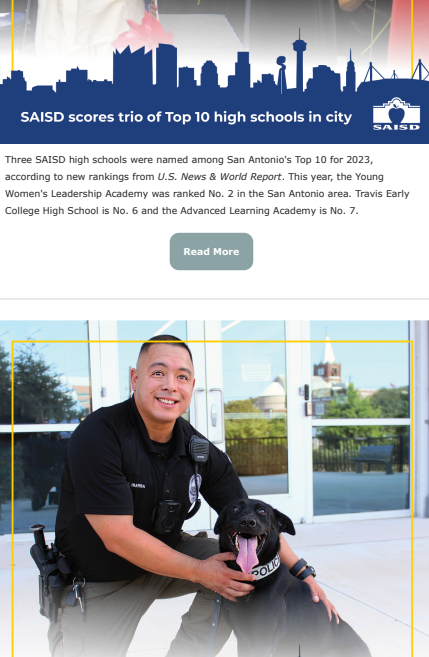


NEWS FROM THE DISTRICT



SAISD scores trio of Top 10 high schools in city

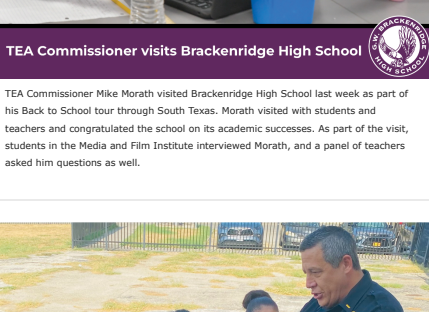
Three SAISD high schools were named among San Antonio's Top 10 for 2023, according to new rankings from *U.S. News & World Report*. This year, the Young Women's Leadership Academy was ranked No. 2 in the San Antonio area. Travis Early College High School is No. 6 and the Advanced Learning Academy is No. 7.

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SAISD, Crime Stoppers commission new K-9

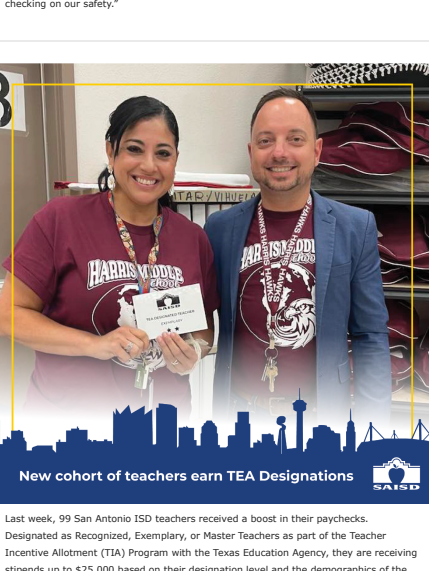
San Antonio ISD Police Department and Crime Stoppers of San Antonio commissioned the district's latest K-9 Officer, Scotty, at a ceremony Monday. K-9 Officer Scotty comes to the department as the result of a donation from Crime Stoppers of San Antonio. K-9 Officer Scotty is named in honor of Scott Edward Stoczynski, a board member of Crime Stoppers of San Antonio, who died last year at the age of 33. K-9 Officer Scotty will assist the district's police department in recognizing the presence of illegal substances and firearms on or around campuses. In addition, the canine unit serves as a high-profile, proactive, anti-drug representative for programs, career days, PTA meetings, and community gatherings. Welcome, Scotty!



Teacher earns master's to offer dual credit Spanish

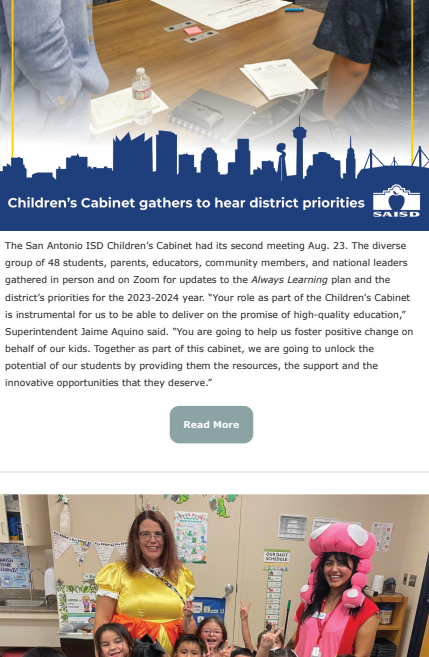
Sandra Hernandez loves teaching Spanish. The Fox Tech teacher says she loves what she does because she is proud of her first language and her Mexican heritage. She loves teaching the language so much that she pursued a master's degree to increase the school's Spanish offerings. While she worked on her graduate degree, she also taught high school full time and took care of her two daughters at home. The work paid off. She has her master's degree in Spanish Literature with a Certificate in Linguistics. With that, she is now an adjunct professor for San Antonio College and her students can earn college credit for their upper-level Spanish courses.

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TEA Commissioner visits Brackenridge High School

TEA Commissioner Mike Morath visited Brackenridge High School last week as part of his Back to School tour through South Texas. Morath visited with students and teachers and congratulated the school on its academic successes. As part of the visit, students in the Media and Film Institute interviewed Morath, and a panel of teachers asked him questions as well.



Police chat with students on 'Stop & Walks'

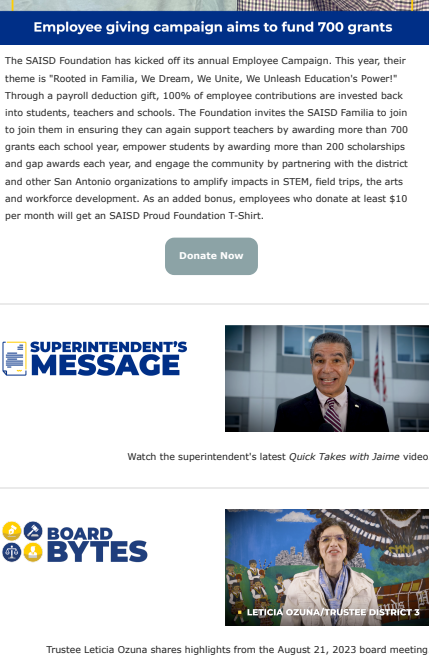
On a recent "Stop & Walk," Lt. Rene Cano visited with third graders at Highland Hills Elementary. The Stop and Walk program allows San Antonio ISD police officers to visit campuses to ensure a safe learning and working environment for students and staff. As part of the visits, they check doors and get to talk to students as well. "Lt. Cano walked out with third grade as they were going to recess and was talking to them about what they wanted to be when they grew up," Highland Hills principal Vanessa Cartwright said. "The kids loved his humor and words of encouragement. It was super sweet and we enjoyed having him take the time to visit with our students while checking on our safety."



New cohort of teachers earn TEA Designations

Last week, 99 San Antonio ISD teachers received a boost in their paychecks. Designated as Recognized, Exemplary, or Master Teachers as part of the Teacher Incentive Allotment (TIA) Program with the Texas Education Agency, they are receiving stipends up to \$25,000 based on their designation level and the demographics of the campus. They received these designations, or increases in their existing designations, as part of the district's Master Teacher Initiative, which provides a framework to document their excellence and a vertical career trajectory within the profession.

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Children's Cabinet gathers to hear district priorities

The San Antonio ISD Children's Cabinet had its second meeting Aug. 23. The diverse group of 48 students, parents, educators, community members, and national leaders gathered in person and on Zoom for updates to the *Always Learning* plan and the district's priorities for the 2023-2024 year. "Your role as part of the Children's Cabinet is instrumental for us to be able to deliver on the promise of high-quality education," Superintendent Jaime Aquino said. "You are going to help us foster positive change on behalf of our kids. Together as part of this cabinet, we are going to unlock the potential of our students by providing them the resources, the support and the innovative opportunities that they deserve."

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Super Mario Day reminds Wilson to 'Level Up'

Wilson Elementary had a Super Mario-themed dress up day to celebrate their theme this year, "Super Wilson is Leveling Up." "We are building on all the successes we had last year by Leveling Up to do better," Dr. Jennifer Zavala, Wilson principal, said. "This year we will continue to embrace the power-ups of knowledge, teamwork, and determination." Great work, Wilson!

Public feedback continues at rightsizing meetings

More than 800 parents, district and campus staff and community members have attended the first nine rightsizing community feedback meetings. 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 procedure 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. Pictured are students and community members at Wednesday's meeting at Young Men's Leadership Academy. Haven't been to a meeting yet? [There are still five left.](#)

[RSVP for a Meeting](#)

NEWS FROM THE FOUNDATION

Employee giving campaign aims to fund 700 grants

The SAISD Foundation has kicked off its annual Employee Campaign. This year, their theme is "Rooted in Familia, We Dream, We Unite, We Unleash Education's Power!" Through a payroll deduction gift, 100% of employee contributions are invested back into students, teachers and schools. The Foundation invites the SAISD Familia to join to them in ensuring they can again support teachers by awarding more than 700 grants each school year, empower students by awarding more than 200 scholarships and gap awards each year, and engage the community by partnering with the district and other San Antonio organizations to amplify impacts in STEM, field trips, the arts and workforce development. As an added bonus, employees who donate at least \$10 per month will get an SAISD Proud Foundation T-Shirt.

[Donate Now](#)

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

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

BOARD BYTES

Trustee Leticia Ozuna shares highlights from the August 21, 2023 board meeting.

CLOSING SHOTS

SAISD Construction and Planning Department held a Topping Out Ceremony at Rogers College Prep Middle School last week, to recognize the hard work of the entire project team. In this construction milestone, the tallest and last beam of the competition gym project was signed by students and key personnel before being installed into the new gym. Students and staff were happy to be part of the celebration and are excited for the new facility to come.