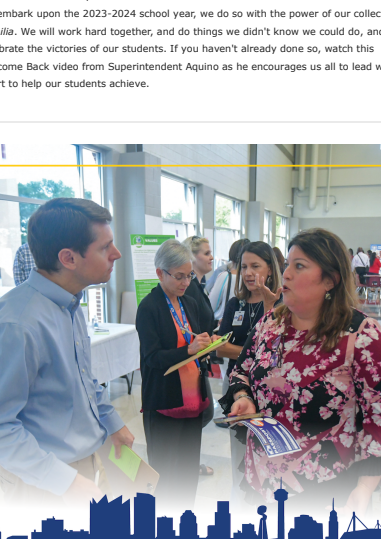


## NEWS AROUND THE DISTRICT



Welcome back! We hope the SAISD Familia has had a beautiful first week of school. As we embark upon the 2023-2024 school year, we do so with the power of our collective *Familia*. We will work hard together, and do things we didn't know we could do, and celebrate the victories of our students. If you haven't already done so, watch this Welcome Back video from Superintendent Aquino as he encourages us all to lead with heart to help our students achieve.



### Public gives feedback on rightsizing framework

Community meetings for the rightsizing framework kicked off at Highlands High School last night. In these meetings, leaders are explaining the framework that will guide our analysis and asking for public feedback. The district will amend the framework criteria based on that feedback. This framework will be used to determine a recommendation package of schools to be presented to the Board of Trustees for consideration for closure or consolidation, as well as the schools that would receive the transitioning students and staff. Families, staff, students and community members attended the meeting last night, providing feedback at five different stations. Didn't make it to the first meeting? You can still RSVP for one of the [13 remaining meetings](#).

[RSVP For A Meeting](#)



### Hawthorne kicks off junior high centennial events

Hawthorne Academy is the first of our historic junior highs to celebrate its centennial. The campus held a preliminary celebration last spring, and officially unveiled their banner at Meet The Teacher last week. Five other campuses — Harris Middle School, Irving Dual Language Academy, Lanier High School, Poe Middle School and Twain Dual Language Academy — all which opened as middle schools in 1923, will be hosting celebrations throughout the year.



### Library assistant publishes children's book

Janine Richards does much more than just maintain the collection of the Woodlawn Hills Elementary library — she may very well contribute her own book to it. The library instructional assistant published her first book, "Paci, Oh, Paci!" in January, and has more children's literature in the works. "My heart always has been to work with children in some capacity, placing their excellence first and foremost, and bringing the world to them through books," Richards said. "So why not write my own, with a focus on finding those everyday ways we all live in common, as one?"

[Read More](#)



### SAISD Familia represented on Food Network

Dyslexia specialist Alicia Joseph and her husband were recently featured on "BBQ USA" on the Food Network. The show, hosted by Michael Symon, followed the pair and four other competitive barbecue groups as they competed at the Briscoe Ranch Cook-Off in Uvalde last winter. The show aired July 24.

[Read More](#)



### Leaders reflect on opportunities of rightsizing

As the district embarks on the rightsizing study requested by the board of trustees, school leaders, along with the entire community, are learning about the opportunities that could stem from the process. The result of the study may lead to restructuring, or "rightsizing," school sites to better serve students. As the district continues with public engagement events, campus leaders shared both potential benefits and advice for the best ways to execute restructuring if it were recommended, all centered on the future of our students.

[Read More](#)



### D.U.N.K. Distracted Driving tour wows at YMLA

In partnership with the U.S. Army, the A.G.A. Nation's D.U.N.K. Distracted Driving tour made a stop at the Young Men's Leadership Academy Wednesday. Students were treated to a high-energy athletic performance with an educational and informational message on the dangers of distracted driving. "This is a fun and positive way to get the message out about distracted driving," academic dean Leo Contreras said.



### 2023 Athletic Hall of Fame Class Inducted

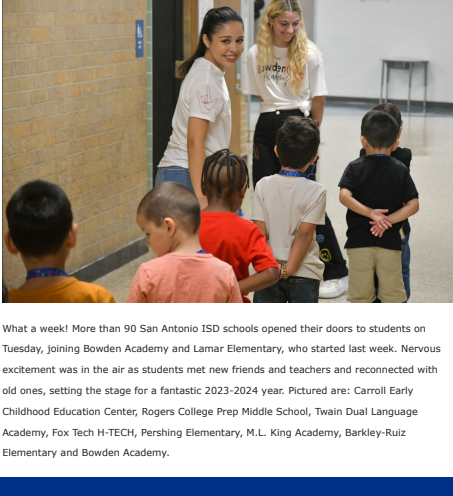
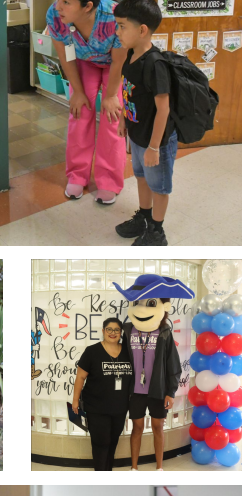
San Antonio ISD honored six new inductees of the Athletic Hall of Fame Saturday at a ceremony at Alamo Convocation Center. New inductees to speak to the National Fallen Firefighter's Foundation at their convention in Detroit last month. Ramirez, a former firefighter, spoke about the program rates when testing for fire and EMS certifications. The program at Edison has grown this year to include a Disaster Response Class to better prepare students for their exams in their senior-level courses. At the event, the Foundation presented her with their Challenge Coin honoring her work with the program. "Everyone said this program is doing great things for our kids," Ramirez said. "I had to agree with them."

## SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE



Watch the superintendent's latest *Quick Takes with Jaime* video.

## CLOSING SHOTS



What a week! More than 90 San Antonio ISD schools opened their doors to students on Tuesday, joining Bowden Academy and Lamar Elementary, who started last week. Nervous excitement was in the air as students met new friends and teachers and reconnected with old ones, setting the stage for a fantastic 2023-2024 year. Pictured are: Carroll Early Childhood Education Center, Rogers College Prep Middle School, Twain Dual Language Academy, Fox Tech H-TECH, Pershing Elementary, M.L. King Academy, Barkley-Ruiz Elementary and Bowden Academy.