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Board of Education

Jacinto Ramos Jr.
President, District 1

T.A. Sims
Trustee, District 4
Retired July 2019

Tobi Jackson
1st Vice President, District 2

Carin ‘CJ’ Evans
Trustee, District 5

Norman Robbins
Trustee, District 7

Anael Luebanos
2nd Vice President, District 8

Quinton ‘Q’ Phillips
Secretary, District 3

Anne Darr
Trustee, District 6

Ashley Paz
Trustee, District 9
2018-19 kicked off with the opening of the much-anticipated I.M. Terrell Academy for STEM and VPA. It is everything we dreamed it would be: a dynamic blend of the historic and the cutting edge and a perfect balance of STEM and the arts. It is also an example of what we can accomplish when we:

1. Listen
2. Learn from our communities, both internal and external, and
3. Then lead.

You see, I.M. Terrell was not the location originally selected for the new STEM and VPA academy. Longtime Fort Worth ISD trustee T.A. Sims presented his case for it, however, and we listened – to him, other community leaders, and the school’s alumni. I.M. Terrell was the first school to serve African American students in Fort Worth, with a rich legacy and a roster of distinguished graduates. The more we met, the more we learned – about the special place this school has in our city’s history, and the opportunity that was being presented to send a message of unity, equity, and excellence. Now, FWISD has an amazing school that pays homage to the past as it fosters achievement in science, technology, engineering, math, and the arts.

This report highlights some of the many ways our District, community organizations, and individuals come together and listen and learn with the goal of improving student outcomes in every school in every zip code. Among them:

A groundbreaking partnership with Texas Wesleyan University that will allow the District’s five Leadership Academies to sustain recent academic gains

A literal groundbreaking to begin construction on Overton Park Elementary, a new school that will ease overcrowding at Tanglewood Elementary, and

An all-hands-on-deck push for Pre-K and Kindergarten that included online registration drives, door-to-door visits, and strategic social media ads to give as many children as possible a great start to their education journey.

You’ll also meet impressive people in these pages, especially our great students. We hope you enjoy this snapshot of 2018-19, a very good year.

Preparing all students for success in college, career and community leadership.

Kent P. Scribner, Ph.D.
Superintendent, Fort Worth ISD
## By the Numbers

### Our Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollment</td>
<td>84,510</td>
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<tr>
<td>At-Risk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bilingual</td>
<td>15,687</td>
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<tr>
<td>Career &amp; Technical Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dyslexia</td>
<td>2,233</td>
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<td>Economically Disadvantaged</td>
<td>72,424</td>
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<tr>
<td>English as a Second Language (ESL)</td>
<td>11,492</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gifted &amp; Talented</td>
<td>9,917</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homeless/Unaccompanied Youth</td>
<td>1,028</td>
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<tr>
<td>Military Connected</td>
<td>809</td>
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<td>Special Education</td>
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### Enrollment by Ethnicity

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<td>Hispanic</td>
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<td>African American</td>
<td>18,702</td>
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<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>9,222</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>1,533</td>
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<td>Two or more races</td>
<td>1,434</td>
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<tr>
<td>American Indian/Alaskan</td>
<td>83</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hawaiian/Pacific Islander</td>
<td>62</td>
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### Our Employees

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Number of Employees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teachers</td>
<td>5,831</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aides</td>
<td>921</td>
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<td>Professional Support</td>
<td>1,570</td>
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<td>Administrative</td>
<td>371</td>
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<td>Auxiliary</td>
<td>2,959</td>
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| Beginning Teacher Salary | $53,000 |
| Avg. Experience of Teachers | 10.7 years |
| Avg. Experience with Fort Worth ISD | 7.8 years |

### Our District

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accreditation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>Texas Education Agency</td>
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<tr>
<td>High Schools</td>
<td>Southern Association of Colleges &amp; Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEA District Ratings</td>
<td>79 out of 100 = C Rating</td>
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<td>Total Number of Schools</td>
<td>143</td>
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<td>High Schools</td>
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<td>Middle Schools</td>
<td>24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elementary Schools</td>
<td>82</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Schools</td>
<td>16</td>
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### Transportation

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<th>Count</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of buses running daily</td>
<td>360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of bus routes</td>
<td>1,571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of students transported daily</td>
<td>20,365</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of miles driven</td>
<td>5,899,749</td>
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### Nutrition Services

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<tr>
<td>Breakfasts served in 2018-19</td>
<td>5,438,477</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunches served in 2018-19</td>
<td>9,806,094</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students eligible for free/reduced meals</td>
<td>36,495</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2018-2019 BUDGET - $792,982,142*

*UNAUDITED

OTHER
$15,644,547 - 2%

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION
$20,400,591 - 3%

DISTRICT OPERATIONS
$124,684,485 - 16%

INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT
$141,537,307 - 18%

INSTRUCTION
$490,715,212 - 62%

2018-19 ACADEMIC YEAR
Fort Worth ISD First Day

A New Start
August 20, 2018, arrived with all the excitement and activity that comes with every first day of school – and then some. At the top of the First Day highlights:

- The I.M. Terrell Academy for STEM and Visual and Performing Arts opened for its inaugural school year (read more on page 14). From its perch on the southeastern edge of downtown, I.M. Terrell welcomed 160 freshmen. When at capacity, the school will serve approximately 800 students.
- Three District schools opened at new locations to better serve students. World Languages Institute moved to the former Middle Level Learning Center, which in turn moved into the former Texas Academy for Biomedical Sciences (TABS) campus. TABS students relocated to a new facility at the beautiful Tarrant County College Trinity River Campus.
- Something else new this year was different start and end times at most Fort Worth ISD schools. The new schedules at FWISD traditional high, middle, and elementary schools added 10 to 15 minutes to the school instructional day. The additional minutes allowed the District to eliminate two bad-weather makeup days.

And, just days before school started...
Public education advocate Rev. Charles Foster Johnson delivered a powerful message to teachers and staff as the featured speaker at Convocation 2018. Superintendent Scribner hosted the “welcome back” to teachers and staff at the Fort Worth ISD board room.

This year’s Convocation was again both virtual and live, allowing teachers to watch from their campuses. Fort Worth ISD trustees, administrators, and our student group United Voices for Change (UV4C) made up the board room audience.

Another highlight of the event was a video about a longtime Fort Worth ISD educator’s very first day on the job as an elementary teacher. Fort Worth ISD Chief of Policy and Planning Sammy Monge was that teacher. The video, parts of it clever animation, depicted Mr. Monge’s many first-day challenges. But, as he said in the video, he knew he was meant to teach, and he came back the next day, and the day after that, and for the next 35 years. Mr. Monge retired at the end of the school year.
STEM students immersed themselves in the Academy’s college-level math and science programs, where they designed and created in a state-of-the-art makerspace. VPA students received intensive training in dance, music, theater and visual arts that will help prepare them for college scholarship auditions. Enriched English, social studies and Latin classes rounded out learning as part of the school’s Cowan Humanities Academy.

The school, which was formally dedicated in December, features a 900-seat auditorium. The U.S. Air Force Concert Band and Singing Sergeants were the first to perform publicly in the auditorium, which hosted 155 performances during the year.

The doors opened to students for the first time at the I.M. Terrell Academy for STEM and VPA, the crown jewel of the 2013 Capital Improvement Program. The Academy combines the historic I.M. Terrell School on the city’s east side with the new 65,000-square-foot Visual and Performing Arts Academy (VPA) and the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Academy (STEM). The Academy will serve 9-12th grade students, but phased occupancy began with ninth-graders. One grade level will be added per year.

Just look at what the Bond Built
JUST LOOK AT WHAT THE BOND BUILT
The dirt flew and doors opened at other bond-built facilities:

• Construction got underway on Overton Park ES, a new school made possible by the 2017 bond program. A groundbreaking was held in June at the corner of Briarhaven Road and Kingsridge Road, where the school will sit on six acres that were once part of the historic Edwards Ranch (above). The school will serve students from pre-kindergarten through fifth grade and will solve the overcrowding issue at nearby Tanglewood Elementary. Overton Park will open fall 2020.

• North Side High School’s mariachi program is getting a state-of-the-art practice facility. The 5,000 square foot addition will house the Mariachi Rehearsal Hall with four practice rooms, an office, an instrument storeroom, and separate uniform storage and dressing areas. The rehearsal space and practice rooms will have recording studio capabilities.

• Paschal HS more than doubled its gym seating with the opening of the Gus Bates Center. The facility is the result of a multi-year, collaborative effort involving Paschal alumni, FWISD, and both the 2013 and 2017 bond programs. The new gym will seat 950. The center includes a new concession area, as well as multi-purpose spaces and coaches’ offices on the mezzanine level.

• School and community dignitaries signed a steel beam that will be part of the new Southwest HS field house at a ceremony in the school library in May. Voters approved the field house as part of the 2013 Capital Improvement Project. The 9,000-square-foot facility will serve boys and girls outdoor athletic teams with locker rooms, coaches’ offices, a training room, laundry facilities, and equipment storage.
Pre-K and Kindergarten are the jumping off points for the Fort Worth ISD mission to prepare all students for success in college, career, and community leadership. Children who participate in high quality Pre-K and Kindergarten greatly increase their chances of academic success in first grade and far beyond.

• In April, 500 people attended the District’s 3rd Annual Pre-K/Kinder Registration and Literacy Fair, which was held at the new William M. McDonald YMCA. More than 20 community and District departments were on hand to pass out free books and important information for families. At least 70 children were registered on the spot.

• The District bookmobile hit the road for registration roundup. Family Communications Department staff drove to schools and neighborhoods where they guided parents through the online registration process on the bookmobile’s computers. Toddlers and early readers received free books, which were donated by Scholastic and made possible through Read Fort Worth. Parents received free copies of the District’s comprehensive Countdown to Kindergarten booklet.

In 2018-19, Fort Worth ISD stepped up its already robust campaign to spread the word about online registration for full-day Pre-K and Kindergarten, answer parents’ questions, and get as many children as possible in the District’s early learning programs.
• Volunteers made **door-to-door** visits in various neighborhoods, talking to families and distributing door hangers to promote a big registration event in May at the MLK Community Center that included a live DJ, food and snacks, and on-site registration support.

**FWISD Pre-K and Kindergarten: The TV Commercial**

Fort Worth ISD’s youngest students shined in a 30-second TV commercial promoting Pre-K and Kindergarten registration.

“There’s a place every parent wants for their child,” began the spot, which quickly showed why that place is Fort Worth ISD Pre-K and Kindergarten. The commercial let viewers know – in English and Spanish – that the District’s Pre-K program is taught by specially trained and highly qualified teachers, is free of charge, and has enough room for every child.

The District’s Pre-K/Kinder advertising campaign also included billboards, bus benches, magazine ads, and strategically placed Facebook ads.

**Read Fort Worth Phase Two**

For District partner **Read Fort Worth**, the year was highlighted by difference-making initiatives such as an expanded **Classroom Library Campaign**. Originally meant to provide classroom library sets for Pre-K to second-grade classes in about 20 schools, the campaign is now outfitting every elementary school in the District. The Fort Worth business community contributed more than $100,000 to the campaign, and the Rainwater Charitable Foundation matched that amount.

These projects are the reason Read Fort Worth unveiled “**Mobilizing the Next Phase: Our Collective Journey to 100x25**.” Under the direction of Superintendent Scribner, Mayor Betsy Price, and Read Fort Worth chairman Matt Rose, the unprecedented coalition of business, civic, education, philanthropic, nonprofit and volunteer leaders is working to ensure that 100 percent of Fort Worth third-graders are reading at grade level or above by 2025.
Battle of the Books

The literacy focus continued with a competition that proved fierce and left only one (in each level) standing. The 2019 edition of Battle of the Books, contested at TCU’s Brown-Lupton University Union in May, featured students from 95 schools testing their knowledge on books preselected by District librarians. The winners: Westcliff ES (3rd grade), DeZavala ES (4th), Ridglea Hills ES (5th), Monnig MS (6th), Young Women’s Leadership Academy (7th & 8th), and Texas Academy of Biomedical Sciences (High School).

Other winning performances

The love of numbers took the District by swarm during the inaugural Math Bee Competition. Using those fun digits in new and creative ways helped students build confidence in their mathematical abilities and computational fluency. More than 40 elementary schools competed, as third to fifth-graders squared off to solve number sense problems using their mental math skills. The campus winners were celebrated in May at the I.M. Terrell Academy for STEM and VPA.

Young innovators worked individually and in teams on entries for the Fort Worth ISD Elementary Science Research Fair, sponsored by the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History. Best of Fair honors in the individual category went to Nemico Velazquez of Dolores Huerta ES for the project “Solar Economy Coming Soon.” In the team category, Best of Fair went to Bert Calvillo, Carrington Hood, Will Johnson, and Matthew Ramirez of Alice Carlson Applied Learning Center for the project “The Loop of Faith.”

The sweet sound of song filled the Allen Civic Center in May, as the Fort Worth ISD Children’s Honor Choir and the Fort Worth ISD Star Youth Chorus joined voices to perform Carl Orff’s renowned choral work “Carmina Burana.” The choirs were accompanied by the Allen Symphony.

Students at Hubbard Heights ES and W.J. Turner ES won the 2018 Mayor’s FitWorth Challenge. The wellness challenge encouraged students to get an hour of physical activity, eat more fruits and vegetables, and read extra minutes during October. Overall, more than 29,000 District students participated, which added up to:

- 23 million minutes of physical activity
- 1.7 million servings of fruits and vegetables
- 3.7 million servings of water
- 12.9 million minutes of reading.

Hubbard Heights logged the highest average of physical activity minutes and received $1,000 for new PE and recess equipment. W.J. Turner students ate the most fruit and vegetables and earned a new salad bar for the cafeteria from United Fresh Start Foundation and FreshPoint.

Race Car Art

Diamond Hill ES student Ivan Herrera may have a head start on a career in graphic design. The second-grader’s art went on display for all to see on a die-cast model car sold nationwide. Ivan had the winning stock car design in the Lionel Racing Design-a-Diecast contest’s Grade K-2 division and grand prize competition. He’s the first K-2 student to win the grand prize. NASCAR driver Matt Tifft was part of an assembly at Diamond Hill in March announcing Ivan as the winner. Every student and faculty member received a die-cast car with Ivan’s design.
Leadership Academy Network

A groundbreaking partnership between Texas Wesleyan University and Fort Worth ISD aims to sustain the academic gains made at the District’s five Leadership Academies.

The Leadership Academy Network, established in February, is based on instructional excellence, extended learning, social-emotional support, highly qualified principals and teachers, and parent and community partnerships.

The Leadership Academy model, piloted by the District in 2017, demonstrated first-year improvement at each of the schools: Leadership Academy at Como ES, Leadership Academy at John T. White ES, Leadership Academy at Maude I. Logan ES, Leadership Academy at Mitchell Boulevard ES, and Leadership Academy at Forest Oak MS.

Texas Wesleyan, a long-time District partner, will operate and manage the five campuses, which remain District schools with District teachers. Priscila Dilley, formerly with Fort Worth ISD’s Office of Innovation and Transformation, will serve as senior officer for the Leadership Academy Network.

Ellen Hosts Crew from Como

Tears of joy flowed on the set of The Ellen Show in April, with the Leadership Academy at Como ES center stage. Here’s what happened: Ellen DeGeneres caught wind of the school’s unique talents and the determination of math teacher Thomas Mayfield, who had produced a series of music videos featuring Como students encouraging excellence in school and life. Mr. Mayfield, Como Principal Valencia Rhines and counselor Tomeka McGee were invited to the show. First, a video rolled of Como students expressing what the school’s leadership means to them. That was followed by a surprise live appearance of the students via satellite. Then came the biggest surprise. The Ellen Show, in partnership with Cheerios and Box Tops for Education, presented two checks to Como – $30,000 for laptops and $20,000 for the food pantry.

Self-Care for Success

Sharon Gartrell

Elementary Teacher of the Year

Sharon Gartrell begins each morning the same – by swimming laps at the gym and then heading off to teach her kindergarten class at Charles E. Nash ES. Self-care, she says, is the key to becoming an excellent teacher – one who models positivity and enthusiasm.

There must be something to that: Ms. Gartrell, who has been teaching for 12 years, was named the 2019 Fort Worth ISD Elementary District Teacher of the Year at an awards dinner in May. The event, presented by Central Market, was held at the Fort Worth Zoo. Central Market presented Ms. Gartrell and Lisa Yanagida-Blow (see spotlight on page 34), the Secondary District Teacher of the Year, with $5,000 honorariums.

Ms. Gartrell has a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Texas. She believes it is her job to ensure that her students’ first experiences in school are positive, and that requires building relationships with them and their families.

“Students are more likely to work harder for someone they trust,” Ms. Gartrell said. “These relationships last long after students leave my class.”
LISTEN, LEARN AND LEAD

Effective teachers of mathematics think about the content they teach and make connections to other topics, inside and outside of mathematics. The one-day sessions zeroed in on ways to make those connections, especially in areas that are not only difficult for students to learn, but also challenging to teach, and critical for students’ success in life:

• Mathematical reasoning
• Ratios, proportions and proportional reasoning

There is an effort nationwide to bring up middle school math scores, which are considered an important indicator for high school completion. As part of Fort Worth ISD’s Middle Grades Mathematics initiative, our Secondary Mathematics Department hosted Middle School Mathematics Courses of Study throughout the year for sixth and seventh-grade math teachers.

• Expressions, equations, and functions
• Geometry
• Statistics

Teachers practiced explaining underlying mathematical concepts to make their instruction more relevant.

Middle Years:
Mathematics

FORT WORTH INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Math in the Middle
Want to test your math knowledge against others in our community? Look for Math in the Middle, a weekly puzzle that focuses on math in the middle years. It comes your way every Wednesday on Facebook and Instagram (@FortWorthISD) and all middle school pages. Fort Worth ISD began posting the math questions this year, challenging everyone to solve a middle school math problem and post their answers in the comments. Each Thursday, a video is posted showing middle school students solving the problem. Join the weekly fun!

Whiz Quiz 2019
What is the surname of Winston, the protagonist in George Orwell’s 1984? McLean MS answered that question to defeat World Languages Institute (WLI) for the Fort Worth ISD 2018-19 Whiz Quiz Middle School Championship.

Earlier in the evening, McLean beat Daggett Montessori in the first semi-final. WLI topped J.P. Elder MS in the second semi-final. CBS11 meteorologist Jeff Jamison moderated the matches.

The previous night, Fort Worth Star-Telegram columnist Bud Kennedy asked the questions, and Daggett Montessori defeated McLean 6th Grade Center for the Whiz Quiz Sixth-Grade Championship. McLean advanced to the finals after beating J.P. Elder. Daggett Montessori defeated Stripling MS in the semi-finals.

Trimble Technical HS Culinary Arts students served the audience delicious appetizers. Kroger provided all the supplies. The Southwest HS Jazz Ensemble entertained between matches, and Southwest’s Gold Seal Advanced Media Program students took part in the live production.

And the answer to that final middle school question? “Smith.”

ANSWER: SMITH
**Inspiring Performance**

The true tale of a girl fleeing the Holocaust came to life for District sixth-graders through the words and music of Mona Golabek. The classical concert pianist authored *The Children of Willesden Lane*, the story of Golabek's mother, Lisa Jura, a Jewish girl who escaped Nazi persecution in her native Austria with the help of the children's rescue mission Kindertransport. In partnership with the Dallas Holocaust Museum/Center for Education and Tolerance, and Hold On To Your Music, 6,350 sixth-graders and 200 educators participated in a citywide Holocaust education program incorporating literature, social studies, and performing and visual arts, which included reading *Willesden Lane*. Golabek performed themes from the book in November for sixth-graders at Will Rogers Memorial Center and the I.M. Terrell Academy for STEM and VPA. One student said his “takeaway” from the performance was “always have hope, believe in yourself, and never give up.”

**Smart Camp Choices**

Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) were the themes of two summer camp opportunities for students in Fort Worth ISD’s Junior Cadet Corps (JCC). At the Fort Worth Aviation Museum STEM Camp, 60 FWISD JCC cadets learned about aviation history and technology, and the fundamentals and physics of flight.

At Tarrant County College South's Camp Aim High, 60 FWISD cadets explored the fascinating world of aerodynamics. The students increased their knowledge of physics, engineering and computer programming. A camp highlight was building and flying a quadcopter and learning to fly drones.

**Wedgwood Choir Steals the Show**

The District’s Harmonium show choir (pictured above) from Wedgwood MS soared above the rest at January’s Southwest Show Choir Invitation. Fort Worth ISD continued to “bring the sing” in the competition between 10 Dallas-Fort Worth area ensembles, as show choirs from Stripling MS and South Hills HS placed second and third, respectively. Four District students took home individual honors:

- **Best Female Soloist**: Teresa Jones, South Hills HS
- **Best Male Soloist**: David Rhines, Wedgwood 6th Grade Center
- **Outstanding Female Performer**: Ashleigh Brooks, Wedgwood MS
- **Outstanding Male Performer**: Denym Greer, Trimble Tech HS
On Their Toes

The Monnig MS dance program nearly doubled in size in the last year, growing from 75 students in 2017-18 to 140! The Monnig Dance Ensemble of 13 dancers put on four performances and took part in master classes from several top dance instructors, including Arlington Heights HS’s Rachel Wade and Fort Worth choreographer, Elise Lavallee.

The Curtain Goes Up

McLean 6th Grade’s new theater program got off to a great start. Students put on their first production, “Yes, Virginia There is a Santa Claus,” in December 2018. Donations from Sonic provided scripts and a light board for students to learn the technical side of the theater.

A Lesson in Compromise

Four Fort Worth ISD students won national recognition with their history projects. McLean MS student Dai Pham and McLean 6th Grade Center students Violet Krogness, Cass Wheatley, and Karter Woods presented at the National History Day Contest. The theme was “Conflict and Compromise in History.” Dai’s project, “Trying to Resolve Immigration Conflicts with Compromise,” earned a top 10 national ranking in the Individual Website/Junior Division. All four students advanced to the national contest after placing second in their categories at the Texas History Day competition.

College Tour

Jacquet MS’s annual college tour took students to New Orleans in March. They visited Dillard University, Xavier University, and Southern University.

Spotlight

The Spell of Success

Maitri Kovuru, a McLean MS eighth-grader, was one of 50 finalists in the 2019 Scripps National Spelling Bee, held May 30 in Maryland. She finished No. 35 in the nation. “Diaeresis” was the word that eventually tripped her up. A total of 562 spellers competed in the national contest.

Maitri advanced to the national level after winning what may have been a record-length bee for this region. The 63-round regional bee at Texas Christian University lasted six hours. In 43 of those rounds, only two people were left in the contest. The match went on so long that judges ran out of words. In the end, Maitri prevailed over Hephzibah Sujoe, a seventh-grader at Bethesda Christian School in Fort Worth who was the region champion in 2018.

“I was competing against someone who was really good,” Maitri told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. “I thought she was better than me because she’s been to the nationals before. I didn’t know I was at that level.”

Maitri is the first Fort Worth ISD student in recent history to advance to the national bee. In 1973, Barrie Trinkle, also from McLean, advanced to the national spelling bee and won.
College and Career: Scholarship Soar

The dollar amount of scholarship and grant offers earned by Fort Worth ISD students reached another record high - more than $130 million.

Merit scholarship dollars for District students have almost quadrupled in the last five years. Academic scholarships have more than tripled.

### Merit Scholarships and Grant Offers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Scholarship/Grant Offers</th>
<th>Academic Scholarships</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>$131.3 million</td>
<td>$109.6 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$102.6 million</td>
<td>$68.3 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$65.5 million</td>
<td>$47.3 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$50.2 million</td>
<td>$41.9 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$35.9 million</td>
<td>$30.7 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
National Merit Scholars

The National Merit Scholarship Committee awards scholarships annually to approximately 7,500 students nationwide. Among this year’s recipients in Fort Worth ISD:

- **National Merit Corporate-Sponsored Scholarships**
  Paschal HS students Katherine Durkin and Devon Nenon won awards sponsored by global healthcare company Novartis.

- **National Merit $2,500 Scholarship**
  Jacob Knapp, TCC South/FWISD Collegiate HS, received the $2,500 scholarship in addition to a full-ride scholarship to Texas Tech University Honors College.

- **National Merit College-Sponsored Scholarships**
  Paschal HS - David Durkin, Ryon Fulton, Attie Marshall, Wilson Odom, Thu Pham, Andrew Ryu, Zachary Short, Eileen Yu
  Benbrook MHS – Connor MacAdam

The college-financed scholarships ranged between $500 and $2,000 annually for up to four years of undergraduate studies.

TCU Community Scholars

Twenty-five Fort Worth ISD seniors earned full-ride scholarships to Texas Christian University as part of its Community Scholars program. TCU officials made surprise visits to seven FWISD high schools in March to announce in person the students who will each receive a $260,000 scholarship.

O.D. Wyatt HS senior Maria Villalba was one of the recipients. WFAA-TV featured her in a news story and told of an interesting family connection to TCU. Maria’s father, a construction worker, helped build a dorm at the university years ago.

The Community Scholars program awards more than $6 million annually to urban high school students to increase diversity on the TCU campus.

QuestBridge Scholar

When Fort Worth ISD’s World Languages Institute opened in 2014, Jesus Paredes was an incoming seventh-grader. Now a rising senior, he has perfected his Spanish skills and has learned to speak fluent Japanese and Portuguese. He was recognized as an Advanced Placement and Hispanic Merit Scholar; and he earned a full-ride QuestBridge Scholarship, which is awarded to seniors who have shown outstanding academic ability despite financial challenges. Jesus is researching university pre-med programs, including Yale. WLI Principal Guadalupe Barreto calls Jesus “a self-starter who will go places after he graduates from WLI.”

Superintendent Scholars

Hundreds of the District’s best and brightest were honored as Superintendent Scholars during two special ceremonies in October at the I.M. Terrell Academy for STEM and VPA. These 464 Superintendent Scholars reside in the top academic echelon of the District. Each student received a recognition certificate and a stole to be worn at graduation. The Scholars were recognized for such honors as National Merit Semi-Finalists, National Hispanic Recognition, FWISD African-American Scholars, National AP, International Baccalaureate students, Dual Credit scholars, and Capstone Award students.
A Gold Seal Graduation First

With much excitement, TCC South/FWISD Collegiate HS graduated its first senior class in May at Will Rogers Memorial Center. Most seniors also earned their college associate degrees. Parents were proud — and happy. Their children earned those college degrees tuition-free, thanks to the Gold Seal Early College High School program.

Choices Expo

Families flocked to the Wilkerson-Greines Activity Center over a Friday and Saturday in November for the Choices Expo. This is the “one-stop-shopping” event where parents and their children learn about the many Gold Seal programs and schools offered across the District. Many attendees applied on the spot. Teachers and students answered questions, demonstrated activities, and provided extra information on the programs and schools tailored to student interests and the job market. Families also attended informational open houses at campuses in their own neighborhoods.

Career Readiness Contests

Our Career and Technical Education (CTE) students learned and prepared for future careers by participating in challenging competitions — all designed with career readiness in mind. Students excelled in a variety of CTE competitions throughout the year, culminating in impressive showings at state and national levels, such as:

- Educators Rising
  Martha Wilson, South Hills HS, placed at the Educators Rising 2019 national competition in Dallas. She came in sixth in the Educators Rising Moment category that included delivering a speech on why she wants to be a teacher. She placed seventh in the Educators Rising Leadership event where she presented her volunteer work with special needs children.

- Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA)
  After winning third place at state, the Trimble Technical HS team of Maria Hernandez, Orlando Hernandez Palacios, and Miriam Perez Vega finished third in the nation in Applied Math for Culinary Management. The conference was held in Anaheim, California, where the team was awarded gold medals and $20,000 in scholarships from Sullivan University.

- FIRST® Tech Challenge (FTC)
  Students from the Young Women’s Leadership Academy placed at the regional robotics competition, which qualified them to compete at the FIRST® Championship in Houston. The team included Angelica Canchola, Diana Canchola, Damaris Cardona, Eunice Cardona, Diana Duran, Amyia Green, Penelope Huff, Joselyn Mendez, Selena Morales, Brianna Navarro, Priscilla Trejo, and Sandra Villagrana.

- Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)
  Stephanie Trevino, South Hills HS, competed against 64 students from across the country in FBLA’s Mobile App Development contest in San Antonio. The trivia quiz game she created using coding scored sixth place. Stephanie was the only female to place in the top 10.

- Future Farmers of America (FFA)
  Jimena Rodriguez, Arlington Heights HS, received the Lone Star Degree in July at the 91st Texas FFA Convention in Fort Worth. This is the highest degree of membership the state FFA Association can award. Jimena fulfilled many requirements to receive the degree, including completing at least two years of school instruction in agricultural education and at least 25 hours of community service.

- HOSA – Future Health Professionals
  The District’s Texas Academy of Biomedical Sciences (TABS) placed at the
Texas Association of Health Occupations Students of America (Texas HOSA) Leadership Conference in San Antonio. They advanced to the HOSA International Leadership Conference in Orlando, Florida.

- **SkillsUSA**
  Southwest HS student Yamilett Chavira won first place at the SkillsUSA state competition in T-Shirt Design. She advanced to the National Leadership and Skills Conference in Louisville, Kentucky.

### Hiring Fair 2019

The employment future remains bright for graduates, thanks to events such as Hiring Fair 2019. Hosted by the District’s Career and Technical Education Department, the fair brought more than 300 District graduates ages 17-21 and 120 employers together at Will Rogers Memorial Center in June to network for 14,000-plus opportunities. The event included helpful sessions, such as Dress for Success. VolunteerNow® and TONI&GUY provided professional wardrobe and hair and makeup styling. Some businesses offered college tuition assistance.

**Hiring Fair 2019 event partners:**
- Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce
- Fort Worth Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- Fort Worth Metropolitan Black Chamber of Commerce
- Girl Scouts of Texas Oklahoma Plains
- Goodwill Industries of Fort Worth
- North Central Texas InterLink
- TONI&GUY
- VolunteerNow®
- Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County

### Debate at State

O.D. Wyatt HS students advanced to the UIL Cross-Examination State Meet. Tarrius Miller and Simone Wallace took first place at regionals. Justyn Wallace and Wilson Castro finished third. The Wyatt team also won the Cross-Examination Sweepstakes at district.

### Très Délicieux

It was a delicious victory in any language! Fort Worth ISD culinary arts students wowed the judges at the Kids Fit Menu Invitational in Dallas and earned the top prize — a spot on la Madeleine menus nationwide.

The **Cinnamon Apple Crêpe** from **North Side HS’s** Jacob Hernandez, Jisel Rodriguez, and Abigail Morin and **Ooh la la Chicken and Rice** from **South Hills HS’s** Mark Torres debuted on the restaurant’s Kids Fit menu in April.

The student chefs were recognized at a special reception at the Overton Park la Madeleine.

### North Side HS’s Cinnamon Apple Crêpe for la Madeleine’s Kids Fit Menu
An All-State Debut and Other High Notes

Mary Michael, a violinist from Benbrook Middle-High School, had the honor of performing with the All State Symphony Orchestra during the 2019 Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA) Convention in San Antonio. This was her first selection to an All State Orchestra. She was among 375 top violinists from across the state who tried out for an orchestra spot.

I.M. Terrell Academy’s 6A String Orchestra and its two Choral Ensembles earned UIL ratings to be remembered. The groups earned Division 1 in each area for Sweepstakes recognition. They were the first UIL ratings earned for the new I.M. Terrell Academy for STEM and VPA.

The Men’s Ensemble from Paschal HS became the first choir from the District invited to perform for the Texas Music Educators Association Convention. The rare invitations went out to 12 choral programs across the state and only two men’s ensembles.

South Hills HS student Joshua Garcia was selected to sing the national anthem at the Texas Association of School Administrators (TASA) Midwinter Conference in Austin, probably the most popular conference of the year for Texas school leaders.

Mariachi musicians from Carter-Riverside HS, North Side HS, Paschal HS, and Polytechnic HS advanced to the State UIL Mariachi Festival after earning Division I ratings at Regionals. For the third straight year, North Side’s Varsity Mariachi Ensemble earned a Superior rating at state. North Side’s Mariachi Espuelas de Plata earned its fourth straight overall Division I. Paschal’s Mariachi Panteras and Polytechnic’s Mariachi Alas de Oro earned overall Division II ratings. North Side’s Andrea Richards and Paschal trumpeters Alejandro Sigala and Dakota Colvin were named Outstanding Performers.

Opening Doors

Lisa Yanagida-Blow
Secondary Teacher of the Year

Lisa Yanagida-Blow believes it is her responsibility to make students feel important and worthy of success in the classroom.

“Teachers hold many keys, and it is our job to unlock the multiple doors of learning for all students,” she said. “I unlock the doors by connecting the subject I teach to the ‘real world,’ bringing creative, hands-on lessons to my classroom, and making a personal connection with each student.”

Ms. Yanagida-Blow, AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) coordinator at Eastern Hills HS, was named 2019 Secondary Teacher of the Year at the District’s annual awards dinner sponsored by Central Market H-E-B. She earned a $5,000 honorarium.

Teaching is in her blood. Her parents were educators. She has a bachelor’s degree from the University of Hawaii and a master’s in special education from Lamar University. She has taught for 13 years, all of them at Eastern Hills.

She is passionate about molding leaders. She knows it starts the first day of school with learning the experiences and knowledge each child brings to the classroom.

“Teaching is not an 8:15 to 3:45 job,” she said. “You are going to think about your students all the time.”
New Dance Program Leaps off the Stage

Dance students from the new I.M. Terrell Academy for STEM and VPA hit the ground running, leaping, and pirouetting! They shared their talents with the community in several outstanding performances in 2018-19, including:

- Variation on Swan Lake at the I.M. Terrell Academy Dedication in December
- Young Person's Concert with the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra at the Bass Performance Hall
- Performances and training with top North Texas dance companies

The dance major apprentices also had the opportunity to take master classes from noted professionals in ballet, tap, African, and contemporary dance.

Dance Program Turns 25

The Arlington Heights HS Dance Department celebrated 25 years of excellence. Arlington Heights was the first school in the District to offer a Fine Arts dance program. This year the busy department hosted residencies with New York's Gibney Dance and West Texas A&M University, and plans to host more residencies with professional companies next year.

Take a Bow!

Curtain calls are in order for FWISD high school theater programs. Among their successes:

- A South Hills HS production, Of Good Stock, advanced to UIL One-Act Play Area contest. Micah Watters won Outstanding Technician. Ivan Rodriguez was named to the All Star Cast. Alexus Jacobs and Laura Vargas received Honorable Mentions.
- Theater freshman at the I.M. Terrell Academy for STEM & VPA experienced their first UIL One-Act Play competition.

They received kudos for their professionalism and performance. Contest wins included Ra'Shayla Anders, All Star Crew Member; Ava McKay, All Star Cast; Scooter Sachs, Honorable Mention.

- Carter-Riverside HS's Drama Department won Best Crew at the UIL One-Act Play District contest. They advanced to Bi-District and earned 33 medals. Five students performed as extras in the Stage West production of Romeo and Juliet at Bass Performance Hall in February.

Working Artists

Fort Worth ISD art students take their art seriously and create works for competitions throughout the year. Here are a few:

- Visual Arts Scholastic Event (VASE) - For the first time FWISD students participated in all three tiers of VASE at the state contest held in San Marcos, Texas. Fifty-six students qualified for state, after winning awards at VASE regionals.
- Arlington Heights HS student Alexandra Ortiz earned an invitation to show at the prestigious Saul Bell International Jewelry and Design Competition held this year in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She was named a finalist for the 2019 Emerging Jewelry Artist Award – 18 Years of Age or Younger category.
- Arlington Heights HS student Kara Stewart won the Gold Key award at the Scholastic Art and Writing regional awards.

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS HS STUDENT SARAH BRANCH WINS BEST IN SHOW AND $500 IN THE 2019 BETSY PRICE HIGH SCHOOL ART COMPETITION. SARAH’S ART WILL HANG AT CITY HALL FOR ONE YEAR.

A SILVER NECKLACE CREATED BY ARLINGTON HEIGHTS HS STUDENT ALEXANDRA ORTIZ EARNED HER FINALIST RECOGNITION AT THE SAUL BELL INTERNATIONAL JEWELRY AND DESIGN COMPETITION.

I.M. TERRELL ACADEMY STUDENTS DEMONSTRATE THEIR TALENTS DURING THEIR SCHOOL’S DEDICATION CEREMONY AND CELEBRATION.

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS HS DANCERS PERFORM NANCY, DINAH, ELLA.
More than 30 Fort Worth ISD student-athletes signed letters of intent during the National Signing Day ceremony at Wilkerson-Greines Activity Center in February.

In the Running
Fort Worth ISD athletes brought home some hardware from the State UIL Track and Field Championship in Austin in May. Winning silver medals were Trimble Technical HS’s Kenendra Davis in the 100-meter dash, and De’Corian Clark of O.D. Wyatt HS in the boys long jump. Dunbar HS students Jade Combs, Shannon Nix, Denesha Floyd and Jon’nesha Williams netted a bronze medal in the girls 4x200 meter relay.

Sibling Rivalry
Identical twins Kale and Landon Sawin both play baseball and both wear the number 12 – for competing Fort Worth ISD teams.

Kale transferred to Western Hills HS after his freshman year at Benbrook MHS. Landon stayed at Benbrook.

When they played against each other in April, mom Chris Larkin knew precisely which son she would cheer for: “Sawin number 12 - because they both are number 12!” she said.

Benbrook beat Western Hills in that game 9-6.

New School Record
Senior Ian Neville set a new Paschal HS record of 46.72 seconds in the 100-meter free at the 6-A UIL Region 1 Swimming and Diving Championships in Lubbock in February. He finished in first place and advanced to state where he came in 13th with a time of 46.95.

Star Athletes
The Fort Worth Star-Telegram named two Fort Worth ISD athletes to its Top 10 list of high school athletes in the Fort Worth-Dallas area. Quintan Jackson, a senior running back at Benbrook MHS, rushed for 3,067 yards and 37 touchdowns in 11 games. He became the first Bobcat football player to be voted first-team all-state in Class 4A. He signed with Southern Nazarene University.

South Hills HS running back Anthony Watkins was voted Class 5A first-team all-state after finishing second in rushing for the area. He led the Scorpions with 2,601 yards and 34 touchdowns. In week three, Watkins had a career-high 509 yards rushing, which ranks in the all-time top fifteen in state history. He pledged to play at the University of Missouri.
A Year of Big Wins

From all appearances, Danielle Wilson’s senior year at Paschal HS was one highlight after another. A leader on the Paschal girls’ basketball team, she averaged 15 points, 10 rebounds and three assists per game. She was in the top 10 percent of her class and scored a 1330 on the SAT. She was accepted to Tulane University and was offered a full academic scholarship to the University of Houston. She chose Houston.

Just when it seemed senior year could not get any better, she won a 2019 honorary ESPY award. Presented by ESPN and Capital One, the ESPYS celebrate the year’s best athletes and sports stories. Danielle’s story is one of the most inspirational.

Away from school, her life was one challenge after another. Her family moved frequently, sometimes staying at hotels or homeless. Danielle helped raise her little sister and still got to school and basketball.

“I have never had a student-athlete go through this much adversity and still reach the goals they set,” said Dave Greer, Paschal girls basketball head coach.

To a standing ovation, Skylar Diggins-Smith, a WNBA guard for the Dallas Wings, presented Danielle with the ESPY in July at Paschal’s Gus Bates Center.

“T o a standing ovation, Skylar Diggins-Smith, a WNBA guard for the Dallas Wings, presented Danielle with the ESPY in July at Paschal’s Gus Bates Center.

“I never would have thought that I would be in this position,” Danielle said as she clutched the crystal ESPY. “It shows that anybody can do anything as long as you put your mind to it, don’t quit, and stay strong.”

Center Court

Special Olympics student-athletes from Fort Worth ISD appeared on a nationally televised game that aired on ESPN January 15.

The students played on the Unified Sports team with Texas Christian University students in a mini basketball game during halftime of the TCU-West Virginia men’s basketball game. Video of the students aired on ESPN just before the game’s second half.

Unified Sports brings together athletes with and without intellectual disabilities on the same team. The program promotes social inclusion for shared sports, training, and competition experiences.

Long-Awaited Win

The Diamond Hill-Jarvis Eagles finally snapped a 77-game losing streak with a win over Dallas Conrad on Aug. 30. The 40-12 win was the varsity football team’s first victory in eight years. The last time the Eagles won a game was in 2010. The national record for most consecutive losses is believed to be 82.

“It was something surreal,” said Coach Oscar Castillo, who has led the team since 2016. “Once we realized that this was real, everybody started celebrating and hugging.”

News and sports outlets worldwide ran the story of the Eagles’ big win.

FIRST PLACE

Arlington Heights HS’s cheerleaders rocked the UIL Spirit State Championships. The squad won first place in Fight Song and eighth place overall.

OLYMPIC GOLD

Benjamin Dyer, a Paschal HS sophomore, won gold at the USA Judo Junior Olympic National Championship in June in Anaheim, California. He said he practiced two to three times a day all year to prepare for the tournament.

REGIONAL GOLD

Paschal HS seniors Emily Buell and Shauna Galvin became three-time qualifiers for state after winning their second consecutive girls doubles gold medal at UIL regionals.
Leadership Lesson from a First Lady

“Honestly, just seeing her and hugging her… It was great. I couldn’t stop crying,” said Brittany Clay, a Young Women’s Leadership Academy student who, along with classmate Diana Duran, had a surprise encounter with former First Lady Michelle Obama.

It happened at the Young Women’s Leadership Conference: Leadership Lessons Learned through the Arts in December in Dallas. Mrs. Obama participated in a moderated conversation at the conference. Brittany and Diana were in a breakout session when Mrs. Obama made an unexpected visit.

Her message, according to Brittany was, “Don’t compare yourself to anyone else, you can do it, and if you’re coming from a low-income place, it’s fine. She did the same thing. All she kept saying was ‘you’re just like me.’ ”

Eleven YWLA students received an autographed copy of Mrs. Obama’s memoir, “Becoming,” and a journal.

Cadets Build STEM Skills

Cadets from Fort Worth ISD’s JROTC program enjoyed the unique opportunity to test their engineering mettle and problem-solving skills against students from around the state at the STEMaverick camp on the UT Arlington campus. The one-week residential camp, a collaborative project between UT-Arlington and the U.S. Army Cadet Command in Fort Knox, Kentucky, challenged students to conduct scientific research and to develop and present engineering projects.

FWISD cadets also flocked to the District’s STEM JROTC Cadet Leadership Challenge Camp (JCLC) held at the Outdoor Learning Center. Cadets filled all 172 openings for the camp.

Where History Happened

Two JROTC Staff Rides gave students boots-on-the-ground history lessons in two parts of the country – West Texas and Washington, D.C. Staff rides are extensive studies of historical campaigns, battles, or other events.

In February, about 30 JROTC cadets and chaperones explored the history of Fort Concho in San Angelo and Fort Davis in Jeff Davis County. They took a side trip to the McDonald Observatory. This staff ride focused on Texas, U.S. military, and Black history.

In April, 17 honor students from the District’s JROTC U.S. Military History Course visited the Civil War battlefield at Antietam in Sharpsville, Maryland; retraced the history of Harpers Ferry; met with U.S. Representatives Kay Granger (R- Fort Worth) and Marc Veasey (D- Fort Worth); placed a wreath at Mount Vernon; observed the daily operations of Arlington National Cemetery; and explored the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

Staff rides bring the Military History Course to life for students. Fort Worth ISD was the first school district in the nation to offer the course in collaboration with V-NEP (the Veterans National Educations Program).
“Our commitment to Lone Star Governance, a continuous improvement model for governing teams and their superintendents, was one of the hallmarks of our presentation to the CUBE panel,” said Fort Worth ISD Board of Education President Tobi Jackson. Implementing Lone Star Governance guidelines, the District was able to move quickly to address needs in eliminating disparities.

“Over a short period, Fort Worth ISD passed an equity policy and instituted strategies to help ensure equitable allocation of resources,” said Trustee Jacinto Ramos Jr., who serves as a CUBE Steering Committee Member. “The District instituted racial equity training for all employees and also for school board members.”

Fort Worth ISD received the 2018 CUBE (Council of Urban Boards of Education) Award for Urban School Excellence in September. The prize given by the National School Boards Association recognizes urban school districts that demonstrate excellence in school board performance, academic improvement, educational equity, and community engagement. FWISD won the category for large urban districts (60,000-plus students).
Magna Award

The District’s Equity and Excellence Initiative earned Fort Worth ISD a 2019 Magna Award. Only 15 districts in the country were so honored, with FWISD being one of five recognized in the over-20,000 student enrollment category. The Magna Awards recognize school board best practices and innovative programs that advance student learning. The Fort Worth ISD Equity and Excellence Initiative includes the work of the Division of Equity and Excellence, the Board of Education’s Racial Equity Committee, programs such as My Brother’s Keeper, the launch of Leadership Academies, the District’s Racial Equity Summit, the “Critical Conversations: Connecting with Our Community” town hall meeting, and more.

Racial Equity Resolution

The FWISD Board of Education approved unanimously a resolution to protect racial equity conversations across the District. The decree prevents silencing, retaliating against, or marginalizing any parents or community members who are engaged in such conversations. The District respects and appreciates diversity, while recognizing a responsibility to address any systems that support the marginalization of any parent or student. The resolution aligns with the District’s goal to prepare all students for success in college, career and community leadership.

FAFSA Race to Submit

A lively District campaign aimed at closing equity gaps encouraged graduating seniors to complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). Students who applied received t-shirts, and their names were entered in monthly drawings for prizes. At the end of the school year, Young Women’s Leadership Academy had the highest rate of FAFSA completion. In September 2019, the National College Access Network will award $100,000 to one city that has shown great sustainable gains in FAFSA completion rates as a result of effective strategies.

United Voices for Change

The high school student organization United Voices for Change (UV4C) held a Leadership Forum at the Cendera Center to explore the power of unity, student voice, and hope. UV4C is designed “by students for students” to diversify student leadership, provide a forum for addressing campus and community issues, and build a college-bound culture within all levels of the student population. Leaders from JP Morgan, the mayor of Forest Hill, campus administrators, teachers, and parents attended. The Leo Potishman Foundation underwrote the conference. Funding from the Amon G. Carter Foundation funded other UV4C projects.

FWISD’s first Unity in the Community Family and Youth Summit at Dunbar HS provided informative sessions on legal matters, health, financial literacy, and home ownership.
Adult Education in FWISD

The Fort Worth ISD Office of Adult Education (OAE) served approximately 3,000 adult students this year across 40 satellite locations. Partnering with the Tarrant County Adult Education and Literacy Consortium, the OAE empowers men and women in the community through education, certification, language acquisition, and naturalization. The OAE has been preparing adults for success in college, career and life for more than 40 years.

Curriculum Equity

Infusing the K-12 curriculum with lessons that add Latinx culture and history for the 2019-20 school year is another big step the District is taking to address racial inequities. Latinx students represent the largest demographic group in the District, but their heritage has been historically underrepresented in academic materials. By overlaying Latinx interests into the core curriculum, the District will supplement the learning environment – instead of adding to the students’ workload. The District developed a similar K-12 overlay curriculum for African and African-American history and culture in 2017-18.

Day of Advocacy and Service

Fort Worth ISD became the first school district in the state to honor the lives of American civil rights activists Dolores Huerta and César Chávez with a school holiday. Acknowledging their selfless contributions to society, the District’s Division of Equity and Excellence recognized Ms. Huerta and Mr. Chávez with a day of advocacy and service on March 25. More than 400 students, parents, staff, and community stakeholders assembled at the Tarrant County Trinity River Campus for a student-led rally and keynote presentation from Ms. Huerta, who co-founded the National Farmworkers Association with Mr. Chávez in the 1960s. Students also took part in advocacy-focused breakout sessions and participated in community service projects around the city.

Celebrated Teachers

Paschal HS Mathematics Department Chair Linda Antinone, who retired at the end of the year, is taking her expertise to our nation’s capital. Ms. Antinone is one of nine K-12 educators nationwide named by the U.S. Department of Energy as a 2019-20 Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellow. She will serve for 11 months at a federal agency or U.S. Congressional office in Washington, D.C., applying her classroom knowledge to federal STEM education efforts.

Kirkpatrick MS unveiled new signage honoring educators. The school named its eighth-grade wing for former Principal Jorge Mendoza, and its auditorium for teacher Leo Vaughns Jr.

Paschal HS biology and environmental science teacher Andrew Brinker received the Texas Medical Association’s 2019 Ernest and Sarah Butler Award for Excellence in Science Teaching.

Young Women’s Leadership Academy teacher Sergio Flores was named a Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Outstanding Teacher. Mr. Flores, who teaches engineering, is also the 2018-19 Lockheed Martin Chair for Teaching Excellence in High School STEM.

The Fort Worth Area Alliance of Black School Educators presented Skylar Huey, a specialist at Dunbar HS, with the organization’s Outstanding Educator Award.

Sgt. David Reyes, a seventh grade math teacher at Meacham MS, received a hero’s welcome from students and staff in April. The U.S. Army Reserve sergeant was deployed to Afghanistan a year earlier.
Academic Chairs for Teaching Excellence

Sixteen Fort Worth ISD educators were chosen as 2018-19 Academic Chairs for Teaching Excellence, a prestigious title that includes a $5,000 honorarium. The teachers were presented at a luncheon at Ashton Depot in downtown Fort Worth.

The District’s Chairs for Teaching Excellence program is modeled after the university-level Chair program and is designed to recognize and reward exemplary teachers. Candidates undergo a rigorous three-part evaluation process based on a written application and narrative, an interview session with a distinguished panel of judges, and an authentic teaching demonstration. Separate committees select each Chair.

Here are the sponsors, honorees, and their citations:

- Angela D. Paulos Chair for Teaching Excellence in Visual Arts
  Rachel Varney, Western Hills Primary

- Central Market Chair for Teaching Excellence in Acquisition of Language
  Maria Ortiz-Garcia, Young Women’s Leadership Academy

- Bayard H. Friedman Chair for Teaching Excellence in Performing Arts
  Brandi Wallace-Pace, Bruce Shulkey ES

- Blue Zones Project Chair for Teaching Excellence in Health & Physical Education
  Jeff Peters, Rosemont 6th Grade

- Broadway at the Bass Chair for Teaching Excellence in Dance & Theater
  Julia Worthington, Western Hills HS

- Chase Chair for Teaching Excellence in Secondary English
  Leo Vaughns Jr, Kirkpatrick MS

- Crescent Real Estate Chair for Teaching Excellence in Career & Technical Education
  Colby Allen, Young Women’s Leadership Academy

- Atmos Energy Chair for Teaching Excellence in Secondary Science
  Jodi Sarber, International Newcomer Academy

- Kroger Chair for Teaching Excellence in Special Education
  Lori Cerja, Springdale ES

- Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP Chair for Teaching Excellence in Elementary Reading
  Elizabeth Foreman, South Hills ES

- Lockheed Martin Chair for Teaching Excellence in Elementary Math & Science
  Ashlie Duncan, Sam Rosen ES

- Lockheed Martin Chair for Teaching Excellence in Middle School STEM
  Bradley Leake, McLean MS

- Lockheed Martin Chair for Teaching Excellence in High School STEM
  Sergio Flores, Young Women’s Leadership Academy

- Sewell Lexus & Infiniti of Fort Worth Chair for Teaching Excellence in Humanities
  Samantha Keaton, Young Women’s Leadership Academy

- TTI, Inc. Chair for Teaching Excellence in Secondary Math
  Chris Workman, Arlington Heights HS

- XTO Energy Chair for Teaching Excellence in Early Childhood Education
  Randi Higgins, Alice Carlson Applied Learning Academy
Performing Arts Teaching Chairs
Brent Schooley, head band director at South Hills HS, was selected as the 2019-20 Bayard H. Friedman Chair for Teaching Excellence in Performing Arts. Victoria Scheffler, theater director at South Hills HS, was named the 2019-20 Broadway at the Bass Chair for Teaching Excellence in Performing Arts in Theater and/or Dance. The remaining 2019-20 Chairs will be announced in fall 2019.

Track and Field Hall of Fame
O.D. Wyatt HS retired coach Lee Williams took his place among the state’s all-time best with his induction in the Texas Track and Field Hall of Fame. Mr. Williams mentored some of the greatest track and field athletes in the history of the District over a career spanning more than 40 years. He coached 52 All-Americans, won 15 district titles, and two state championships in 1998 and 2002. The 1998 squad featured four sprinters who set national records in the 4x100 and 4x200 relays. Mr. Williams is a graduate of Polytechnic HS. He went to work for the District in 1976 before joining the O.D. Wyatt staff in 1980.

Athletic Administrators Award
The Texas High School Athletic Directors Association honored Fort Worth ISD Director of Athletics Dr. Lisa Langston with the 2019 NIAAA State Award of Merit in July. Dr. Langston has served the District for 29 years, including the last 24 in Athletics. The annual award, presented by the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association, recognizes meritorious dedication to high school and middle school athletics. Dr. Langston has been a member of the NIAAA Board of Directors since 2018.

November 14, at the 2018-19 Academic Chairs for Teaching Excellence Luncheon. At the same time the very next day (12:04 p.m., to be exact), Samantha Keaton, (far right in the photo) gave birth to twins!
Teachers of the Year
Sharon Gartrell (see spotlight on page 23), a kindergarten teacher at Charles E. Nash ES, and Lisa Yanagida-Blow (see spotlight on page 34), the AVID coordinator at Eastern Hills HS, were named the 2018-19 elementary and secondary Fort Worth ISD Teachers of the Year, respectively. Central Market hosted the annual awards dinner in May at the Fort Worth Zoo. Earlier, Central Market sponsored a reception at the Kimbell Art Museum’s Renzo Piano Pavilion to honor all 134 teachers chosen by their fellow teachers as the 2018-19 Campus Teachers of the Year.

That group of 134 was narrowed to 10 finalists for Teacher of the Year:

Secondary District Teacher of the Year:
- Kenyail Carr, math
  I.M. Terrell Academy for STEM and VPA
- Dalynn Cross, English
  Diamond Hill-Jarvis HS
- Evette Mumford, CTE
  Texas Academy of Biomedical Sciences
- Andrea Rogers, art
  Young Women’s Leadership Academy
- Lisa Yanagida-Blow, AVID coordinator
  Eastern Hills HS

Elementary District Teacher of the Year:
- Susan Afflerbach, kindergarten inclusion
  Western Hills Primary
- Kimberly Bennett, fifth grade math
  Springdale ES
- Sharon Gartrell, kindergarten
  Charles E. Nash ES
- Sydney Jones, second grade
  Worth Heights ES
- Sarah Milliken, fifth grade science
  Seminary Hills Park ES

Ms. Gartrell and Ms. Yanagida-Blow received $5,000 honorariums from Central Market. The other finalists received $1,500 honorariums.

Communicator of the Year
Superintendent Kent Scribner received the 2018 Communicator of the Year Award at the Greater Fort Worth Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America’s Worthy Awards gala in November. The Worthy Awards committee said Dr. Scribner modeled effective collaborative leadership and communicated clearly to the entire community how student success in Fort Worth ISD leads to a prosperous Fort Worth.

“Kent is a shining example of how to communicate in a way that draws people together while inspiring and informing at the same time,” said Lisa Albert, president of GFW PRSA.

Dr. Scribner also received the Chairman’s Award from the Fort Worth Metropolitan Black Chamber of Commerce. The organization presented the award at its 39th Annual Luncheon, citing Fort Worth ISD’s educational accomplishments under Dr. Scribner’s leadership.

Distinguished Citizen Medal
Lt. Col. Richard Crossley Jr., Director of Fort Worth ISD’s JROTC programs, received the Distinguished Citizen Medal from the Mary Isham Keith Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution. The medal recognizes honor, service, courage, leadership, and patriotism. Lt. Crossley strives to ensure students succeed academically, develop leadership skills, and learn about civic responsibility. Lt. Crossley has led FWISD’s JROTC programs since 2011-12.
**Teaching Pipeline**

Creating a pipeline for future teachers, the District’s Human Capital Management Department held an interview fair, giving graduating education majors the opportunity to complete their student teaching and seek a job within Fort Worth ISD. The FWISD student teaching experience nurtures future teachers who will make a difference in the classroom. Student teachers engage in “Lunch and Learn” webinars, Facebook Live interactions, and Resume Writing workshops.

**Recruiting Afar**

A recruiting trip to Puerto Rico attracted elementary bilingual and secondary Spanish teaching candidates for the 2019-20 school year. The traveling team from the District included Leadership staff, principals, and Human Capital Management representatives. The team visited two universities and also interviewed for operations, transportation, and auxiliary services. With 150 prospective employees engaged, the District is poised to establish long-term relationships and coordinate future trips to Puerto Rico.

**Teachers get a Jumpstart**

Teachers new to the profession or new to Fort Worth ISD attended Jumpstart Teacher Academy. Hosted by FWISD’s Professional Learning and Instructional Services Department, the workshops equipped teachers to have a successful first year.

**Communications Awards**

Fort Worth ISD earned five Awards of Excellence from the National School Public Relations Association (NSPRA). This is the highest award given in each communications tactic category.

**2019 Awards of Excellence**

- Fort Worth ISD 2017-18 Annual Report: You Belong Here
- Inside FWISD E-Newsletter
- Read Fort Worth: Our Collective Journey Marketing Video
- Fort Worth ISD Pre-K Marketing Publications
- Fort Worth ISD Online Reference Guide for Staff

**Financial Transparency – Fast!**

In just three clicks, you can land on a Fort Worth ISD Business and Finance Department webpage that provides the District’s financial matters for all stakeholders to see. From monthly check registers to investment transactions, the information is easy to access and easy to read. The goal is to help parents and all interested parties better understand how their tax dollars are spent in support of student achievement.

This new level of transparency led the Texas Comptroller’s Office to award Fort Worth ISD the Traditional Finances Transparency Star. The FWISD Business and Finance Department also scored an “A” Superior rating from School FIRST (Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas) and the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Association of School Business Officials International.

**TCU District Partner Award**

The District’s Office of Academic Advisement received the 2019 District Partner Award from TCU’s Advising Corps.
Blue Zones-Approved

Healthy living isn’t just a priority for the District. It’s policy. FWISD holds the distinction of being the largest school district in the country to become a Blue Zones Project Approved™ work site. Blue Zones Project® is a community-led, well-being improvement initiative. It works in select cities nationally by partnering with municipal leaders, neighborhoods, employers, schools, restaurants, grocery stores, and faith-based organizations.

NCUST Honors

Four Fort Worth ISD schools learned in October that they had won some of the top awards from the National Center for Urban School Transformation (NCUST).

- Silver award: Westcliff ES, World Languages Institute, Young Men’s Leadership Academy
- Bronze award: Bonnie Brae ES

A fifth FWISD school, M.H. Moore ES, received honor roll designation.

Leading the Way

Two Fort Worth ISD schools were named 2018-19 Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Distinguished Schools:

- M.H. Moore ES - PLTW Distinguished School Launch (Grades Pre-K – 5)
- Young Women’s Leadership Academy (YWLA) – PLTW Distinguished School Gateway (Grades 6-8).

The recognitions honor schools committed to increasing student access, engagement, and achievement in their PLTW programs. M.H. Moore and YWLA are among 400 schools nationwide recognized with a PLTW designation.

Energy Star District

The District’s commitment to becoming more energy efficient led to Energy Star certification for 115 Fort Worth ISD schools. Energy Star, a program of the Environmental Protection Agency, recognizes energy-efficient top performers that save money without sacrificing performance.
President Honored

Jacinto Ramos Jr., Fort Worth ISD Board of Education president, was named president-elect of the Mexican American School Boards Association (MASBA). He will be the 2020-21 MASBA president and serve a one-year term.

Mr. Ramos was also elected to fill an interim position on the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Board of Directors, representing TASB Region 11, Position B. In addition, Mr. Ramos was chosen to chair the National School Boards Association’s Council of Urban Boards of Education (CUBE).

New Leadership Role

The Center for Public Policy Priorities (CPPP) named FWISD Board of Education Vice President Tobi Jackson to its Board of Directors. Mrs. Jackson, District Board President from 2017-19 and current District 2 Trustee, will work with the CPPP, an independent public policy organization in Austin, to support solutions that enable Texans of all backgrounds to reach their full potential.

Trustees Thanked

Fort Worth ISD said goodbye to four departing board members:

- **Mrs. Christene Chadwick Moss** was recognized in April for serving nearly three decades on the FWISD Board of Education. She chose not to seek reelection to the District 3 seat. Mrs. Moss was the first African American to serve as Board president.
- Attendees at a steel beam-signing ceremony at Southwest HS celebrated the May 24 birthday of Dr. Ann Sutherland and her years of service representing District 6. Dr. Sutherland did not seek reelection to the board.
- At the June groundbreaking for Overton Park ES, Superintendent Scribner presented gifts to longtime District 5 representative Mrs. Judy Needham, who after 24 years of service did not seek reelection.

All three women were presented with Golden Gavel plaques on May 14 as they completed their terms as FWISD Board of Education trustees. Their successors are Anne Darr, District 6; C. J. Evans, District 5; and Quinton “Q” Phillips, District 3.

In July, T.A. Sims Sr., the longest-serving FWISD school board member, announced his resignation. He served District 4 for more than 35 years. The District is planning a fall 2019 reception in his honor.

Expanded Security

FWISD reached its goal to complete surveillance camera and access control installations at all high schools. Approximately 4,500 cameras were installed to better monitor activity inside and outside schools. Among new security measures taken:

- Emergency Response training expanded to include school administrators and substitute teachers and staff.
- Lightning and weather monitoring systems were installed to keep students safe at evening and weekend events.
- FWISD sent messages to all parents asking them to help the District prevent social media threats against schools or students.

Mr. Sparks Day

In addition to keeping Maudrie Walton ES students safe as they come and go, crossing guard Eugene Sparks also makes sure their day starts with a smile and words of encouragement. To show just how much his dedication and concern for student safety means to everyone, the school threw a celebration in his honor. They called it Mr. Sparks Day, and everyone gathered with balloons and banners to say “thank you” to a man whom Principal Christina Hanson calls “an example of what giving back looks like.”

Campuses that celebrated milestone anniversaries this year:

- **60 YEARS: EAST HANDLEY ES**
- **60 YEARS: MAUDRIE M. WALTON ES** (NAMED FOR THE SCHOOL’S FIRST PRINCIPAL, MAUDRIE WALTON)
- **50 YEARS: O.D. WYATT HS**
- **25 YEARS: INTERNATIONAL NEWCOMER ACADEMY**
- **STUDENTS HONOR CROSSING GUARD EUGENE SPARKS FOR HIS DEDICATION AND CONCERN FOR THEIR SAFETY.**
Wall of Fame

Fort Worth welcomed six especially accomplished alumni to its Wall of Fame in June. Five of the six men and women attended, including a flight director who helped bring Apollo 13 back to earth safely and a Broadway star who brings down the house nightly.

Superintendent Kent P. Scribner hosted the event to honor:

- **Major Attaway** – (Arlington Heights HS, 2005) Plays the Genie in Aladdin on Broadway and on the North American tour
- **Emily Holt Crocker** (Eastern Hills HS, 1968) – Composer of more than 200 choral works and founder/Music Director Emeritus of the Milwaukee Children’s Choir
- **Gerald Griffin** (Arlington Heights HS, 1952) – A flight director for all Apollo manned missions and recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom
- **Opal Lee** (I.M. Terrell HS, 1943) – Chair of Juneteenth Fort Worth and founding member of the Community Food Bank
- **Dewey Redman** (I.M. Terrell HS, 1949; deceased) – Acclaimed jazz saxophonist and bandleader; subject of the 2001 documentary Dewey Time
- **Burl Yarbrough** (Western Hills HS, 1975) – Longtime president of the San Antonio Missions Triple-A baseball club and member of the Texas League Hall of Fame

The Wall of Fame is located at the Fort Worth ISD administration building at 100 N. University Drive in Fort Worth.

Inspiring Exhibit

The Fort Worth Museum of Science and History displayed artifacts from astronaut Alan Bean’s space missions and his spectacular paintings in an exhibit entitled *Launchpad: Apollo 11 Promises Kept*. Mr. Bean, a 1950 graduate of Paschal HS, was the fourth man to walk on the moon. He died in May 2018 at the age of 86.

Goodbye to a Hero

Fort Worth said goodbye to World War II hero Robert McDaniel (I.M. Terrell HS, 1940). Mr. McDaniel was a member of the Tuskegee Airmen, the elite black pilot group that flew combat aircraft and protected U.S. bomber crews. He was president and valedictorian of his senior class. He became a FWISD teacher and principal. Mr. McDaniel died in March at age 96.

Back Home

Tony Award-winning performer Betty Buckley (Arlington Heights HS, 1964) starred as Dolly Gallagher Levi in the national tour of “Hello, Dolly” in July at the Music Hall at Fair Park in Dallas. Ms. Buckley won a Tony in 1983 for her performance as Grizabella in the original Broadway production of “Cats.” She was inducted into the American Theater Hall of Fame in 2012.

This Just In...

Marc Istook (Southwest HS, 1998) joined the anchor desk at WFAA-TV. His first morning on *News 8 Daybreak* included a performance from the Southwest band and cheerleaders. Mr. Istook earned his degree in radio/TV/film (journalism) from Texas Christian University. His work has included reporting and hosting for Food Network and anchoring on NFL Network.
More Alumni Notes

Nineteen-year-old Noel Jett, a former student at the Texas Academy of Biomedical Sciences (TABS), became the youngest-known Ph.D graduate at the University of North Texas when she accepted her degree in educational psychology in December. She started the doctoral program at the age of 16.

Former Dunbar HS student Regina Carroll, now a Navy Petty Officer Third Class, surprised her father – and more than 40,000 football fans – by showing up at the Lockheed Martin Armed Forces Bowl at TCU’s Amon Carter Stadium. Her dad was told it was going to be a live video hookup from Italy, where Regina is stationed.

Valentin Hinojosa (Western Hills HS, 2014), a former Western Hills HS cadet, was commissioned a U.S. Air Force second lieutenant.

The City of Fort Worth will name a new public library for former FWISD Board of Education member and educator Reby Cary (I.M. Terrell HS, 1937). The Reby Cary Youth Library in the 3800 block of E. Lancaster Ave. will be the city’s first library designed specifically for children, teens, and their caregivers. In 1974, Mr. Cary became the first African American elected to the FWISD Board of Education.

Dallas police unveiled a new 14-foot-tall memorial honoring the five officers killed in the July 2016 ambush in downtown Dallas – among them, Patrick Zamarripa (Paschal HS, 2001). The sculpture stands in front of the Jack Evans Police Headquarters in Dallas.

Oklahoma State University sophomore Tylan Wallace (South Hills HS, 2017) led the nation in regular season play with 59 receptions of 10 yards or longer. The wide receiver averaged 168 yards and two touchdowns in three games against Top 10 teams. Mr. Wallace was named to the 2018 Associated Press All-Big 12 Conference first team. He was also a finalist for both the Earl Campbell Tyler Rose Award and the Fred Biletnikoff Award.
Community: Our Volunteers & Partners

We often say we can’t do it without you, and this annual report is proof. Its pages document many of the accomplishments, new initiatives, and successful outcomes made possible by our awesome partners – caring businesses, organizations, higher education, churches, and individuals.

We tried to include the partners in each story, such as Central Market’s role in our Campus Teachers of the Year recognitions, the many sponsors of our Academic Chairs for Teaching Excellence, and the Rainwater Charitable Foundation’s support of the 100X25 FWTX literacy initiative. Here are a few more of them.

13,000
Volunteers working in our schools

42,000
Hours logged by volunteers
EECU – Part of the FWISD Fabric

EECU and Fort Worth ISD are more than just partners. They grew up together: EECU was called the Fort Worth Teachers Credit Union when it formed in 1934 in the old FWISD administration building. Now one of the largest credit unions in North Texas, EECU is interwoven in the fabric of the District.

EECU employees’ commitment to Fort Worth ISD students includes a generous investment of time, as well as money. They read to elementary students and spend a day on campuses for JA in a Day (Junior Achievement), which fosters work-readiness. In addition, they host Vital Link students each summer at their locations.

“Our employees have told us that their ability to help students is a highlight of their week,” said Lonnie Nicholson, EECU President & CEO. “It brings deep meaning to answer the call of FWISD as they shape our youth and our future work force.”

EECU also provides free financial literacy curriculum to all high schools, Angel Tree gifts, and free books to all elementary schools. EECU helps fund teacher-of-the-year programs, and it supports the FWISD Health Department.

EECU jumped to the front of the line three years ago to support the Read Fort Worth initiative launched by Superintendent Scribner, Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price and BNSF Railway Executive Chairman Matt Rose. EECU employees enthusiastically volunteer as reading tutors in District schools.

“The early childhood literacy issue was clearly articulated,” said Barbara Walker, EECU Director of Social Responsibility & Community Involvement. “It was obvious that we could not, as good corporate citizens, sit on the sidelines.”

$130,290
Contributions from FWISD students and employees to United Way of Tarrant County

$753,560
United Way grants to FWISD 2018-19
Congressional Award partnership

Fort Worth ISD and The Congressional Award Foundation launched a new effort to work together to grow tomorrow’s leaders. The partnership will initially focus on the first official Congressional Award-designated school in North Texas, FWISD’s World Languages Institute (WLI). The partnership will include enrichment opportunities such as internships, intergenerational interactions, and job training with companies in the Fort Worth/Dallas area. Lending bi-partisan congressional support to the initiative are members of the Texas congressional delegation, including Rep. Kay Granger and Rep. Marc Veasey. A kick-off event was held in May at the Dallas Museum of Art. Business partners of the initiative include American Airlines, G2 Secure Staff, Lockheed Martin and Magdaleno Leadership Institute.

Early Internships

Our Vital Link partners hosted rising seventh-grade students in workplaces for free, week-long, half-day, unpaid internships. Students interned with the City of Fort Worth, Wells Fargo Financial Advisors, the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History, and Balfour Beatty. Vital Link in FWISD is in its 28th year of demonstrating the “link” between what is learned in the classroom and workplace skills.

Health and Safety Fair

Thirty-four vendor partners made the Fort Worth ISD Health and Safety Fair at Billingsley Field a success. The free event hosted by the District’s Student Placement Center offered families resources and information on health insurance, tips for improving overall health, and even flu shots. Many of the 400 attendees went home with jump ropes, Frisbees, soccer balls, and other fitness prizes. Vendors included Ident-A-Kid, Aetna, Baylor Scott and White, representatives from the JPS Health Network, Cook Children’s, and the Fort Worth fire and police departments.

Saturday Morning Medicine

What’s a workday really like for doctors and other healthcare professionals? Fifteen Fort Worth ISD anatomy and physiology students found out for themselves, thanks to Saturday Morning Medicine, an enrichment program in its second year. The program connects high school students with medical professionals who share their experiences. Students worked a Saturday in February in a simulation lab at Cook Children’s Hospital with Dr. Samson Cantu and learned about endoscopies and colonoscopies. Dr. Cantu, his wife, Dr. Clara Cantu, and Dr. Kathleen Powderly established Saturday Morning Medicine in 2018.

After School Advocates

Fidelity Investments funded an amazing trip for 10 students from the FWISD-Texas Wesleyan Leadership Academy Network. It was a learning experience for the students, as well as the officials with whom they met. The students went to Washington, D.C., to advocate for the continuation of 21st century after school funding. They met with Texas elected officials and their aides. The students participate in the Afterschool Alliance’s Afterschool for All Challenge.
**Opera in the Classroom**

The Fort Worth Opera (FWO) launched Opera FUNatics in seven Fort Worth ISD schools. The pilot program, a spinoff of FWO’s two-week summer intensive program, introduced FWISD students to opera over 12 weeks. They learned rhythm, melody, harmony, construction of music, and opera terminology. Teachers received video and audio aides to supplement the curriculum. The program included three in-classroom performances. The participating schools were the Leadership Academy at Maude I. Logan ES, Springdale ES, the Leadership Academy at Mitchell Boulevard ES, Natha Howell ES, Sam Rosen ES, Carroll Peak ES, and Glencrest 6th Grade Center.

**Dressed by Dickies**

Trimble Tech HS students in Career and Technical Education programs are dressed to impress, thanks to a generous donation of “competition” clothing and backpacks from Fort Worth’s Williamson-Dickie Manufacturing Company. The items bearing the school’s logo include shirts for Automotive Collision Repair and Automotive Technology, work pants for Welding, scrubs for Health Science Technology, and chef coats and hats for Culinary Arts. The contributions were made possible through Williamson-Dickie’s “Purpose Commitment to the Community” program.

**Made in the Shade**

Did you know school campuses are some of the least-shaded areas in North Texas? So says the Texas Tree Foundation, which teamed up with TXU Energy to donate 20 trees to Eastern Hills HS and Eastern Hills ES to help these campuses beat the heat and make outdoor learning more aesthetically pleasing. The new trees include crepe myrtle, bur oak, and Monterey oak— all known for their fast-growth potential and ability to withstand extreme temperatures.

**ELL STEM Camp**

BNSF Railway engineer Oscar Vazquez, subject of the book and motion picture Spare Parts, shared his inspiring story with 100 FWISD students at a Summer STEM Camp for English Learners. Mr. Vazquez came to the U.S. undocumented as a child. He went on to be part of a high school team that won a national engineering competition. He earned a degree in mechanical engineering from Arizona State University. He gained his U.S. citizenship and enlisted in the Army. He served in Afghanistan.

**Volunteers, Including U.S. Congressman Marc Veasey, Stand Ready to Paint on Fidelity Transformation Day at Dunbar HS.**

**Seventh and Eighth-Graders from Young Men’s Leadership Academy Spend a Day at Alliance Airport Team Up to Solve Problems Involving Helicopters.**

**The Gary Patterson Foundation Awards $325,000 in Grants to 38 FWISD Libraries.** It is believed to be the largest donation made by the nonprofit in its 13-year history. The chairman of the foundation is TCU head football coach Gary Patterson.

**More Than 100 Fourth-Graders Hit the TCU Interactive Math and Science Trail on the TCU Campus.**

**Eight Learning Stations Planted Along the Trail Provide Meaningful STEM Lessons.** The event is funded by the Bryant Bridge and Hope Grant.
Dyslexia Resources

Partners pitched in to connect Fort Worth ISD families and District personnel to dyslexia resources throughout the community. Fort Worth ISD teamed up with the Fort Worth Public Library, Learning Ally, Understood.org, Discovering Dyslexia of Tarrant County, and Bookshare to host the Dyslexia Resource Fair and Meet and Greet at the FWISD Professional Development Center. Dyslexia affects one in five people. “Dyslexia is a common learning issue,” said Patty Coté, FWISD Director of Dyslexia Services. “There are proven teaching strategies that can help a child with dyslexia learn to read.”

Hearing Aids for Students

Thirteen Fort Worth ISD students were fitted with free hearing aids – a gift made possible by a Fort Worth boy and an international nonprofit organization. Twelve-year-old Braden Baker launched an online campaign in 2017 to raise funds for the Oticon Hearing Foundation, which supports people who cannot afford hearing aids. Braden, who wears a hearing aid, has raised more than $112,000, including a $20,000 donation from The Ellen Show. FWISD audiologists fitted the 13 students with state-of-the-art hearing aids in June at Boulevard Heights.

A Vision of Caring

Approximately 400 Fort Worth ISD students received free vision screenings, and some got eyeglasses on the spot at Kids Vision Fest. Others were able to order glasses to accommodate specific needs. Hundreds of volunteers were on hand. Superintendent Scribner and Andy Pawson, president and general manager of event sponsor Global Vision Care Franchise at Alcon, read books with children.

Global Gallery Night

Students guided patrons through the Kimbell Art Museum on Global Gallery Night, a partnership with FWISD’s Department of World Languages. The event gives students the opportunity to study art while perfecting their language abilities.
Online Curriculum

Coming in 2019-20 – our new Fort Worth ISD Online Curriculum. Teachers should quickly discover a difference in this user-friendly framework to support effective daily instruction. The curriculum is what teachers have asked for:

- It is simple to navigate – the curriculum content is accessible in a few clicks.
- It provides clear expectations about what to teach and when to teach it, and the support and resources to help deliver high quality instruction.
- Teachers will be able to spend more time preparing for lessons, and less time figuring out what to teach.

Food Trucks

Rolling up to a FWISD high school near you - food trucks! That’s one of the changes in store now that Sodexo MAGIC has been contracted to provide child nutrition services for all of the District’s students. The contract allowed all current FWISD nutrition service workers to remain as employees. Sodexo said it will provide four food trucks that will rotate among the District’s high schools, occasionally providing students an alternative lunch experience.

Supermarket Super-Remodel

An old Kroger on Fort Worth’s east side (1050 Bridgewood Drive) will be the new Fort Worth ISD Teaching and Learning Center. The building will also house staff from various Curriculum and Instruction offices. Phase I is complete. It includes the Network Infrastructure and Help Desk technology staff. The Innovation & Transformation and Educational Technology offices will make the move in the 2019-20 school year. Phase II will add 17,580 square feet of training rooms, a reception area, a snack bar, and other common areas.

Poly Remodel

Polytechnic HS students can look forward to new, modern spaces for learning, especially science classrooms and labs. Construction will begin in fall 2019 on the addition and renovation, which were approved by voters in 2017. The project will turn common spaces into collaboration areas for learning and student interaction and will repurpose spaces for Career and Technical Education.
Our Schools

Elementary

Beal, Harlean  
Benbrook  
Bonnie Brae  
Briscoe, Edward J.  
Burton Hill  
Carlson, Alice ALC  
Carter Park  
Chavez, Cesar  
Clarke, George C.  
Clayton, Lily B.  
Leadership Academy at Como Elementary  
Como Montessori  
Contreras, Alice D.  
Daggett, E.M.  
Daggett Montessori  
Davis, Clifford  
De Zavala  
Diamond Hill  
Dillow, S.S.  
East Handley  
Eastern Hills  
Elliott, Bill J.  
Ellis, M.G. Primary  
Glen Park  
Green, W.M.  
Greenbriar  
Helbing, H.V.  
Howell, Natha  
Hubbard Heights  
Huerta, Dolores  
Jara, Manuel  
Kirkpatrick, Milton L.  
Leadership Academy at Maude I. Logan  
Lowery Road  
McDonald, Atwood  
McRae, D.  
Meadowbrook  
Mendoza, Rufino  
Merrett, Luella  
Leadership Academy at Mitchell Boulevard  
Moore, M.H.  
Morningside  
Moss, Christene C.  
Nash, Charles E.  
North Hi Mount  
Oakhurst  
Oaklawn  
Pate, A.M.  
Peace, Hazel Harvey  
Peel, Carroll  
Phillips, M.L.  
Ridgley Hills  
Riverside ALC  
Rosemont  
Rosen, Sam  
Sagamore Hill  
Sellers, David K.  
Seminaries Hills Park  
Shulkey, Bruce  
Sims, T.A.  
South Hi Mount  
South Hills  
Springdale  
Stevens, J.T.  
Sunrise-McMillan  
Tanglewood  
Turner, WJ.  
Van Zandt-Guinn  
Walton, Maudrie M.  
Washington Heights  
Waverly Park  
West Handley  
Westcliff  
Westcreek  
Western Hills  
Western Hills Primary  
Westpark  
Leadership Academy at John T. White  
Williams, Versia L.  
Wilson, Richard J.  
Woodway  
Worth Heights  

Middle

Applied Learning Academy  
Daggett, E.M.  
Elder, J.P.  
Leadership Academy at Forest Oak  
Glencrest 6th Handley  
International Newcomer Academy  
Jacquet, J. Martin  
James, William  
Kirkpatrick, Milton L.  
Leonard  
McClung, Jean  
McLean, W.P.  
McLean 6th Meacham, WA.  
Meadowbrook  
Monnig, William  
Morningside  
Riverside  
Rosemont  
Rosemont 6th Stripling, W.C.  
Wedgwood  
Wedgwood 6th  

High

Arlington Heights  
Benbrook Middle-High  
Carter-Riverside, Amon  
Diamond Hill-Jarvis  
Dunbar, P.L.  
Eastern Hills  
Marine Creek Collegiate  
North Side  
Paschal, R.L.  
Polytechnic  
South Hills  
Southwest  
TCC South-FWISD Collegiate  
I.M. Terrell Academy for STEM and VPA  
Texas Academy of Biomedical Sciences  
Trimble Technical  
Western Hills  
World Languages Institute  
Wyatt, O.D.  
Young Men’s Leadership Academy  
Young Women’s Leadership Academy  

Other Schools

Boulevard Heights School  
Jo Kelly School  
Metro Opportunity High School  
Middle Level Learning Center  
Success High School