

June 12 , 2008

Letter to DISD Board of Education Trustees and Superintendent of Schools

Distinguished Members of the Board and Dr. Michael Hinojosa:

My name is Jesus Guzman, Community Liaison for 6 years at John F. Kennedy LC. I am submitting this letter to enter into the record information important to the naming of the baseball field at John F. Kennedy Learning Center after Mr. Dave Andres.

In February, 2008, Paul Stanley, the student who coordinated the funding for the field, presented to our Site-based Decision-making Committee (SBDM) his preference that the field be named after Mr. Dave Andres, the father of Mr. Marc Andres, who mentored Mr. Stanley in this effort.

The SBDM Committee was in complete approval after considering the following:

- That the surrounding community is in dire need of a location for organized recreational activities for its youth. This Baseball Field should help reduce crime and mischief by bored adolescents, and
- That, as no one previously stepped forward to create such a venue, these efforts by Mr. Paul Stanley and the donors who contributed time, money and in-kind services are greatly appreciated and should be recognized.
- That the Andres family is well known and respected in this Old East Dallas community, having been instrumental in its business, residential and real estate development for many years. The children of Dave Andres grew up in the Little Mexico area of Dallas, speaking Spanish and attending school with many who now reside in the Old East Dallas neighborhoods.
- That Mr. Marc Andres was a substantial contributor to the funds raised for the field. In fact, with his resources, Mr. Andres could have just built the field himself, quickly and with little effort. However, he chose to mentor Paul Stanley, a Junior student at Greenhill Academy and let him design the field, raise the monies and was hoping to guide him in the role of Contractor. This is a commendable effort requiring much time, patience and effort. If only there were more adults helping our youth in this manner.
- That no other names were submitted or considered by the SBDM Committee.

For these reasons, the SBDM Committee did not hesitate to support the naming of the field for Mr. Dave Andres.

I hope that the Board will also support naming the field after Mr. Dave Andres. Thank you for allowing me the time to speak at your meeting.