

Mario Reyna Coordinator for Health & Physical Education (retired) McAllen Independent School District McAllen, TX

Before retirement, Mario was an elementary physical education teacher in Texas' McAllen ISD for 22 years. In 1997, he was selected as the McAllen ISD Elementary Teacher of The Year. During his time at Zavala Elementary, he served as P.T.A. President and was very instrumental in the passing of a school district bond that included "mini-gyms" for all elementary schools in the district.

He also served as the McAllen ISD health and physical education coordinator for 20 years. During his time in the leadership role, several schools under his direction were recognized by the Texas Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation & Dance (TAHPERD) for outstanding programs. In 2010, Mario served as TAHPERD President. TAHPERD awards earned include: Texas K-12 Administrator of the Year; and, Honor Award. In 2019, Mario was awarded the David K. Brace award – this award is this highest award in TAHPERD.

At the national level, McAllen ISD was recognized as a trailblazer school district for participation "beyond the call of duty" in the *Let's Move* initiative. His leadership led to an invite to the White House. For seven consecutive years, all schools in McAllen ISD were recognized on "America's Healthiest School" list by the Alliance for a Healthier Generation (AHG). Physical Education staff members from each McAllen ISD school were invited several years to Washington, DC to receive AHG awards. Mario also wrote a Carol M. White Physical Education Program (PEP) grant where McAllen ISD was awarded \$1.9 million.

Mario has served on a few SHAPE America Southern District committees. He earned the Southern District Ethnic Minority Award in 2014.

Mario has been a very active member in leadership roles of SHAPE America. He has served on the Board of Directors, several councils, and committees. Mario retired three years ago but is still very active in SHAPE America. He currently serves as the SHAPE America Southern District Director and is the co-chair of the SHAPE America State Affiliate Advisory Council (SAAC). Mario is a great advocate for health. moves. minds.®, social and emotional learning, and EDI. His SHAPE America honors include being inducted into the SHAPE America Hall of Fame in 2016 and receiving the Channing Mann Outstanding Physical Education Administrator of The Year Award in 2015.

Mario attributes all his successes to the outstanding support he received in McAllen ISD (school boards, superintendents, bosses, principals, parents, community and outstanding health and physical education teachers) and most of all the never-ending support from his wife of 41 years (Regina), deceased son (Mario), and son (Edward).