



**Arlington**  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
*More Than a Remarkable Education*

Superintendent's Message

September 11, 2009

Recent news reports have implied that there was a relationship between the decisions made by the Arlington Independent School District regarding two different events: one, President Obama's recent address to students and the other, a 2011 Super Bowl community service initiative kick-off event on September 21st, for which Former President Bush and Former First Lady Laura Bush will serve as honorary chairs.

In retrospect, I can see how the district's decisions concerning these two events could be seen as favoring one event over another. I made the decision to record President Obama's speech and make it available to teachers for use at a later time. I realize that this does not take the place of watching the speech live, but I am encouraging teachers to use President Obama's speech on the importance of education and personal responsibility as an educational resource in their classrooms when and how they deem most appropriate for their students.

I sincerely regret that this chain of events has occurred and brought negative attention to our district. I apologize that my decisions on behalf of the district have disappointed or hurt people. I love this district and AISD has a great team of people who are passionately dedicated to educating our next generation of leaders.