

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

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**Feb. 8, 2019**

### **For Immediate Release**

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# **Elementary female wrestler makes district history with championship title victory**

*School holding special assembly Friday, Feb. 8*

Clovis Unified's 101-pound weight class wrestling championship match was over practically before the announcer finished announcing the athletes' names – but that's not why Boris Elementary is celebrating today, Feb. 8. The winner, sixth-grade student Isabella Gonzales, is the first girl in Clovis Unified School District history to win an elementary wrestling championship title, and the school is throwing a party.

During the annual Winter Sports Award Assembly, Bella – as she is known by friends – will be surprised with some special attention. Her coach Ray Blanco has had the team and coaching staff sign Bella's singlet, has had it framed in a shadow box that has room for her medal and will be presenting it to her at the assembly. The entire school will also be treated to a video of Bella's final match that took place Jan. 26 against a boy.

Blanco said this season some of the boys have not wanted to wrestle against Bella, but not because she is a girl. Rather, he said, it is because she has dominated every match, with her opponents scoring only 3 points the entire season. "She's that good," Blanco said. "People who watch her matches for the first time are in awe. ... She is fearless."

Her championship match lasted less than a minute as she won by fall in the first period. "She was aggressive, dominate and patient. I don't think the announcer even finished announcing the wrestlers' names," Blanco said.

Bella began wrestling in fourth grade for the school and also wrestles for Team Fearless Youth Wrestling, which is Boris' year-round wrestling club. Her wrestling victory makes her a two-sport champion as she won the district championships in long jump last year. Bella is also a straight-A student and the school's student body president.

- WHAT:** Boris Winter Sports Award Assembly – with special presentation to Isabella Gonzales, the first girl in Clovis Unified history to win elementary wrestling championship title
- WHEN:** Friday, Feb. 8  
2:15 p.m. (Media, please check in with office first); Presentation to Isabella will be around 2:30 - 2:45 p.m.
- WHERE:** Boris Elementary Multi-Purpose Room  
7071 E. Clinton Ave., Fresno
- DETAILS:** ***Please note: The following is a surprise for Bella and her family***  
Bella's singlet, signed by her team and coaches, will be presented in a shadow box along with her championship medal and the entire school will watch a video of her victory match
- CONTACT:** Ray Blanco, Boris Elementary wrestling coach and plant supervisor, 327-3849  
Erin Waer, Boris Elementary principal, 327-3800