

NEWS AROUND THE DISTRICT



Newest BiblioTech opens on Fox Tech campus

Bexar County's new BiblioTech digital library, The Judge Nelson and Tracy Wolff BiblioTech EDU, opened Dec. 6 at the Fox Tech campus. Community members came to celebrate the grand opening with student performances, building tours, and technology demonstrations. BiblioTech EDU will serve the downtown area and will function as a hands-on, interactive educational space, serving students in grades 4-12 from the three schools housed on the Fox Tech campus. BiblioTech EDU will offer SAISD a digital library collection to support curricular programs, and the facility will provide innovative learning spaces. During non-school hours, the general public will have free access to library resources and technology.

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Campuses celebrate 'Hour of Code' all week

This week for Hour of Code, students in San Antonio ISD schools joined millions around the world celebrating Computer Science Education Week, which takes place every year in December. This year, SAISD challenged its campuses to have every student participate in at least one hour of code. On the district's Hour of Code website, educators could choose from different computer science activities and log their involvement throughout the week.

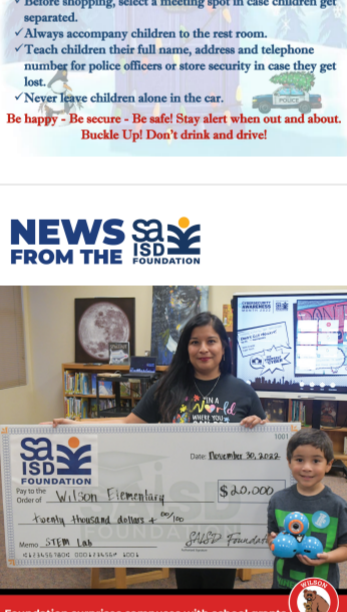
[Read More](#)



Travis instructor receives U. of Chicago award

Frances Santos, who just received a University of Chicago Outstanding Educator Award, believes in the urgent advocacy of writing strong letters of recommendation for students. "As we go into teaching and see these students grow into these incredible adults that they will become, that they already are, we are some of the catalysts that are non-negotiables for getting them there," Santos said. "If we don't advocate in the form of language and really explain to these institutions that our kids can make it, and will make it, and will do great things at their campus, who will?"

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Families dive into technology at STEM Nights

Rhodes Middle School hosted a STEM Family Night last week. In partnership with Communities in Schools, Texas Research and Technology Foundation, and H-E-B, the school offered different stations to encourage families to learn about opportunities in coding, physics, architecture, bionics, biology, drones, rocketry, robotics and more. Parents, students, younger siblings and even H-E-Buddy took part in the educational fun. It was the last of a series of STEM nights provided by the Career and Technical Education department's STEM partnership with CIS and TRTF. Other campuses included Beacon Hill Academy, Lowell Middle School, Longfellow Middle School, and Poe Middle School.



Virtual exchange sparks internship opportunity

Joseph Guerrero, a senior at the Advanced Learning Academy, had a lifechanging experience in the Culturing Global Social Entrepreneurship Journey. He was able to secure an internship that allows him to merge his interest in design with international relations. Working with the World Affairs Council of San Antonio, he is spending his senior year of high school supporting the work of the organization while developing his graphic design skills and exploring his interest in international relations.

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Maverick counselor named one of 12 'SA Lights'

Maverick Counselor Jeanette Zuniga, who is known around campus for her boisterous voice, her love of music and dancing, and crazy hats, was just honored as one of 12 SA Lights, at a gala sponsored by the San Antonio Express-News Nov. 16. The Express-News has created the SA Lights program in 2021 to shine a light on amazing people, recognize their efforts, and inspire more people to greatness. This year they were seeking "individuals that build foundations, motivate others, and put forth time and energy to keep San Antonio strong."

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HOLIDAY CARDS FOR SALE

ENJOY AND SHARE THESE DELIGHTFUL ARTWORKS BY OUR TALENTED VISUAL ART STUDENTS IN SAISD.

Visit the Central Office Printing Services Department, suite 1700, to place and prepay your holiday card packages.

Deadline to place your order is Tuesday, Dec. 13 or while supplies last

\$12.00 plus tax
20 full-color holiday cards with envelopes
CREDIT CARD ONLY

SAN ANTONIO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Every year San Antonio ISD students in grades Pre-K-12 enter the Winter Card Contest for the chance to win cash prizes and art supplies, and to have their design featured in SAISD's Winter Card set! This year, the theme was Stars, Constellations, and the Winter Sky. You can order an assortment of these cards to spread the cheer this winter. Cards will be sold in assorted pre-packaged sets of 20 for \$12 plus tax. Stop by the Central Office Printing Services Department — Quincy Building, Suite 1700 — to place or pick-up your order. Deadline to order is Tuesday, Dec. 13.

TEACHER HACKS #TEACHERHACKS

As we near the end of the fall semester, every minute matters in terms of efficiency. Instructional Specialist Rosalina Boblett brings us this tip that can help you more efficiently access your curriculum for planning. Have a tip for something that's working great in your classroom? [Email us](#) and your tip could be featured in a future Insider.

[Watch Now](#)

San Antonio ISD Police Department Holiday Safety Crime Prevention Tips

SAISD Police would like you to have a Happy and Safe Holiday Season with a few tips during the holiday break.

- ✓ While Shopping be aware of your surroundings and strangers.
- ✓ Only use ATMs during daylight hours or in well-lit public places.
- ✓ Never leave your purse in the shopping cart or in the car.
- ✓ Do not open the door to strangers.
- ✓ Keep children close at all times!
- ✓ Before shopping, select a meeting spot in case children get separated.
- ✓ Always accompany children to the rest room.
- ✓ Teach children their full name, address and telephone number for police officers or store security in case they get lost.
- ✓ Never leave children alone in the car.

Be happy - Be secure - Be safe! Stay alert when out and about.
Buckle Up! Don't drink and drive!

NEWS FROM THE SAISD FOUNDATION

Foundation surprises campuses with school grants

Just in time for the holiday season, the SAISD Foundation has been making some big gifts to schools to help principals with SAISD projects. Launched during National Principals Month in October, San Antonio ISD principals had a chance to make a video pitch for grant funding to benefit programming that could improve their entire campuses.

[Read More](#)

REMINDERS

SAISD CHOICE SCHOOLS & Programs

APPLY TODAY!
www.saisdchoice.com

Now accepting Pre-K-12th grade applications for the 2023-2024 school year.

San Antonio ISD Families, the SAISD Choice Application window for the 2023-24 school year is now open! No matter where you live, there is an SAISD Choice School or Program to best meet your child's unique interests. Children of all current SAISD employees are also invited to apply. Join the SAISD family today: apply to up to three Choice Schools or Programs at saisdchoice.com, in person at your current SAISD school, or call us at (210) 554-2660.

[Apply Today](#)

SAISD MONTHLY INTERNAL CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY

DECEMBER

The December Internal Customer Satisfaction Survey is open through tomorrow. Join us in making the district stronger. Constructive criticism and praise alike are welcome. Responses are anonymous.

[Take the Survey](#)

Winter Mask Challenge

STAY HEALTHY SAISD FAMILIA!

Join us in the Winter Mask Challenge and do your part to protect yourself and your family from:
a fall/winter increase in Flu, R.S.V. and Covid

For more information call 210-554-2200

www.saisd.net

Winter weather might signal the holidays, but it also signals a spike in respiratory illnesses including Flu, R.S.V. and Covid. We encourage the SAISD Familia to protect themselves and their families by wearing a mask this December leading up to winter break. Stay healthy, SAISD Familia!

San Antonio ISD MILLION BOOK Challenge

Let's read 1 million books by May 26!
Be the campus that reads the most minutes each month.

STUDENTS & STAFF: Log your minutes reading using beanstack	PARENTS & COMMUNITY: Log the books you read on this Google form	NON-TEACHING STAFF: If you have trouble accessing Beanstack , use the Google form to log your books.
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Do you have your reading planned for winter break? You and your family can help San Antonio ISD accomplish some MAJOR reading goals this year. Our big SAISD Familia — students, teachers, campus staff and district employees, and our SAISD families at home — are challenged to come together to read 1 million books this year. You can help! Students and teachers can log their reading through the Beanstack app in ClassLink. Those without access to ClassLink can log their books on a Google Form.

[Log Reading in Beanstack \(ClassLink\)](#)

[Log reading on Google Form](#)

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

BOARD BYTES

CLOSING SHOTS

The countdown to Winter Break is tangible on campuses throughout the district as students and teachers plan holiday performances, parties, and participate in special dress-up days. Pictured are Grinch Day at Smith Elementary, Pajama Day at Poe Middle School, Jingle Bell Day at Arnold Elementary, Reindeer Day at Highland Park Elementary, and Whoville at Hawthorne Academy.