



Hudspeth County

God Bless America!

Herald

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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF HUDSPETH COUNTY, STATE OF TEXAS

SINCE 1956

Volume 69

Number 28

Publication # 800-140

12 pages

March 15, 2024

FORT HANCOCK



DELL CITY



SIERRA BLANCA



DESERT HAVEN

The Power of Coaching, Sierra Blanca teachers go to Austin By Shannon Stewart



Pictured above, Rachel Gomez, Robert Morales and Superintendent LeeAnn McGraw

SBISD teachers Rachel Gomez and Robert Morales traveled to Austin Texas with Superintendent LeeAnn McGraw, to speak at the Texas Rural School Spring Conference about coaching.

Coaching? We aren't talking about sports here! We are talking about teachers, learning to teach, and teaching others about what they learned.

Sierra Blanca ISD Superintendent LeeAnn McGraw was asked to present at the Texas Rural Schools Conference about her AIM Coaching process through PACT, so she did one better, she brought her teachers that she coaches with her. McGraw took elementary teacher Rachel Gomez and Jr High teacher Robert Morales. What better way to make a presentation than to show off your product.

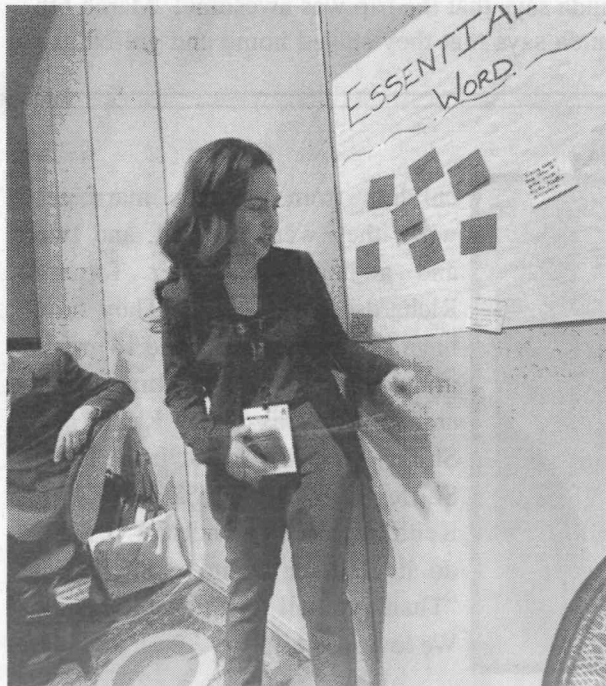
The text book explanation of AIM Coaching is Adaptive Intervention Model that applies a multi-tiered system of supports framework to instructional coaching. In the same way

that teachers provide instruction to students, coaches use AIM Coaching to provide support to the teachers while collecting data on teachers implementation of new practices. Coaches use teachers' data to provide individualized support tailored for their specific needs.

I sat down with Gomez and Morales to get a little more information about their trip and the presentation and found it to be so much more.

Gomez explained a little background to the trip and a personal explanation of the AIM Coaching process, "McGraw brought in a new program to SBISD called PACT, Promoting Adolescence Comprehension of Texts. She started with 4 teachers from elementary to jr high." Gomez and Morales were 2 of those teachers. Since the beginning of the school year the teachers record/film lessons that they teach to their classrooms once a week using a PACT model and then McGraw coaches the teachers on their performance, their strategies and such, making suggestions or adjustments to each recorded session.

Gomez said, "The trip to Austin was the most incredible opportunity; to be able to go talk about what we're



doing here at our tiny little school. I thought it was pretty neat because everyone there was from rural schools, having 1,000 - 1,200 students, where we only have around 100 students. It was really interesting to be able to speak to that because it wasn't just teachers we were presenting to, it was superintendents, principals and instructional coaches." "We got to present what our little school has been doing because we have seen some incredible growth using this model." Gomez also said, "It's always for the kids! It's a lot of work, but it's always for the kids. We really wanted to show them and emphasize how this has been working for us, doing the PACT lessons and being coached by Ms. McGraw, just showing our growth and how to better our craft as teachers."

Gomez explained that through this opportunity she was able to network with other rural educators that understand what a small rural school goes through. It was such a great learning experience and she received lots of feedback from the presentation. She felt that it kind of put Sierra Blanca out there, cause no one even knew we are. After 7 years of teaching and the ups and downs of that, she finally feels like she's an educator, thriving instead of surviving.

Morales, who has been teaching at SBISD for 2-1/2 years, he agreed, it was an amazing experience to go to Austin and present. He said it was a great learning experience, not just doing the presentation, he was also able to network and gain contacts to bounce things off of others in the same rural situation.



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Fort Hancock Mustangs Acheive at One Act Play Performance



Thursday (March 7) FHISD traveled to Van Horn for One Act Play District Meet.
Manuel Jimenez selected as All Star Crew, Miranda Garcia and Valeria Coria got All Star Cast, Rebekah Orozco and Alessandra Jimenez got Honorable Mention Cast. Congratulations Mustangs.

Sierra Blanca Vaqueros' One Act Play Advances



Congrats to the Sierra Blanca Vaquero One Act Play cast for receiving "Advancing Play 2024" District 9A. We also had individual award winners: Lanie Hernandez- "Honorable Mention Cast" Adriel Bearden and Haylee Walker- "All-Star Cast" Adan Lopez- "Best Actor " and "All Star Crew" - Alejandro Contreras

The play performed was:
"Rise and Shine"
By Elda Cadogan
Publisher: Samuel French/Concord Theatricals

SAVE THE DATE for their next performance on Wednesday March 27th in Van Horn.

Great job to Ms. Rachel Gomez and Mrs. Deanna Lopez!

The Power of Coaching, Sierra Blanca teachers go to Austin

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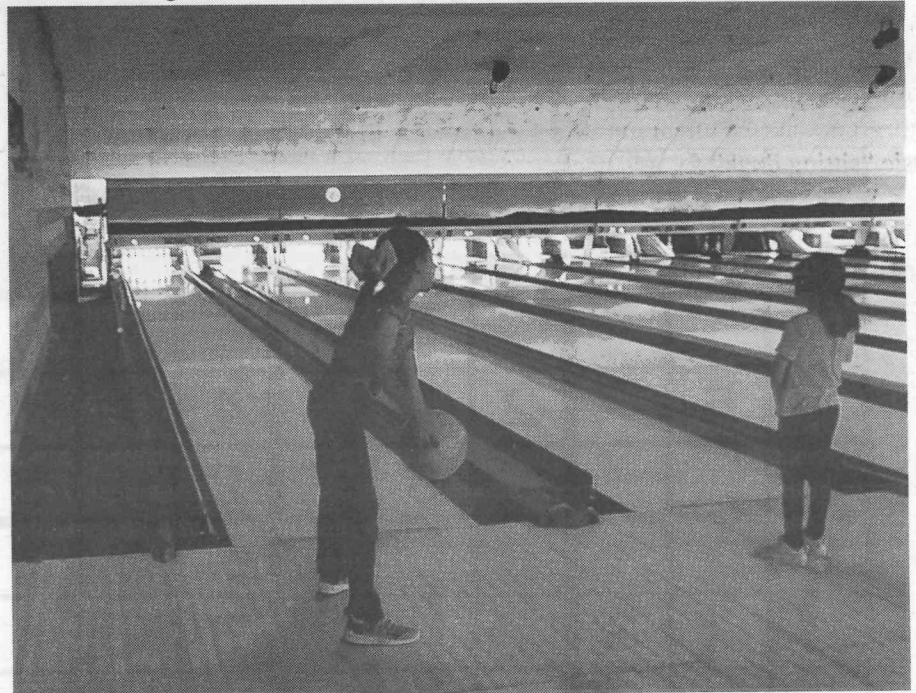
During his presentation he was able to share specifics about what he was able to do in his classroom, his contributions, and the coaching he has received from Ms. McGraw. He also said it was just really cool to watch both Rachel and Ms. McGraw present and he knew now that "presenting" was a skill he would have if he ever has to make a presentation again, he knows what to do.

Morales summed it all up by saying, "the experience in the classroom has been really good for me, and has been a great opportunity to be a part of, I have really been able to grow a lot as a teacher and I have seen a tremendous change in my teaching style. Ms. McGraw's input has allowed me to make adjustments that I didn't know I needed to make. I think we are going to continue to do this again next year, so it will be even better."

Almost all the Vaqueros got to go to El Paso for a day of bowling and fun.

Superintendent LeeAnn McGraw successfully implemented an incentive for students (and the school) to achieve perfect attendance. This 9 week term students were given a trip to El Paso for a day of bowling and fun at a park.

Only a few were left behind, McGraw gets more creative each term, and less and less kids get left behind.



CYAN

MAGENTA