

## **BISD Bands Shine at the State Once Again**

After an arduous process of Honor Band competitions, BISD bands have once again proven to be at the top of the state. The competition has three rounds that started in the beginning of June with the regional competition in Harlingen. During the regional rounds, only six bands advance to the area round of competition. BISD had five of the six bands advancing to the second round of competition. Amazing performances were turned in by Perkins Middle School Band, Stillman Middle School Band, Vela Middle School Band, Oliveira Middle School Band, and Veterans Memorial Early College High School Band.

The Area G round of competition took place at the end of June and BISD once again dominated the competition. Advancing from the Area round to the State round of competition in San Antonio were Vela Middle School Band, Oliveira Middle School Band, and Veterans Memorial Early College High School Band.

San Antonio hosted the final round of the Texas Music Educators Association State Honor Band Finals. Fine Arts is proud to announce that the Vela Middle School Band under the direction of Mario Sarmiento and assistant directors Mike Garza and Jimmy Cantu ranked 7<sup>th</sup> in State competing against 2C bands.

The Oliveira Middle School Band under the direction of Gaspar Garcia and assistant directors Mike Kuntz, Victor Franco, and Robert Barron ranked 5<sup>th</sup> in State competing against the 3C bands.

Veterans Memorial Early College High School under the direction of Elizabeth Stone, and assistant directors Alex Torres, Lelani Ramirez, Jaime Ochoa, and Philip De La Fuente ranked 14<sup>th</sup> in State.

Congratulations to the Vela, Oliveira, and Veterans Memorial band members and directors on this amazing accomplishment. You have once again raised the bar and continue the legacy of excellence that was established in 1937.



*1<sup>st</sup> BISD Band 1937*



*Oliveira Middle School Symphonic Band 5<sup>th</sup> in State*



*Vela Middle School Symphonic Band 7<sup>th</sup> in State*



*Veterans Memorial ECHS Symphonic Band 14<sup>th</sup> in State*