

# Small Schools with Big Dreams



Lasara I.S.D.

Sara Alvarado, Superintendent

Cynthia Ramos, Director of Curriculum & Instruction/Federal Programs

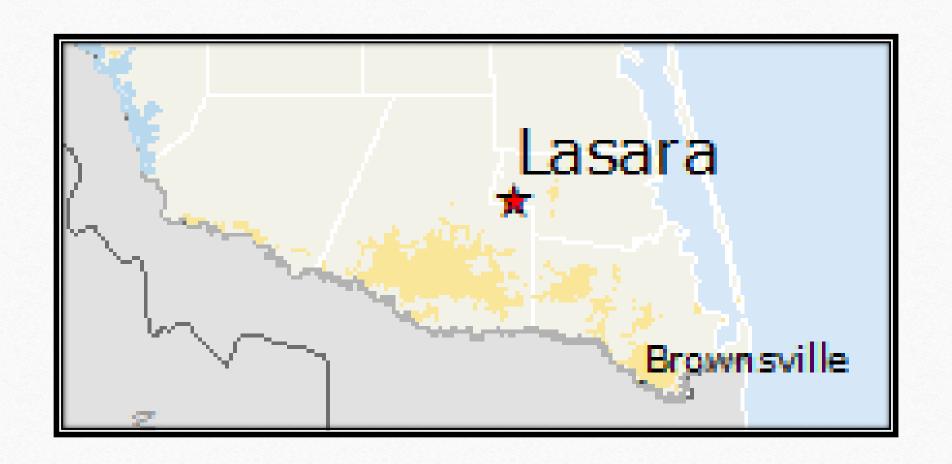
Joanna Gomez, GEAR UP Facilitator





#### Where is Lasara?

• Lasara is a rural community located in Willacy County that is located 8 miles west of Raymondville and 25 miles north of Harlingen. Our population is approximately 1000 people, and our community thrives on farming and ranching. Lasara ISD has 369 students enrolled in a Pre-K – 12<sup>th</sup> (all in one building) district of which 112 students are in high school, and the majority of our students are classified as economically disadvantaged. Our rural community lies on a one stop light farm road with two family run convenience stores. In relation to Institutions of Higher Education, we are approximately 25-35 miles from our nearest college and/or university.



#### Lasara ISD School Board 2017 Region One School Board of the Year



#### Lasara ISD Administration and Staff

- Sara A. Alvarado- Superintendent
- Cynthia Ramos- Director of C&I/ Federal Programs
- Rogelio Cantu- Business Manager
- William Bardwell- District Principal
- Joanna Gomez- GEAR UP Facilitator
- Karen McInnis- District Counselor
- 33 Teachers
- 7 Paraprofessionals
- 54 Staff Members





## Lasara ISD

- Lasara Elementary
  - PreK-5<sup>th</sup> Grade: 175
  - 6<sup>th</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> Grade: 82
- Lasara High School
  - 9th 12th Grade: 112
- Lasara ISD: 369

- GEAR UP College Ready,
   Career Set!
  - GEAR UP Cohort Size: 31
  - GEAR UP Core Teachers: 5

#### Lasara ISD Vision and Mission

#### **Vision**

Lasara ISD transforms students to scholars.

#### **Mission Statement**

• Lasara ISD will provide the necessary resources for holistic educational experiences utilizing passionate and nurturing staff that emerges well rounded, diverse lifelong learners.

#### Lasara ISD - District Goals

- 1. LISD will provide an educational experience that produces well rounded students that are prepared to succeed after graduation.
- 2. LISD will maintain and support the highest quality staff that is accountable, professional and respectful to all stakeholders.
- 3. LISD will collaboratively transform the district by developing a holistic learning experience.

#### Lasara ISD & GEAR UP

- UTPA GEAR UP
  - 2006-2011
- Region One ESC: Ready, Set, College!
  - 2012-2018
- Region One ESC: College Ready, Career Set!
  - 2018-2024









#### GEAR UP Goal



• Create a college and career culture that enhances academic performance for ALL students, including subgroups, so they can excel in high school and succeed in college and beyond.

#### Region One ESC GEAR UP Events

- Student Leadership Institute
- FESTIBA
- RGV LEAD Ambassadors
- TIES





- I AM 2019
- Financial Literacy Summit
- Monthly Parent Meetings
- Qannection.com



#### Lunch & Learn Career Exploration

• Day 1: ATF

• Day 2: DHR

• Day 3: Small Business Administration

• Day 4: Walmart Store Managers

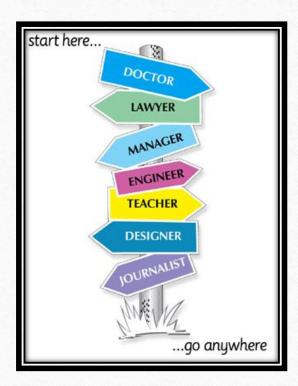
My goal for next year is to plan to have a Lunch & Learn once a month.





#### Career Day at Lasara ISD

- STEM Focused Presenters
- Dress for Success Day
- Appreciation Luncheon
- STEM Showcase



#### TACRAO College Fair

Texas Association of Collegiate Registrars & Admissions Officers

- Willacy County & Rural Schools
  - Lasara HS
  - San Perlita HS
  - Raymondville ECHS
  - Lyford HS
  - La Villa ECHS
  - San Isidro



## STEM Day

Six 30 minutes Sessions for all 7th grade students.

All Middle School Teachers create STEM focused activities for our GEAR UP Students and they rotate in either a clockwise/counterclockwise rotation to make sure all students participate in all grade level specific activities.



# GEAR UP 7th Grade Students & Parents #FunWithSTEM



Be ready to have fun & learn!

\*Hands-on Activities

DECEMBER 19, 2018 1:00pm—4:00pm

For more information please contact:

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## College Visits

- TSTC
- UTRGV
- STC
- TSC
- TAMUK/TAMUCC
- UTSA/St. Mary's University
- UT/St. Edwards University/Texas State University
- College Station/Sam Houston State/U of H/Rice University





# Questions

#### **Contact information**

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- Joanna Gomez, jgomez@lasaraisd.net

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