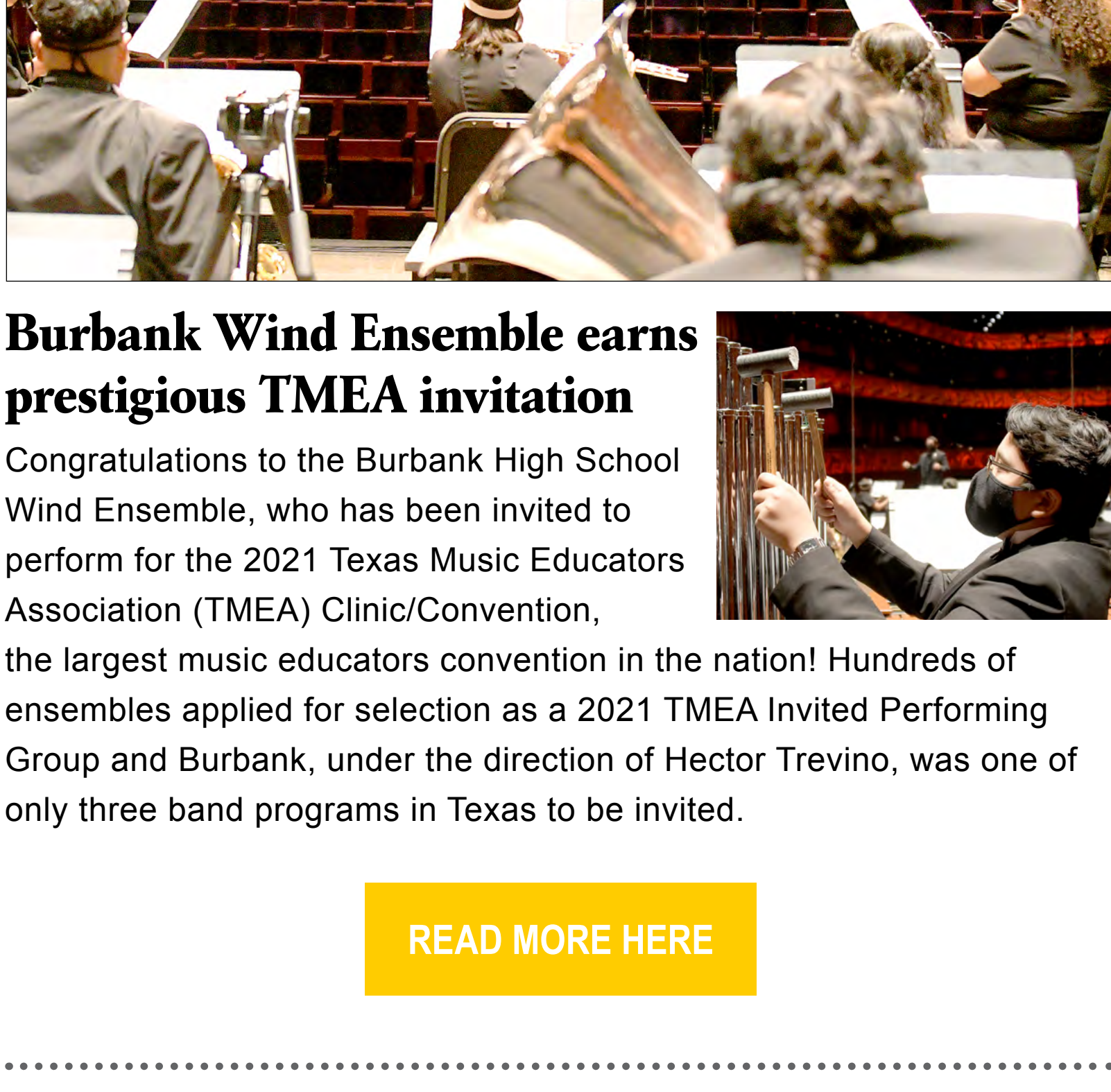


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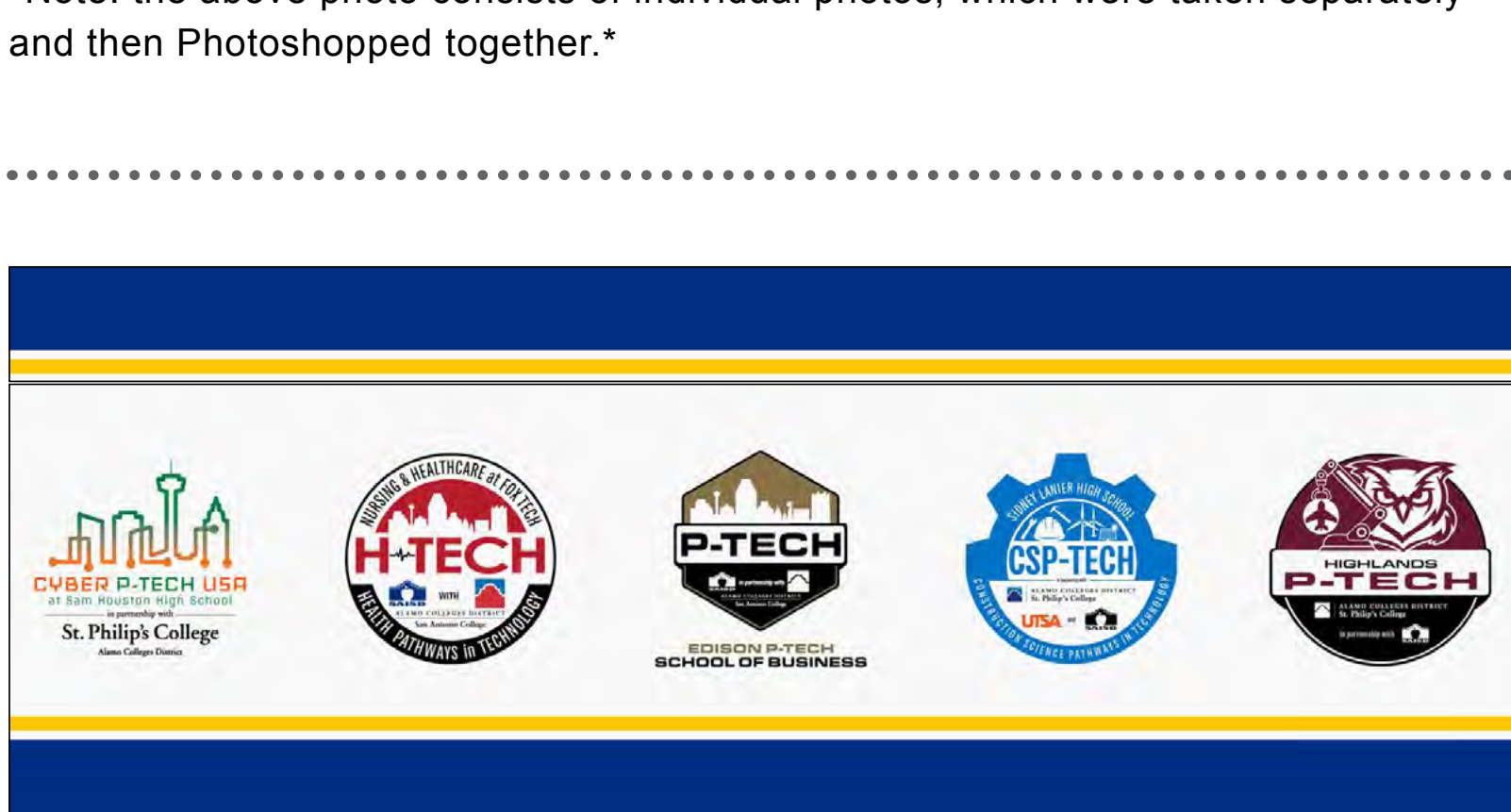


Burbank Wind Ensemble earns prestigious TMEA invitation

Congratulations to the Burbank High School Wind Ensemble, who has been invited to perform for the 2021 Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA) Clinic/Convention, the largest music educators convention in the nation! Hundreds of ensembles applied for selection as a 2021 TMEA Invited Performing Group and Burbank, under the direction of Hector Trevino, was one of only three band programs in Texas to be invited.

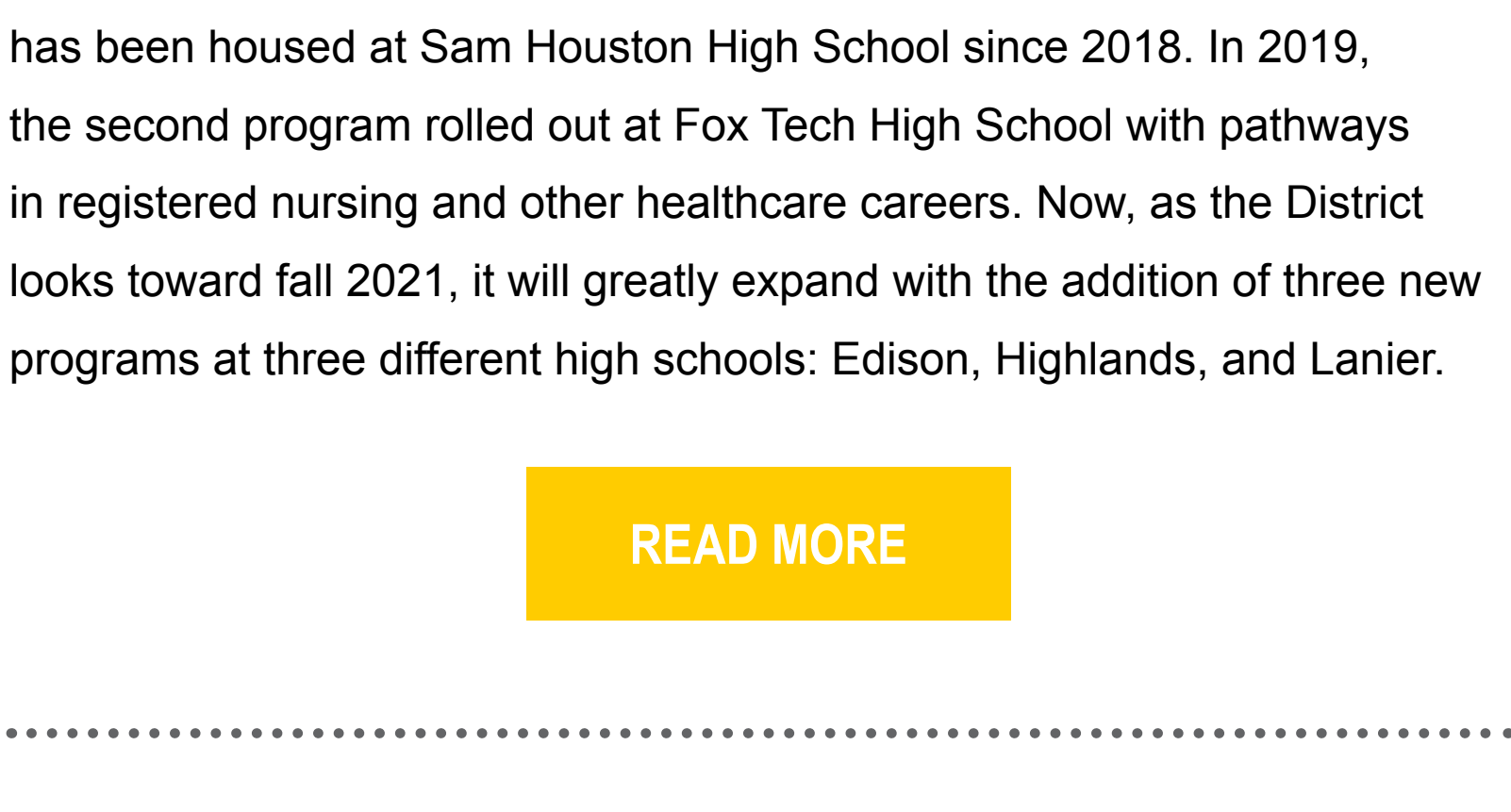


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Jefferson counseling team recognized

National School Counseling Week may not be until next month, but it is never too early to celebrate our outstanding counselors! The Jefferson High School counseling team recently received the Counselors Reinforcing Excellence for Students in Texas (CREST) award, sponsored by the Texas School Counselor Association. The recognition is awarded to exemplary school counseling programs across the state. CREST is a continuous improvement document that professional school counselors can use to demonstrate effective program design and implementation and to emphasize a commitment to obtaining results that boost achievement and wellness for students. *Note: the above photo consists of individual photos, which were taken separately and then Photoshopped together.*



Industry-focused P-TECH programs growing in SAISD

When the Texas Legislature paved the way for school districts to work with the Texas Education Agency to launch Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) programs, San Antonio ISD was the first in the city and Bexar County to offer the open-enrollment, industry- and higher education-focused model to high school students across Bexar County. SAISD's first P-TECH program is centered on cybersecurity and has been housed at Sam Houston High School since 2018. In 2019, the second program rolled out at Fox Tech High School with pathways in registered nursing and other healthcare careers. Now, as the District looks toward fall 2021, it will greatly expand with the addition of three new programs at three different high schools: Edison, Highlands, and Lanier.

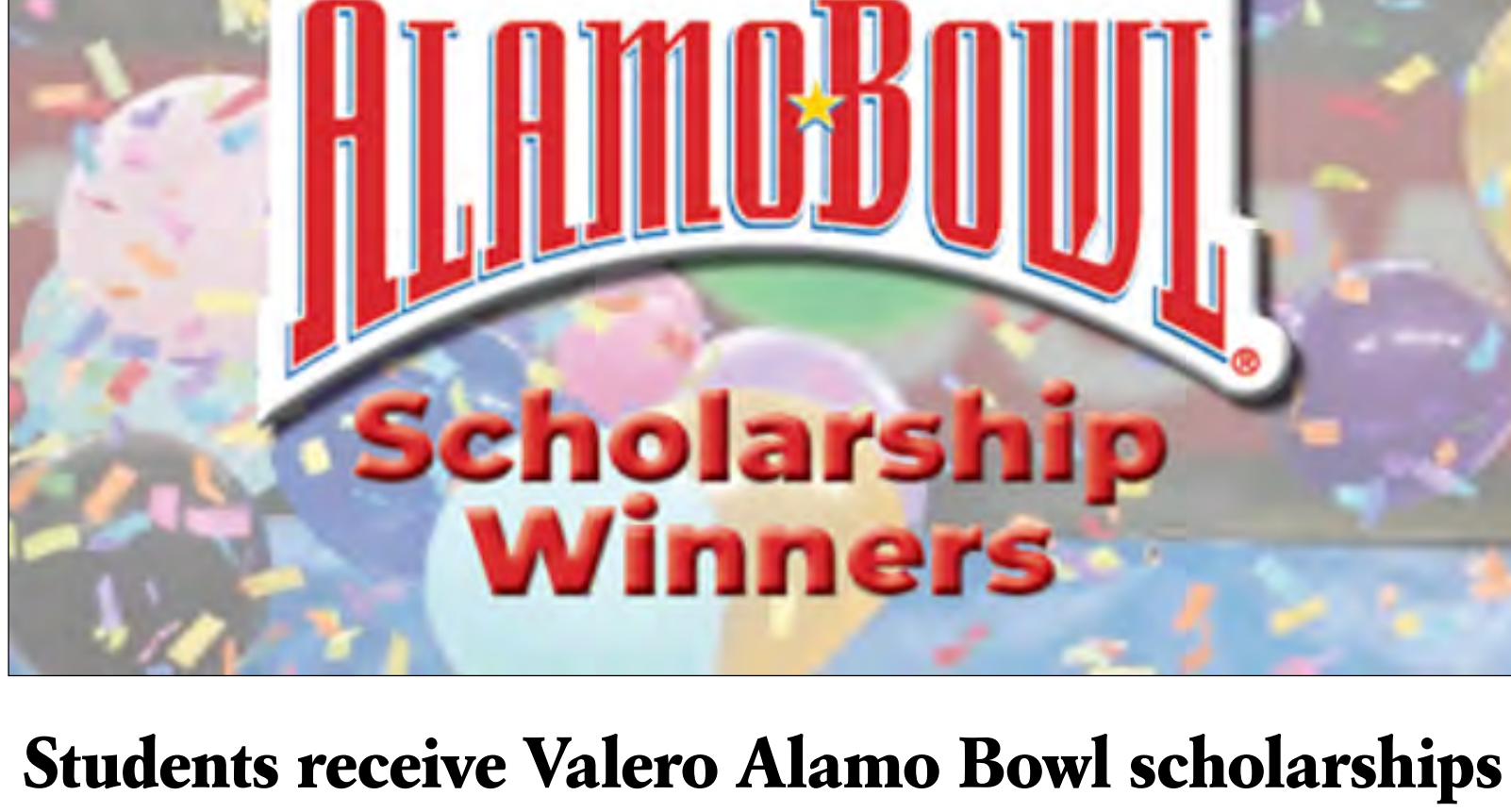
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Gaming is part of the school day at YMLA

For decades, kids came home from school to hop on their Nintendo, Xbox or PlayStation. Gaming is now a regular part of a student's day at Young Men's Leadership Academy. Principal Derrick Brown says at his all-boys school, project-based learning now involves Microsoft's "Minecraft" video game to further engage his students. The interactive approach keeps them engaged while they are learning math, science, reading and other critical subjects.

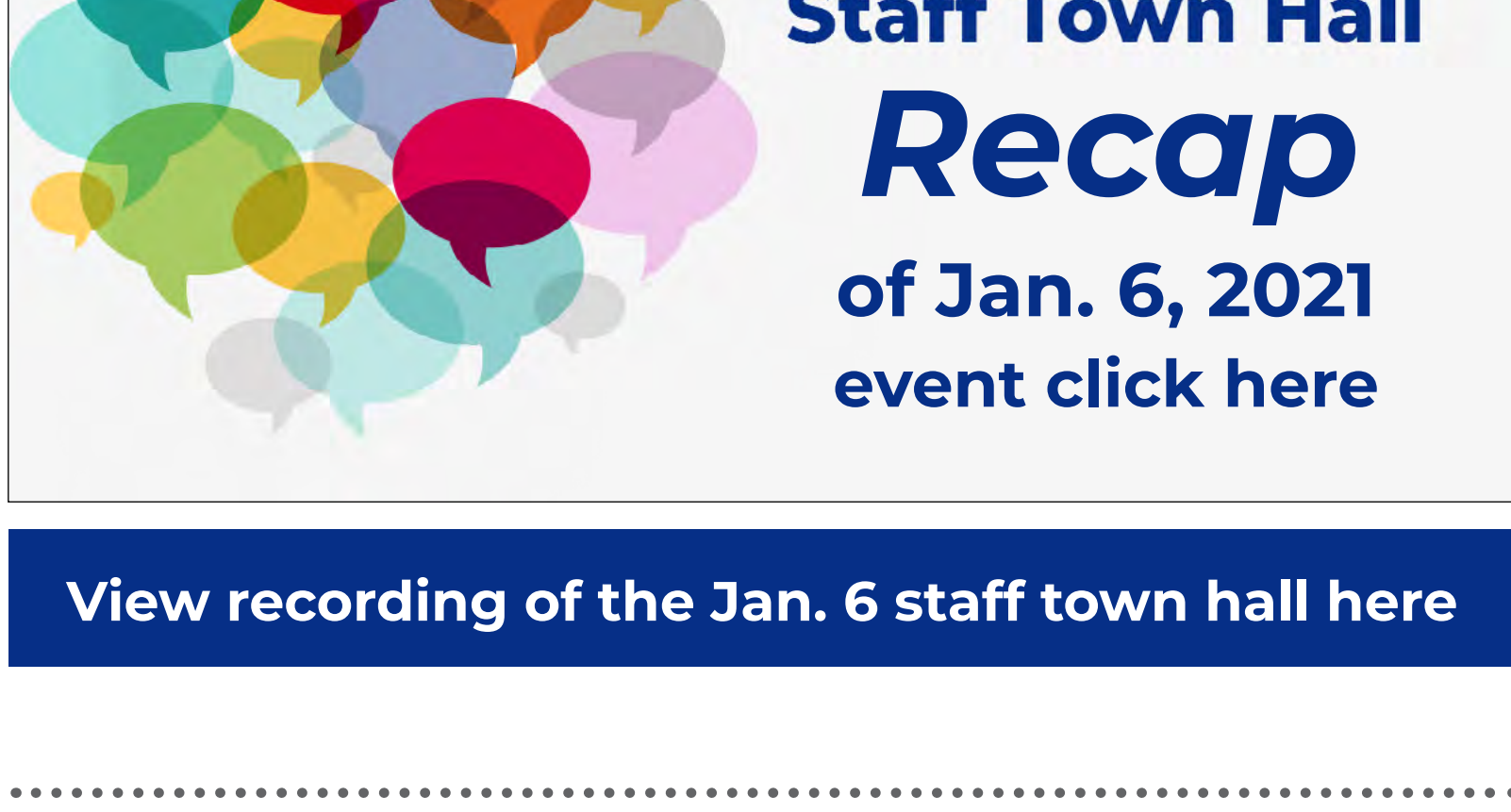
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Rigorous minds meet vigorous play

We are proud to announce that Huppertz Elementary School has earned the designation as an International Baccalaureate (IB) World School for the Primary Years Programme! An IB education is acclaimed worldwide because its active and engaging framework prepares students for college and primes them to excel as lifelong learners for a global society. And just as the school is celebrating this academic milestone in its pursuit of providing an intellectually challenging experience for both students and teachers, the campus also is anticipating this week's launch of an equally physically challenging play space – a Ninja-style playground – funded through a Texas Education Agency grant.

[READ MORE HERE](#)



Students receive Valero Alamo Bowl scholarships

The year 2020 closed out with a bang for 14 San Antonio ISD student athletes when it was announced they were awarded \$7,500 scholarships through the 2020-21 Valero Alamo Bowl.

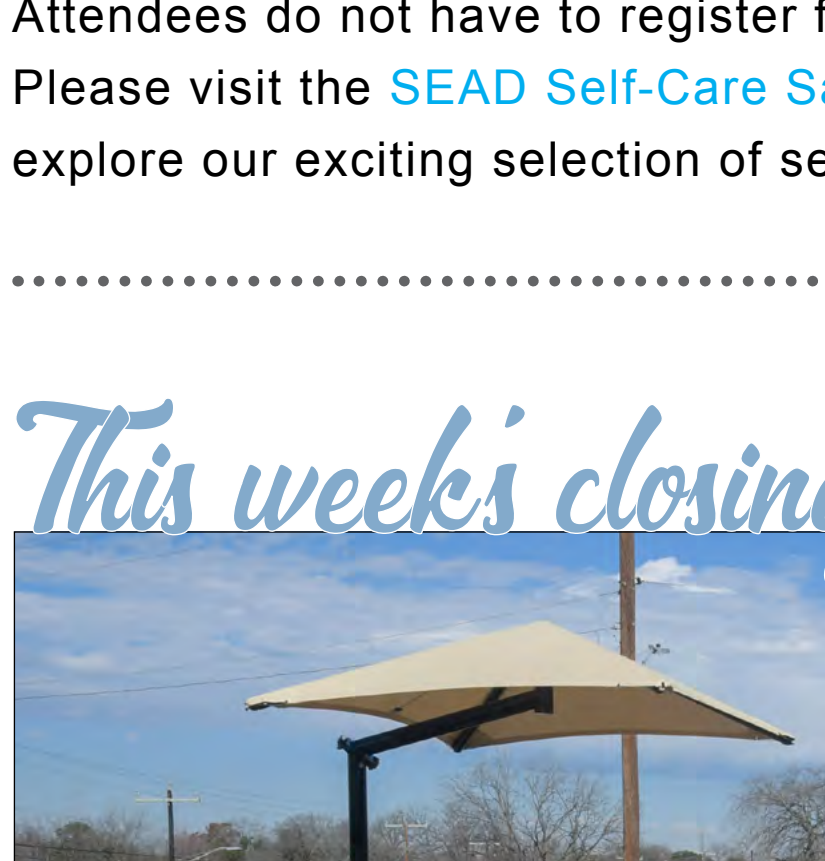
"I am super excited and grateful for this," said Edison High School's Angel Isaac, who was selected as this year's Brinca Award Winner, a special distinction for a top applicant. "But, I still need to focus and do my best in school even though I got this award. I'm the Valedictorian and being the first person to walk across the stage means a lot to me."

This year marks the largest number of scholarships awarded in the Alamo Bowl's history, with over \$1 million split between the high school and collegiate programs.

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[View recording of the Jan. 6 staff town hall here](#)

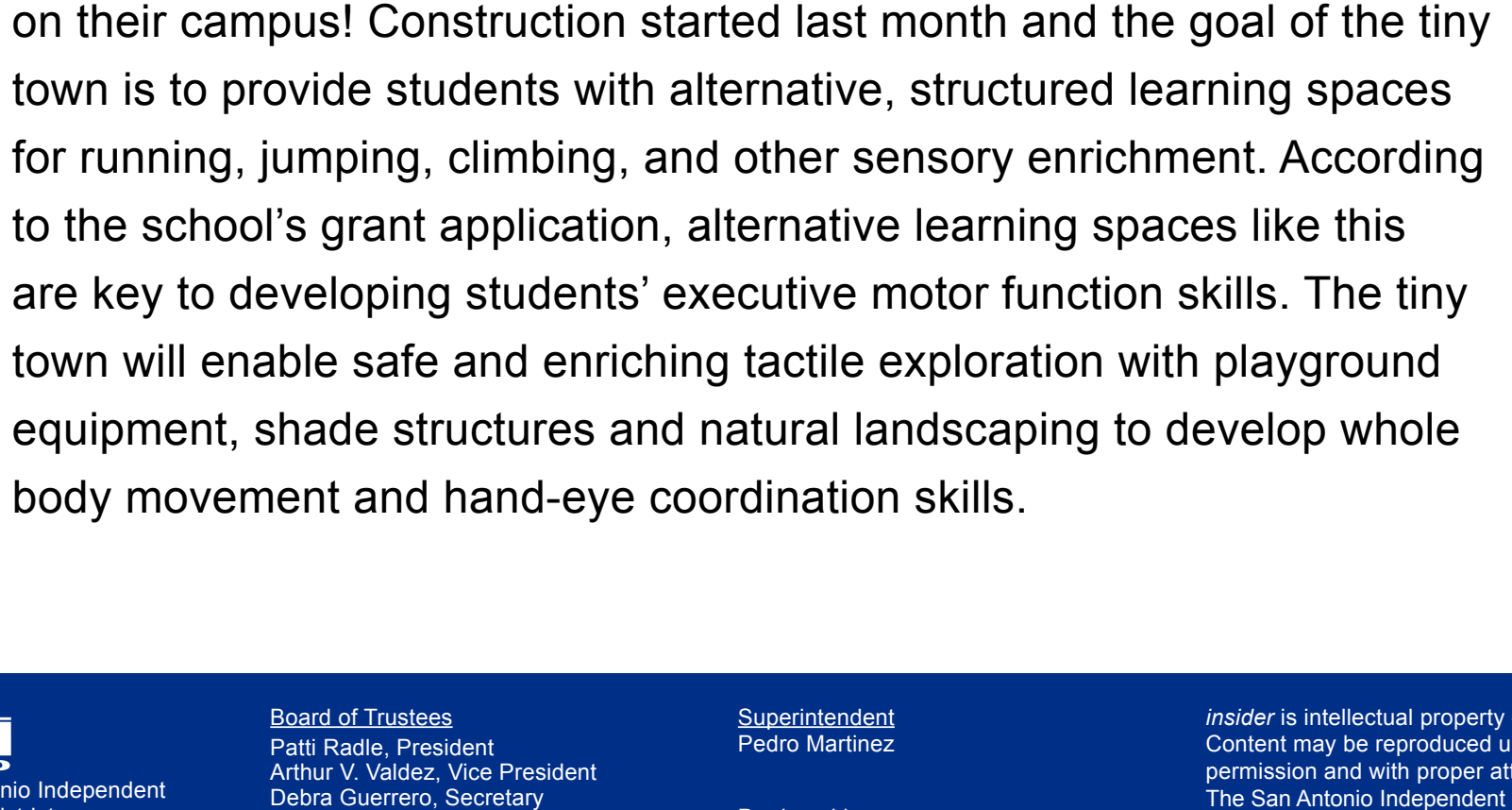


Experience SAISD

Families, students, and staff can explore SAISD's 90+ schools, discover a wide variety of resources and extracurriculars, and connect with the district in new ways. Traditionally hosted at the Freeman Coliseum, Experience SAISD has gone virtual for our 4th annual event due to COVID-19. This year our new online platform allows families to experience and explore our district in a unique, interactive way. Visit the Experience SAISD website for your chance to win giveaway items! Join us online at www.saisd.net/experiencesaisd



[Read Superintendent Martinez's most recent staff letter here](#)



Self-care in the new year

SAISD's first SEAD Self-Care Saturday is Jan. 23, starting at 8 a.m. Chi Kim, CASEL Board of Directors member and CEO of Pure Edge, is the keynote speaker and will speak on The Neuroscience of Stress and the Reciprocity of Self-Care to kick off the day. After the keynote, Kim will hold a fireside chat for SAISD employees. Attendees do not have to register for the keynote or fireside chat. Please visit the [SEAD Self-Care Saturday Course Catalog](#) to explore our exciting selection of sessions and get registered.

A "little" bit of construction at Tynan ECEC

Thanks to a grant from the Texas Education Agency, Tynan Early Childhood Education Center is in the process of building a "tiny town" on their campus! Construction started last month and the goal of the tiny town is to provide students with alternative, structured learning spaces for running, jumping, climbing, and other sensory enrichment. According to the school's grant application, alternative learning spaces like this are key to developing students' executive motor function skills. The tiny town will enable safe and enriching tactile exploration with playground equipment, shade structures and natural landscaping to develop whole body movement and hand-eye coordination skills.