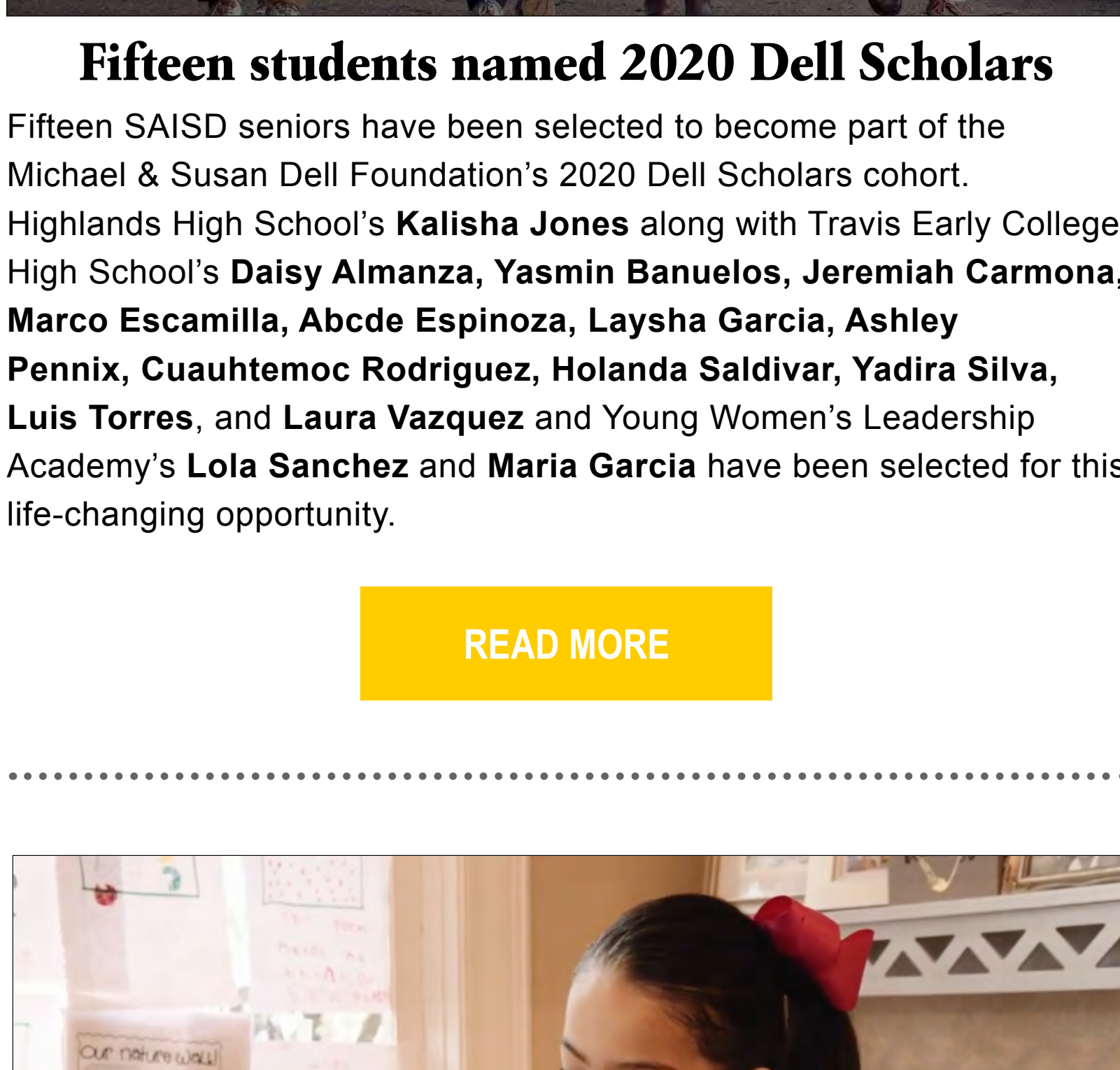


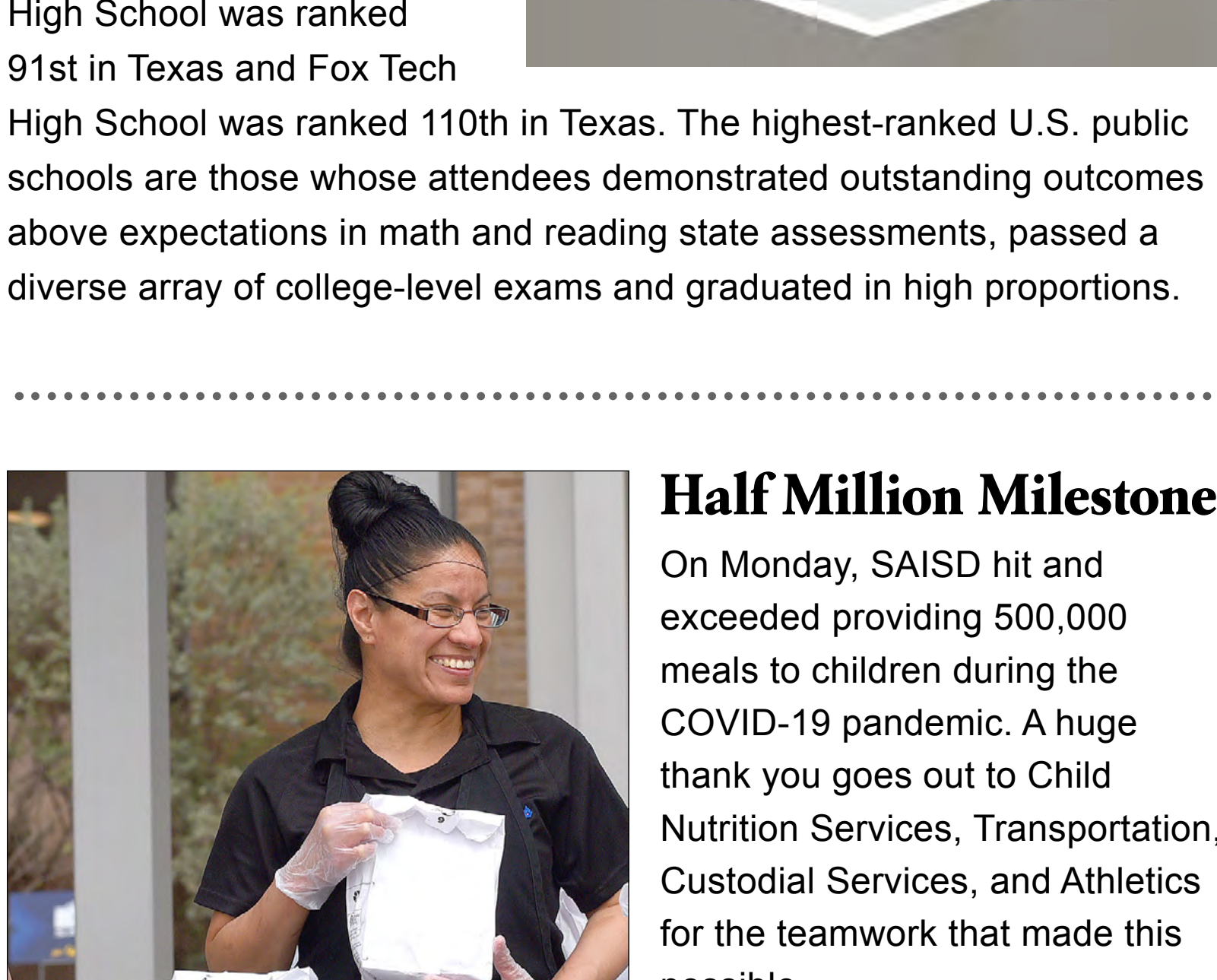
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Fifteen students named 2020 Dell Scholars

Fifteen SAISD seniors have been selected to become part of the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation's 2020 Dell Scholars cohort. Highlands High School's **Kalisha Jones** along with Travis Early College High School's **Daisy Almanza, Yasmin Banuelos, Jeremiah Carmona, Marco Escamilla, Abcde Espinoza, Laysha Garcia, Ashley Pennix, Cuauhtemoc Rodriguez, Holanda Saldivar, Yadira Silva, Luis Torres, and Laura Vazquez** and Young Women's Leadership Academy's **Lola Sanchez** and **Maria Garcia** have been selected for this life-changing opportunity.

[READ MORE](#)

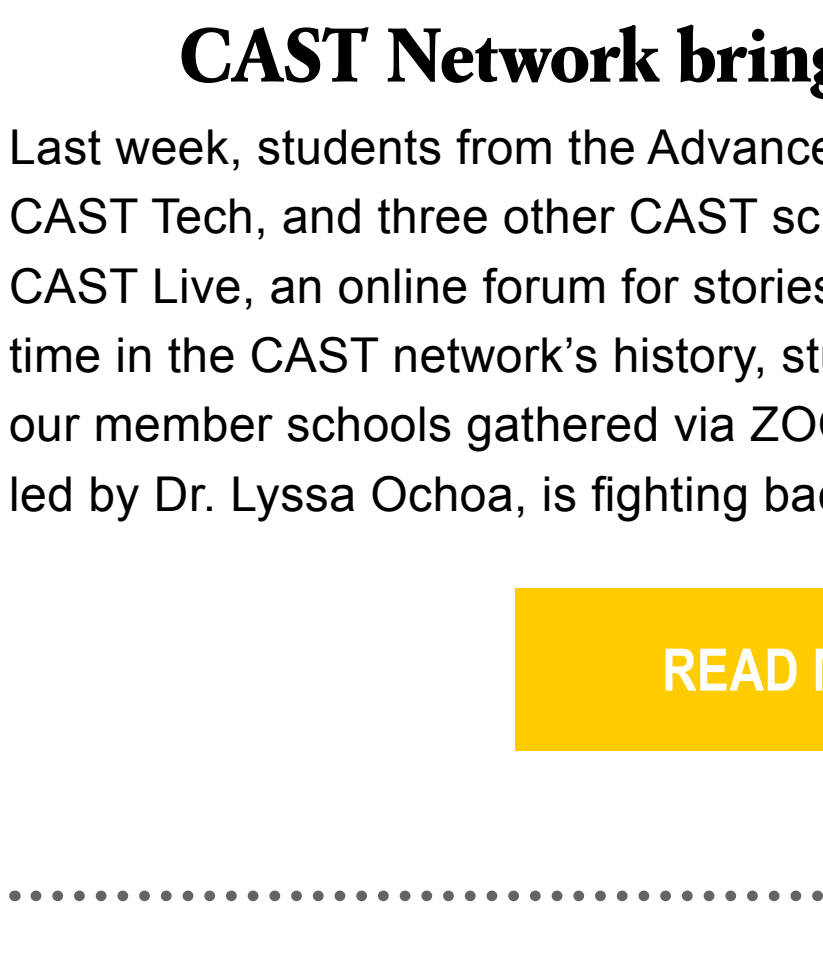


Bridging the digital divide

Distance learning is underway after San Antonio ISD teachers quickly took their classrooms online as the result of COVID-19. To meet the needs of its students, SAISD accelerated its strategic plan to provide 1:1 technology across the District. Watch the above video to learn more!

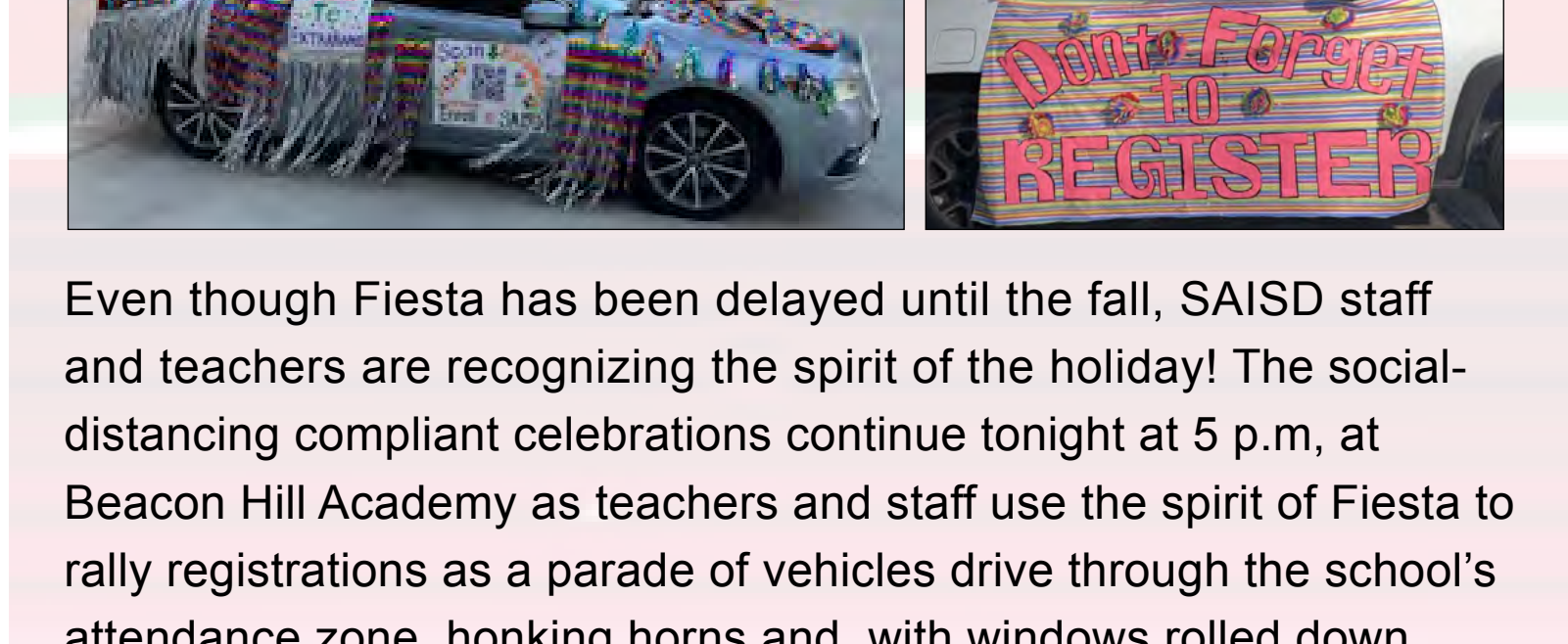
Top of the class

Congratulations to the Young Women's Leadership Academy for being ranked by U.S. News & World Report as one of the Best U.S. High Schools in Texas. YWLA ranked 12th in Texas out of the state's 2,075 high schools. Travis Early College High School was ranked 91st in Texas and Fox Tech High School was ranked 110th in Texas. The highest-ranked U.S. public schools are those whose attendees demonstrated outstanding outcomes above expectations in math and reading state assessments, passed a diverse array of college-level exams and graduated in high proportions.



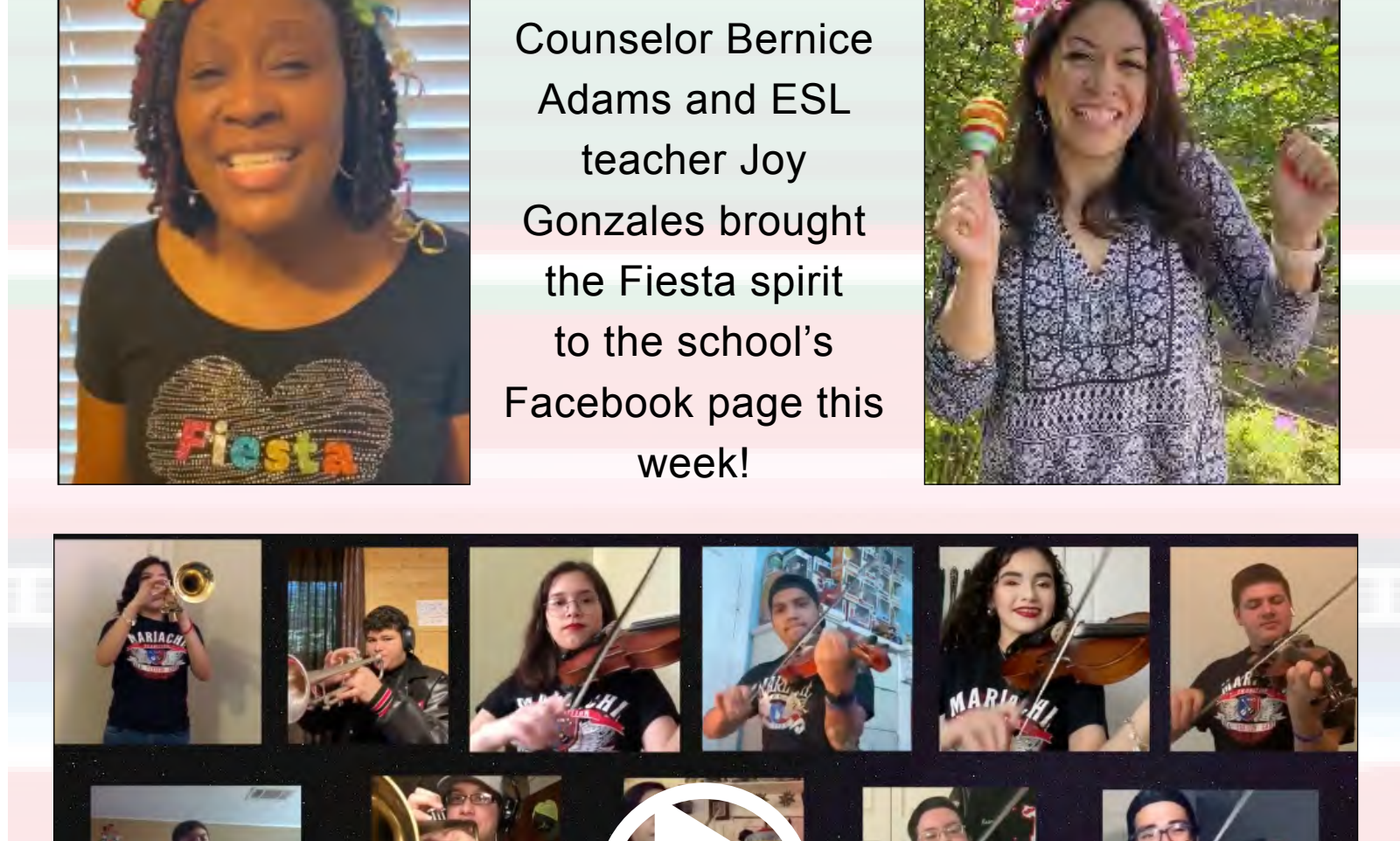
Half Million Milestone

On Monday, SAISD hit and exceeded providing 500,000 meals to children during the COVID-19 pandemic. A huge thank you goes out to Child Nutrition Services, Transportation, Custodial Services, and Athletics for the teamwork that made this possible.



Bond 2016 progress

The learning staircase at the Fox Tech High School is completed! This distinctive feature is a gathering place for classroom and special guest presentations, benefiting both Fox Tech and Advanced Learning Academy students. Also newly completed is the kitchen, cafeteria, six classrooms, and two science labs. These projects are part of the current bond project, which is bringing more than \$26 million in renovations and improvements to the Fox Tech campus.

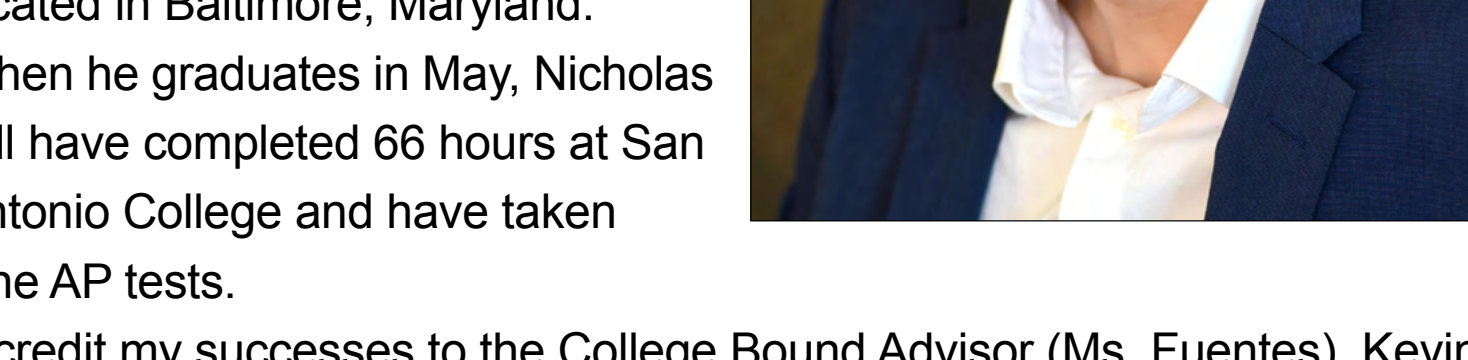


CAST Network brings together students

Last week, students from the Advanced Learning Academy, CAST Med, CAST Tech, and three other CAST schools connected together through CAST Live, an online forum for stories of hope and resilience. For the first time in the CAST network's history, students and educators from each of our member schools gathered via ZOOM to hear how the SAVE Clinic, led by Dr. Lyssa Ochoa, is fighting back against the COVID-19 pandemic.

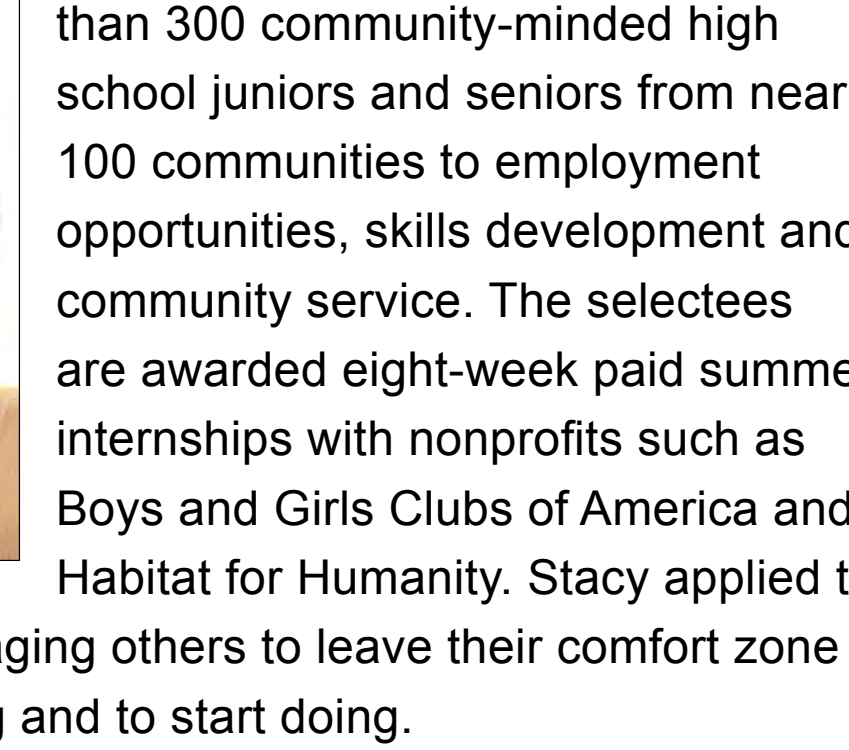
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FIESTA!



Even though Fiesta has been delayed until the fall, SAISD staff and teachers are recognizing the spirit of the holiday! The social-distancing compliant celebrations continue tonight at 5 p.m. at Beacon Hill Academy as teachers and staff use the spirit of Fiesta to rally registrations as a parade of vehicles drive through the school's attendance zone, honking horns and, with windows rolled down, calling out to their families to inspire them to complete the annual registration process. Some cars even have posters with QR codes to link parents to online registration with just a click.

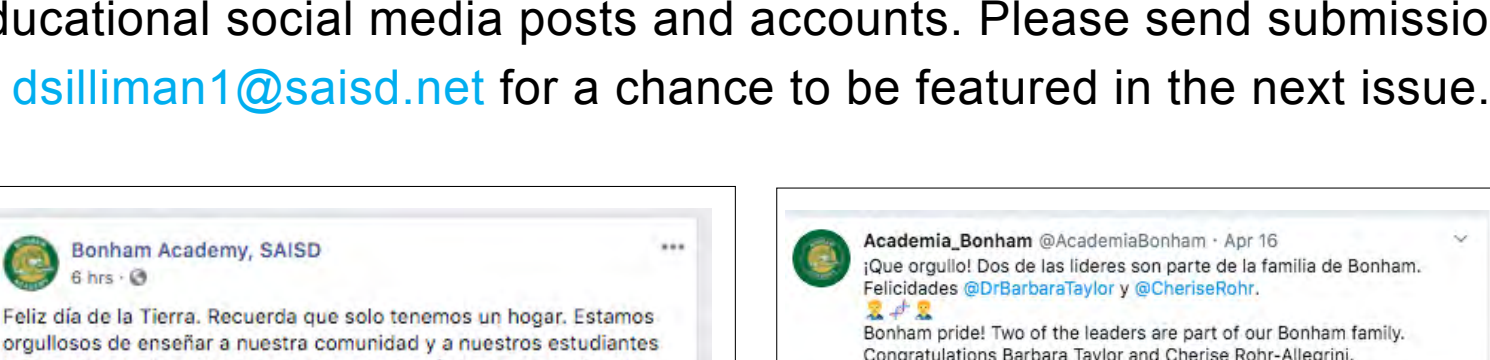
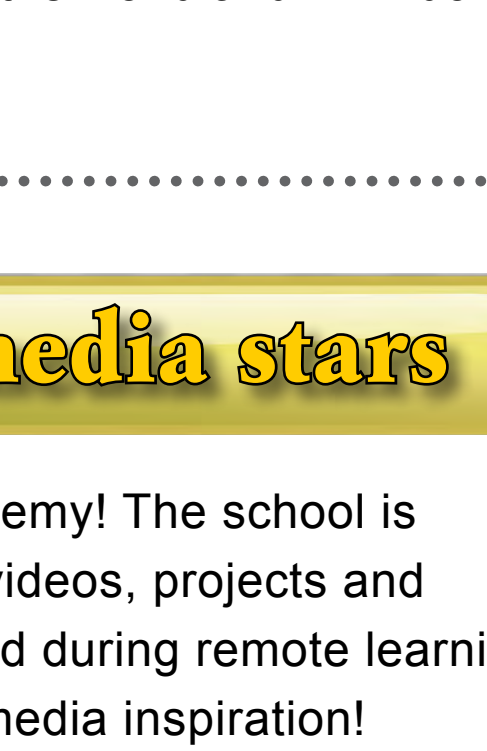
Carvajal Staff, along with SAISD PD, SAISD Transportation, and SAPD paraded through the Carvajal neighborhood earlier today in honor of Fiesta. "We want to give our students and families a little cheer," said Sonya Cardenas, principal.



"Plus we miss the kids so much, it will be a way of seeing them for a bit."

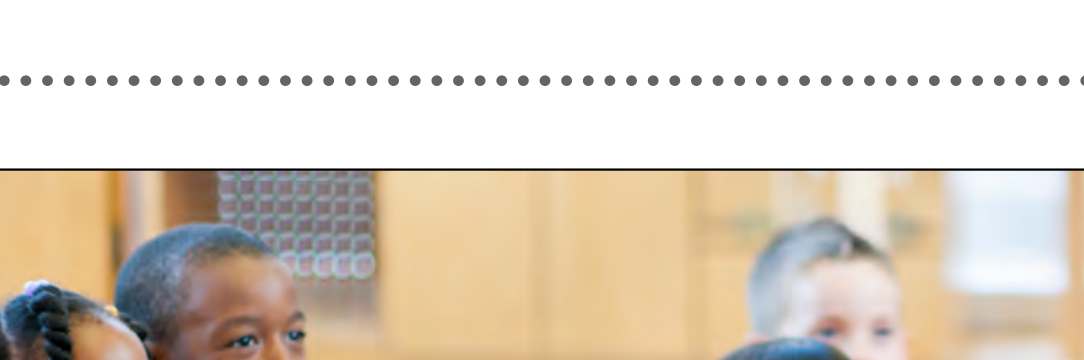
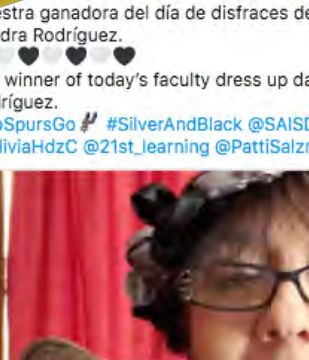


Poe Middle School Counselor Bernice Adams and ESL teacher Joy Gonzales brought the Fiesta spirit to the school's Facebook page this week!



Fox Tech High School, Advanced Learning Academy and CAST Tech mariachi students perform "El Gallo" during a virtual concert, coordinated by teachers Mr. Zamarrípa and Ms. Covarrubias.

The Bonham staff, right, celebrated Fiesta earlier this week during their virtual staff meeting.

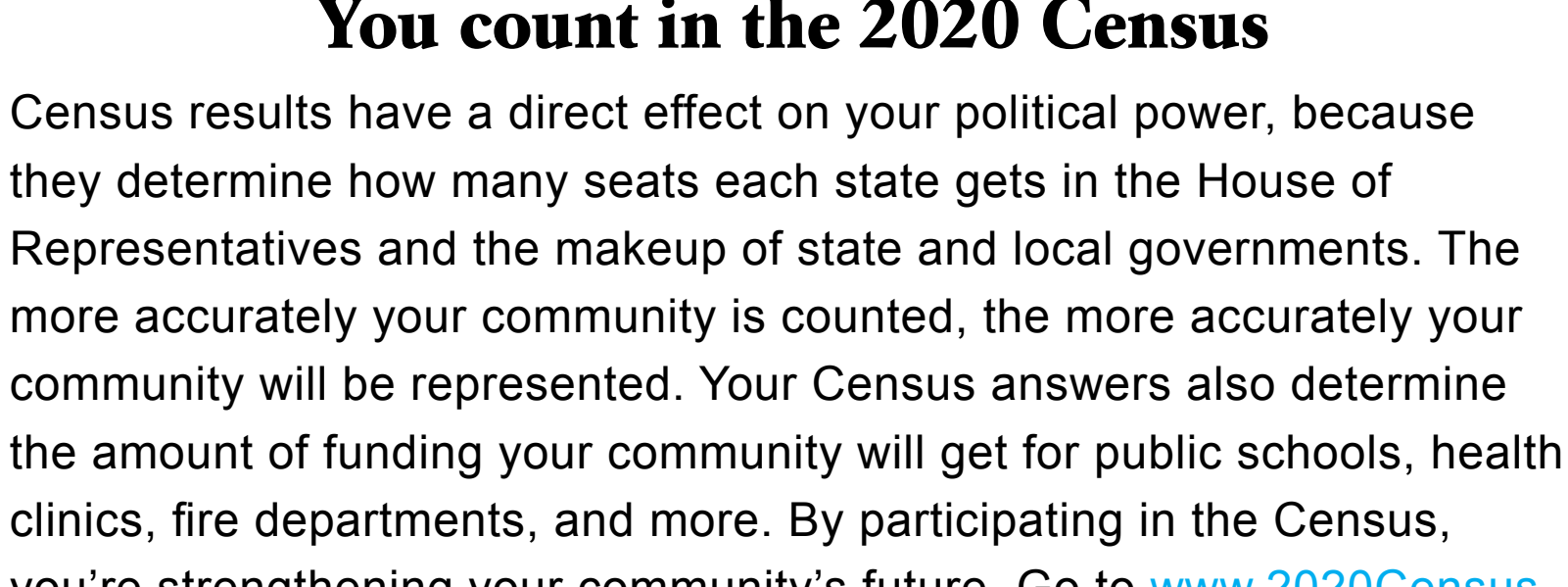


The staff of DeZaval Elementary School got creative with their outfits and Zoom backgrounds during a Fiesta-themed meeting.



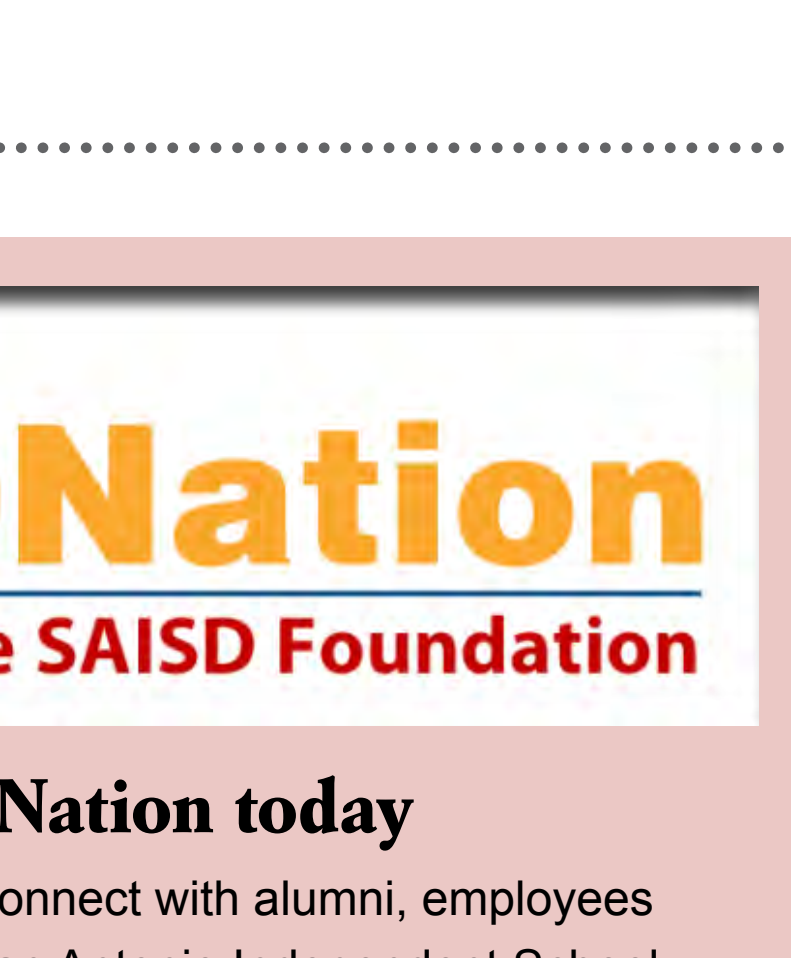
"Fresh" start next school year

Christina Psencik, a Head Start teacher at Arnold Elementary School, was selected as a winner in the Lysol Healthy Habits Teach2Win Sweepstakes. As a winner, this fall, Ms. Psencik and her school will receive 50 containers of Lysol Disinfecting Wipes to give students a "fresh" start to the 2020-2021 school year!

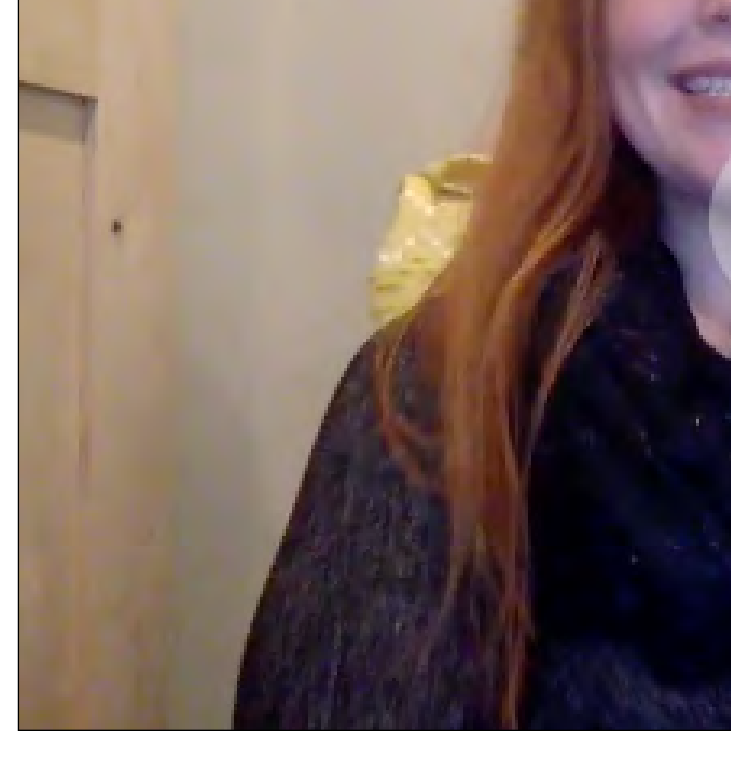


Student to attend Johns Hopkins University

Nicolas Rios, a senior at Travis Early College High School, has been accepted to Johns Hopkins University, where he plans to study neuroscience this fall. Nicolas received a full financial aid package to the prestigious research university located in Baltimore, Maryland. When he graduates in May, Nicolas will have completed 66 hours at San Antonio College and have taken nine AP tests.



"I credit my successes to the College Bound Advisor (Ms. Fuentes), Kevin Rasco, Liz Ozuna, Doctor Annelise Vela, my AP teacher Mrs. Frances Santos, my AP teacher Joseph Ostrowski, the AP Biology district specialist and teacher Victor Salinas, and many others from Advanced Academics that has compelled me to challenge myself academically with AP and dual credit courses," he said. "The college-bound advising that goes on here at Travis Early College High School is phenomenal. They push you to do a lot of scholarships. SAISD has allowed me to explore my own potential."



Bank of America Senior Leaders Program

Stacy Carrizales, a senior at Phoenix Middle College, has been accepted to the Bank of America Student Leaders Program. The program connects more than 300 community-minded high school juniors to employers from nearly 100 communities to employment opportunities, skills development and community service. The selectees are awarded eight-week paid summer internships with nonprofits such as Boys and Girls Clubs of America and Habitat for Humanity. Stacy applied to the program in hopes of encouraging others to leave their comfort zone and to stop being afraid of failing and to start doing.

"Many of my peers do not apply to programs because they get discouraged by the competitive application progress," she said. "I applied my junior year to this program and was devastated when I didn't get accepted. I could have stopped there but I decided to try again my senior year. Now, I can officially say I've been selected as a 2020 Bank of America Student Leader. I am also dying to share and make memories with people who are thinking of the future and not just the present. I wish to be a part of something big, I want to change the world and I will do so one step at a time."

This week's social media stars

This week's social media star is Bonham Academy! The school is constantly posting creative and informational videos, projects and photos to keep their school community involved during remote learning. Visit their channels below to get some social media inspiration! *Insider* staff is on the lookout for the most fun, creative, informational or educational social media posts and accounts. Please send submissions to dsilliman1@saisd.net for a chance to be featured in the next issue.

You count in the 2020 Census

Census results have a direct effect on your political power, because they determine how many seats each state gets in the House of Representatives and the makeup of state and local governments. The more accurately your community is counted, the more accurately your community will be represented. Your Census answers also determine the amount of funding your community will get for public schools, health clinics, fire departments, and more. By participating in the Census, you're strengthening your community's future. Go to www.2020Census.gov to complete the Census questionnaire online or call (844) 330-2020 to talk to a live Census employee who can help you fill out your questionnaire over the phone.

Join SAISD Nation today

The SAISD Foundation wants to connect with alumni, employees and community members of the San Antonio Independent School District! To do just that, the Foundation has officially launched SAISD Nation, an online community where participants can stay connected and receive regular updates and articles, along with a wide range of information on special events, mentoring, and volunteer opportunities. There's also an alumni directory where members can submit their names and connect with old friends and classmates. Sign up for SAISD Nation today and explore all it has to offer.

[JOIN NOW!](#)

Top Three Reasons

This week, Master Teacher Gayle Simons tells *insider* readers the Top Three Reasons why she enjoys working remotely in a digital learning environment! In celebration of today's National Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day, Simons' daughter joins her! A new employee's Top Three will be featured in every issue of *insider* while employees are working remotely, so email your two minute or less video to dsilliman1@saisd.net.