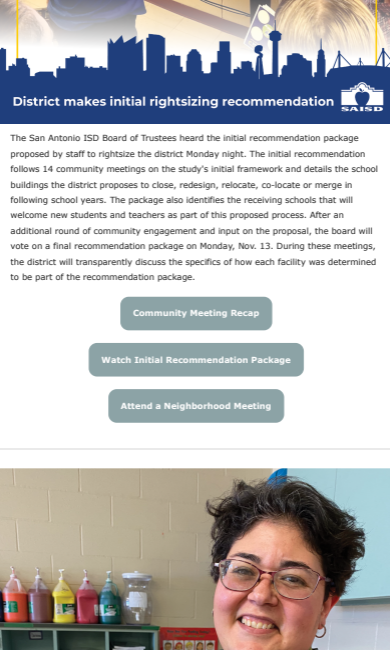


NEWS AROUND THE DISTRICT



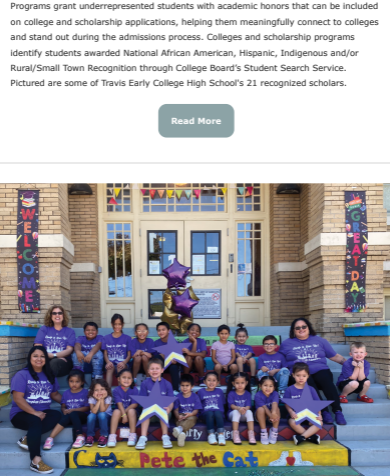
District makes initial rightsizing recommendation

The San Antonio ISD Board of Trustees heard the initial recommendation package proposed by staff to rightsize the district Monday night. The initial recommendation follows 14 community meetings on the study's initial framework and details the school buildings the district proposes to close, redesign, relocate, co-locate or merge in following school years. The package also identifies the receiving schools that will welcome new students and teachers as part of this proposed process. After an additional round of community engagement and input on the proposal, the board will vote on a final recommendation package on Monday, Nov. 13. During these meetings, the district will transparently discuss the specifics of how each facility was determined to be part of the recommendation package.

[Community Meeting Recap](#)

[Watch Initial Recommendation Package](#)

[Attend a Neighborhood Meeting](#)



Pair of bearded dragons inspires Carvajal classes

A pair of Pokémon-themed reptiles is stealing hearts and making big impacts in the classrooms at Carvajal Elementary. Charzard and Eevee came to the campus after Danielle Salgado's fifth grade class advocated for a class pet last year. They wouldn't be able to predict the impact the bearded dragons would have on both academics and social emotional learning.

[Read More](#)



College Board recognizes more than 100 students

More than 100 students from 14 high school campuses have earned academic honors from the College Board National Recognition Programs. These National Recognition Programs grant underrepresented students with academic honors that can be included on college and scholarship applications, helping them meaningfully connect to colleges and stand out during the admissions process. Colleges and scholarship programs identify students awarded National African American, Hispanic, Indigenous and/or Rural/Small Town Recognition through College Board's Student Search Service. Pictured are some of Travis Early College High School's 21 recognized scholars.

[Read More](#)



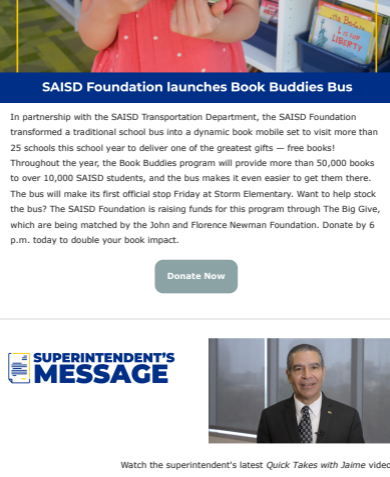
Douglass recognized for service to military families

The Texas Education Agency announced Sept. 5 that Douglass Elementary received the Purple Star Campus Designation for the 2023-2024 school year. This special designation, created by the 86th Texas Legislature through SB 1557, recognizes campuses for demonstrating support and commitment to meeting the unique needs of military-connected students and their families. "For Douglass, receiving this designation recognizes the work and support we give to not just all students, but specifically recognizes our efforts with our military-connected families," Dr. Stephanie Ratliff, Douglass principal, said. "The resources, recognitions, and system of support we provide to military-connected families allow us to serve as a bridge for students and families who can at times feel disconnected. Our mindset is 'once an eagle, always an eagle.' We are a familia who supports those who serve and protect our country."



Campuses celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month

Hispanic Heritage Month kicked off September 15, and campuses have already begun their cultural celebrations honoring the contributions of Hispanic Americans. Events have included parades, performances, festive food and attire, craft projects and other family events. Pictured is Franklin principal Jennifer Adan at the school's 16 de septiembre celebration. Events continue through October 15.



CAST Imagines explores needs in medicine

Last week, CAST Med High School launched CAST Imagines, an opportunity for students to gain a deeper understanding of San Antonio and imagine new possibilities in collaboration with their community through conversation that relied on community data, expertise, and creativity. Students collaborated with local organizations and community members to learn more about challenges in the community, including: cancer; healthcare access and insurance; heart disease, cardiovascular disease, and respiratory infections; homelessness; mental health with an emphasis on anxiety, depression, and self-image; nutrition; and healthy relationships and teen pregnancy.



JROTC programs honor fallen in 9/11 ceremonies

JROTC and LOTC programs around the district held events honoring the fallen in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. The somber ceremonies, centered around flagpoles, featured readings, wreaths, candles, and band members playing "Taps" to remember and honor those who were killed and those who gave their lives as first responders on that fateful day 22 years ago. Pictured are JROTC cadets at Jefferson High School.

REMINDERS

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS GUIDE

2024



Benefit Open Enrollment for the 2024 plan year closes tomorrow Sept. 22, at 5 p.m. Enrollment is not mandatory for 2024; therefore you do not need to log in if you wish to keep the elections as they are in 2023. Individuals that participate in the flexible spending accounts DO need to elect amounts for the 2024 plan year.

[Open Enrollment in My Service Center](#)

We are proud to partner with United Way to make a difference for those in need. Our community faces a wide range of challenges and United Way and its partner charities are diligently identifying and addressing our most critical needs. It is important to continue to support our local nonprofits who are on the front lines, helping individuals and families who face challenges involving employment, mental health, childcare, education and so much more. Please consider joining the SAISD Familia in funding these important local charities. To pledge electronically, log in below with your employee email ending in saisd.net and your employee number as a password. Deadline to pledge is Oct. 26.

[Pledge Now](#)

NEWS FROM THE FOUNDATION

SAISD Foundation launches Book Buddies Bus

In partnership with the SAISD Transportation Department, the SAISD Foundation transformed a traditional school bus into a dynamic book mobile set to visit more than 25 schools this school year to deliver one of the greatest gifts — free books! Throughout the year, the Book Buddies program will provide more than 50,000 books to over 10,000 SAISD students, and the bus makes it even easier to get them there. The bus will make its first official stop Friday at Storm Elementary. Want to help stock the bus? The SAISD Foundation is raising funds for this program through The Big Give, which are being matched by the John and Florence Newman Foundation. Donate by 6 p.m. today to double your book impact.

[Donate Now](#)

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

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

BOARD BYTES

Trustee Christina Martinez shares highlights from the September 18, 2023 board meeting.

CLOSING SHOTS

Happy Birthday, Lanier High School! The campus celebrated its 100th anniversary last week. Lanier, originally a junior high, opened as part of the district's first system of junior high schools launched in 1923. The campus held quite a party, featuring fine arts performances and student groups, current and past, with more than 500 guests coming to celebrate. Five other campuses — Harris Middle School, Hawthorne Academy, Irving Dual Language Academy, Poe Middle School and Twain Dual Language Academy — all which opened as middle schools in 1923, will be hosting celebrations throughout the year. Harris will celebrate this Saturday, Sept. 23 at 8 a.m.

