘ Join a UIL Athletic team like volleyball, football, basketball, track, cross-country and etc....
- ⌘ Join school clubs
- ⌘ Increase attendance at our sporting events and academic competitions
- ⌘ Exhibit appropriate relationship/courting behaviors on campus

Some of the target goals that I have planned for our teachers include but are not limited to the following:

- ⌘ Become the first Secondary Exemplary Campus
- ⌘ Increase communication with parents
- ⌘ Provide 90 minutes of instruction (Bell to Bell)
- ⌘ Work more on the basics → Reading, Writing, and Math
- ⌘ Model professionalism to our students
- ⌘ Increase cognitive/critical thinking activities in class
- ⌘ Promote more hands-on and project-based activities
- ⌘ Provide monthly newsletters

As a collaborative unit, we can provide the best possible education for your child, and we look forward meeting you at our “Meet the Teacher Night” scheduled for September 10, 2009 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

I have included a schedule rotation to help you plan your visit with us on the 10<sup>th</sup>.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 473-5401 or email me at [dcanales@unitedisd.org](mailto:dcanales@unitedisd.org)

Cordially,

David R. Canales  
USHS Principal

It is the policy of United I.S.D. not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or handicap in its programs, services, or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.