

Dater Families,

It is with great enthusiasm and humility that I write this letter of introduction to you as your new principal at Gilbert A. Dater High School. It is an incredible honor for me to lead and partner with you to serve this community. I am grateful for the warm welcome you have given me! In just the few interactions I've had with staff, students and families so far, it has become abundantly clear that this school is a unique and special place - we are headed for greatness! As we start a new journey together, I wanted to share some background on myself and what inspires and motivates me to prepare students for success.

Who am I?

- I have been married for 23 years to my high school sweetheart, a veteran and Internet professional. I am the mother of two amazing young women who currently attend Xavier University, and proud owner of a dog, Ranger. I hold a Master's in Educational Administration from Concordia University, Texas; a secondary teaching certification from the University of Texas San Antonio; and a Bachelor's in Communications from Trinity University, Washington, D.C. Much of who I am today has been shaped by my family, evolving life experiences, and my love of learning. I have worked with a variety of students and have a successful track record as a public school educator in Washington, D.C., Texas, and Michigan. I am passionate and fearless about helping all students reach higher levels.

Why I am here?

- I am here because we have an extraordinary opportunity to make a positive impact on young lives and together build a great future through education that empowers students to do wonderful things. I will work smart and in collegial ways to continuously improve the culture of learning, achieving, and succeeding for all students. I am a firm believer in creating a learning institution culture in which teachers love teaching, students love learning, and the community is proud to support. As your principal, it is important to me that everyone who steps through our doors is proud and excited to be at Dater! This attitude enables us to meet the challenges and opportunities of academic excellence in a positive, fun, and nurturing environment.

What next?

- This summer, I will be spending much of my time getting to know the school building, the students and community while familiarizing myself with the Dater School Improvement Goals. As we look forward to a new school year, we must keep the school mission at the forefront: *Preparing Students for College, Career and Beyond*. The opportunity ahead will require us to commit to success, dream the impossible, and deliver it. Throughout the year, you'll find me in the hallways, classrooms, and at special activities. I will commit to being the best I can be—every day all year long—so this purposeful educational journey leads to success for all. More details will be shared in early August to kick off the 2019-2020 school year once those plans are finalized.

Together as educators and families, we will make a positive difference in the lives of our students! Please stay informed by visiting our website for the most up-to-date information about our school.

Thank you for choosing Dater and enjoy the rest of the summer!
Mrs. Ana R. Salazar, M.A.Ed., Principal