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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Lamar CISD Superintendent Hits the Road With 15 First-Generation Students

November 10, 2023 – *Rosenberg, Texas* – A group of 15 first-generation Lamar CISD high school juniors had the unique opportunity to travel to Louisiana and explore university life on the first annual Superintendent's College Road Trip. Superintendent Dr. Roosevelt Nivens, and other members of District leadership joined the inaugural tour.

For some students, it was their first-time stepping foot outside of Fort Bend County.

"For the last three years, I've struggled to figure out a major. Going on this tour gave me a chance to discover something about myself. I'm grateful for this opportunity to build relationships, and take a step into my near future," Fulshear High School junior Rachael Seo said.

The three-day trip had a packed itinerary that started on November 6 and students returned on November 8 after touring five colleges including Lamar University, University of Louisiana, Louisiana State University, Southern University and Agricultural & Mechanical College, and McNeese State University.

"Sometimes, we don't realize how lucky we are in life," Lamar CISD Superintendent Dr. Nivens said. "Sharing meals together, walking around campus, and talking to these students about their future goals brought me back. I was that kid once that didn't know how big this world truly is, and I'm glad to share new experiences with them."

"By pursuing higher education, these students are pioneers and changing the course for the next generation in their family. As a first-generation college student, myself, it was a joy to coordinate this tour," Lamar CISD Advanced Academics Coordinator Amber Boston said.

The trip was graciously funded by the Lamar Educational Awards Foundation (LEAF), which provides funds beyond the normal operating budget for educational programs and activities for students and staff.

"The foundation is proud to support initiatives that help further our mission of enriching students beyond the classroom walls. Our Board members love hearing about this experience and the student impact. Exposure is essential and we are thrilled to be a part of this program," Executive Director of LEAF Kameela Lewis said.

To view photos from the trip, click **HERE**.