

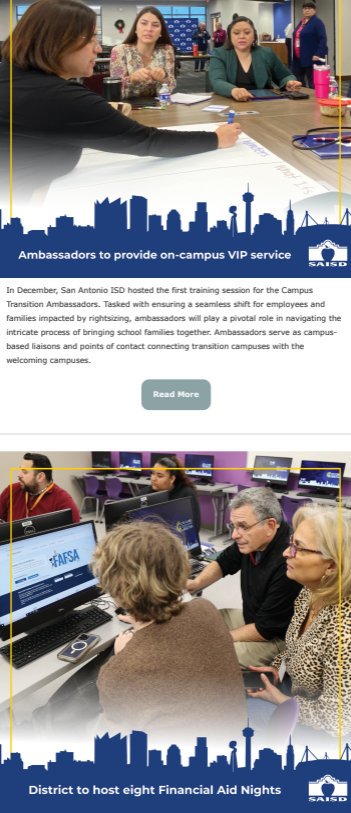
NEWS AROUND THE DISTRICT



SAISD boasts 12 QuestBridge Match Scholars

San Antonio ISD has a record-breaking 12 QuestBridge College Match recipients representing eight high school campuses this year. These seniors have been awarded full scholarships to some of the most prestigious colleges in the nation. This year's Match Scholars, the largest group in one year for the district, completed a rigorous application process over the course of several months, some writing as many as 30 essays. Read more about their application process and those who supported them along the way.

[Read More](#)



Students create crafts welcoming new classmates

Before the break, students at Woodlawn Hills Elementary made personalized keychains for their peers at Huppertz Elementary. The keychains were meant as tokens of caring to ease the fears of the Huppertz students, who will start at new schools next fall. The third and fourth grade creators carefully considered the names of their potential future classmates and created each a special gift.

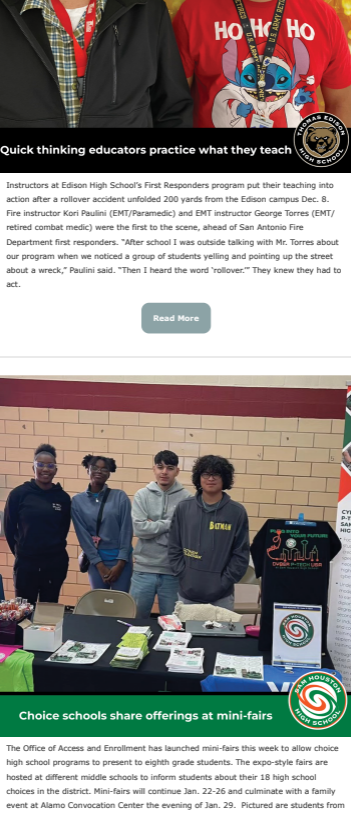
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Ambassadors to provide on-campus VIP service

In December, San Antonio ISD hosted the first training session for the Campus Transition Ambassadors. Tasked with ensuring a seamless shift for employees and families impacted by rightsizing, ambassadors will play a pivotal role in navigating the intricate process of bringing school families together. Ambassadors serve as campus-based liaisons and points of contact connecting transition campuses with the welcoming campuses.

[Read More](#)



District to host eight Financial Aid Nights

The new FAFSA is available, and the Office of Postsecondary Initiatives is working with campuses and the SAISD Foundation to provide assistance in filling out the required financial aid form for both current high school seniors and recent SAISD alumni. The first Financial Aid Night took place at Brackenridge High School (pictured) on Tuesday, tonight, from 5-8 p.m., families can visit Lanier High School for help with the FAFSA or TASFA forms. For assistance, students must bring their parent or guardian and 2022 tax returns and W-2s. Sessions continue through Feb. 13.

[See the dates and RSVP](#)



Student Advisory Committee reflects on rightsizing

Members of the San Antonio ISD Student Advisory Committee say they support the Board of Trustees' decision to move forward with the district's rightsizing recommendation. The committee, which comprises 41 middle and high school students who serve for two years, regularly meets with Superintendent Jaime Aquino and provides him with feedback on district business, including rightsizing.

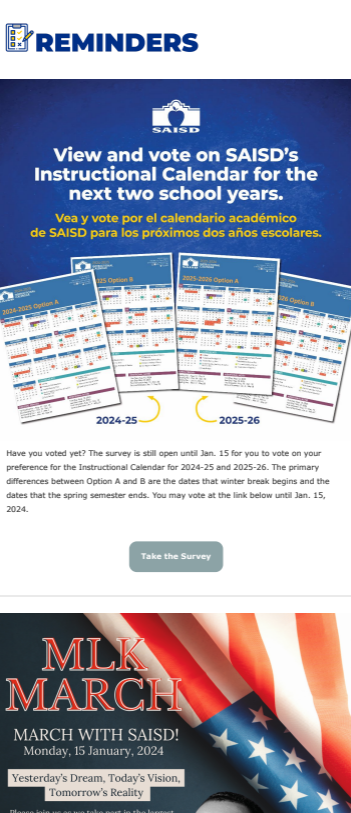
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Quick thinking educators practice what they teach

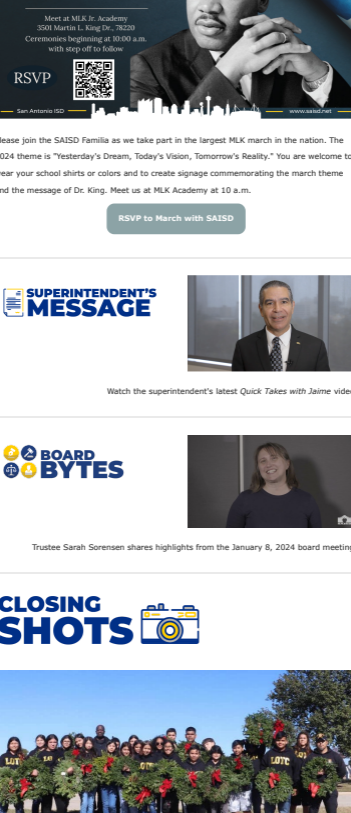
Instructors at Edison High School's First Responders program put their teaching into action after a rollover accident unfolded 100 yards from the Edison campus Dec. 8. Fire instructor Kori Paulini (EMT/Paramedic) and EMT instructor George Torres (EMT/retired combat medic) were the first to the scene, ahead of San Antonio Fire Department first responders. "After school I was outside talking with Mr. Torres about our program when we noticed a group of students yelling and pointing up the street about a wreck," Paulini said. "Then I heard the word 'rollover.'" They knew they had to act.

[Read More](#)



Choice schools share offerings at mini-fairs

The Office of Access and Enrollment has launched mini-fairs this week to allow choice high school programs to present to eighth grade students. The expo-style fairs are hosted at different middle schools to inform students about their 18 high school choices in the district. Mini-fairs will continue Jan. 22-26 and culminate with a family event at Alamo Convention Center the evening of Jan. 29. Pictured are students from Sam Houston CYBER P-TECH presenting at the Rhodes Middle School mini-fair.



SAISD community participates in Culturingua panel

Several members of the SAISD Familia — students, alumni, and teaching staff — presented in a panel discussion last week hosted by the nonprofit Culturingua focusing on the benefits of international exchange programs. The presentation at Bibliotheca EDU was attended by local government and nonprofit leaders. Speakers included Xitlali, an Edison High School alumna, and Muhannad from Libya, who both participated in Culturingua's Global Social Entrepreneurship Journey in 2021; ALA's Arabic Language Exchange teacher Larbi Hachard; and moderators Luca and Marcos from ALA, who are current Culturingua interns and Global Social Entrepreneurship Journey alumni. Luca (pictured) introduced the session with a brief geography of North Africa. Xitlali and Muhannad, now Stevens Initiative Alumni Fellows, shared stories of their recent travels to Jordan in connection with the program.



School Board Appreciation Month

Mes de agradecimiento a la junta escolar










January is School Board Appreciation Month. San Antonio ISD thanks its Board of Trustees for their commitment to our students, staff, schools, and community. Our trustees are an amazing group of individuals who voluntarily take on the enormous responsibility of governing our schools, and we are extremely proud of them. Our seven board members serve as a guiding force to an exemplary education and provide extensive opportunities for student success. If you see our trustees around, be sure to thank them for all they do.

[Learn More About Our Board](#)



Foundation hosts scholarship breakfast for young alumni

This morning, more than 50 recent San Antonio ISD graduates gathered at the Alamo Convention Center for the SAISD Foundation's Spring Scholarship Breakfast. The event, built in partnership between the SAISD Foundation and the department of Postsecondary Initiatives, gave students receiving Foundation scholarships a chance to network with their peers and mentors and enjoy a quick bite to eat. The program featured a panel discussion with several SAISD alumni discussing their pathways and obstacles during their undergraduate years and beyond. After the panel, students continued networking and picked up their scholarship checks for the spring semester. It was great seeing so many members of our SAISD Familia.

REMINDERS

View and vote on SAISD's Instructional Calendar for the next two school years.

Vea y vote por el calendario académico de SAISD para los próximos dos años escolares.

Have you voted yet? The survey is still open until Jan. 15 for you to vote on your preference for the Instructional Calendar for 2024-25 and 2025-26. The primary differences between Option A and B are the dates that winter break begins and the dates that the spring semester ends. You may vote at the link below until Jan. 15, 2024.

[Take the Survey](#)

MLK MARCH

MARCH WITH SAISD!
Monday, 15 January, 2024

Yesterday's Dream, Today's Vision,
Tomorrow's Reality

Please join us as we take part in the largest march in the nation. The 37th Martin Luther King, Jr. March and Celebration!

Meet at MLK Jr. Academy
3501 Martin L. King Jr., 78220
Ceremonies beginning at 10:00 a.m.
with step off to follow

RSVP

San Antonio ISD www.saisd.net

Please join the SAISD Familia as we take part in the largest MLK march in the nation. The 2024 theme is "Yesterday's Dream, Today's Vision, Tomorrow's Reality." You are welcome to wear your school shirts or colors and to create signage commemorating the march theme and the message of Dr. King. Meet us at MLK Academy at 10 a.m.

[RSVP to March with SAISD](#)

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

Trustee Sarah Sorensen shares highlights from the January 8, 2024 board meeting.

CLOSING SHOTS

While most of us enjoyed a relaxing and festive winter break, several groups in our SAISD Familia used the time to give back to the community. Douglass Elementary and Whittier Middle School LOTC both participated in Wreaths Across America — placing wreaths on the graves of those who served our country buried at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery. "As a Purple Star Campus, it's important for us to remember & honor our military-connected families at every opportunity," Douglass principal Dr. Stephanie Ratliff said. "That same day, athletes at Cotton Academy joined forces with the City of San Antonio to clean graffiti off a bridge on San Pedro. "Coach Arce and I got to get our athletes involved in at least two community projects a school year," Cotton coach Martin Lucio said. "Our athletes enjoy coming together to help with these community events." We are so proud of our students for sharing their time off with the community.