



## 2021-2022 Back to School Plan

*#AldineForward*

### Superintendent Message

As we continue to face challenges during this unprecedented time, Aldine ISD is safely moving forward and welcoming back students to in-person instruction for the 2021-2022 school year. In-person learning has proven critical to student success and our educators are pleased to provide a safe but rigorous learning environment where students will thrive and prepare for success in college, career and life.

I am incredibly proud of how we navigated last year's challenges, but we are not out of the woods yet. Together, we will continue to demonstrate our resiliency and commitment to each other and our students by overcoming any obstacles in our way.

With Aldine Pride,  
Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney  
Superintendent

### AISD Fast Facts

As one of the largest, most diverse districts in Texas, Aldine ISD continues to set the bar high for teaching and learning. AISD's five-year strategic plan, *A New Way Forward*, includes priorities that ensure that all students have choices and opportunities not only now but upon receiving their high school diploma.

Student Achievement, School Culture, Mission-Driven Leadership, Organizational Efficiency and Community Engagement & Outreach.

- **61,487 Students\***
  - 73% Hispanic
  - 22% African American
  - 1.9% White
  - 1.1% Asian
  - More than 47 Languages Spoken
  
- **9,632 Employees**
  
- **83 Schools panning 111 square miles in Harris County**
  - 12 Primary Schools
  - 38 Elementary Schools
  - 14 Middle Schools
  - 5 Ninth-Grade Schools
  - 10 High Schools
  - 3 Special Purpose Schools
  - 1 Alternative Education School
  
- **Choice School Options**

- Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM)
- One-Way and Two-Way Dual Language
- International Baccalaureate
- Bilingual Education
- PTECH
- Career & Technical Education

*\*Information current as of 9/21/21*

## Return to Learn

Aldine ISD offers in-person learning, along with expanded services, activities and extracurricular programs, for the 2021-2022 school year. Throughout the pandemic, the top priorities of Aldine ISD are the safety and academic success of all students and the district has implemented health and safety protocols as well as a plan to address pandemic-related learning loss. District administrators will continually monitor local health conditions and review procedures and protocols, making adjustments as needed. All plans are subject to change based on regulations by the Texas Education Agency. Families and employees will be notified if changes are necessary.

## Health & Safety / COVID-19 Protocols

As Aldine ISD 2021-2022 protocols will be revisited to address any changes from the Texas Education Agency, CDC, state and local health guidelines. The district has posted all information related to its operations and any updates on the [Health Alerts](https://www.aldineisd.org/healthalerts/) page; visit: <https://www.aldineisd.org/healthalerts/>

### Safety Highlights

- **The 3 W's** - The 3 W's have been proven to effectively prevent the spread of COVID-19. Aldine ISD continues to share this message with our community: Wear a mask, Wash your hands and Watch your distance.
- **Face Coverings Required** - Aldine ISD currently requires that all staff, students and visitors wear a mask while on Aldine ISD buses and when visiting campuses and administrative buildings.
- **COVID-19 Immunizations Not Mandatory** - The COVID-19 vaccine is not required for staff or students. Aldine ISD will continue to work with community partners to help ensure our community is educated and has access to testing and vaccines.
- **Health & Safety** - All teachers, staff, and students are encouraged to perform daily self-screening for symptoms of illness before entering all buildings.
  - If a staff member or student is ill, they should stay at home and seek medical advice from a physician.
  - Students experiencing symptoms at school will be sent to the school nurse for evaluation.
  - If a student tests positive for COVID-19, the parent/guardian should inform the appropriate campus nurse/clinic staff. Aldine ISD Health Services will report this

information to the local and state health department, as required by TEA. Data regarding positive COVID-19 cases in Harris County may be viewed through the [Harris County Public Health Dashboard](#).

### [Safety Protocols and Guidelines \(PDF\)](#)

**COVID-19 Dashboard** - The Aldine ISD COVID-19 dashboard is updated daily with active lab-confirmed COVID-19 cases of district staff and students who have been in district schools and facilities. Our protocols follow the Texas Education Agency's reporting structure, which communicates cases Monday through Saturday and considers a case active for 10 days.

## Learning Loss

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) of 2021 established the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) III, a fund dedicated to providing a total of nearly \$122 billion to states and school districts to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the nation's students. Aldine ISD was awarded a grant under this fund and will utilize the funds to address pandemic-related learning loss by focusing on 4 key areas that drive student success.

### **Aldine ISD ESSER III Allocation Plan - Allocation: \$235M**

- \$120 (51%) dedicated to Learning Recovery and SEL
- \$25M (11%) dedicated to Technology, Facility Upgrades, and Continuous Facility Improvements
- \$90M (38%) dedicated to Strategic Staffing Support

### **1. Targeted Academic Supports that drive improvements in student outcomes**

What we know:

- Access and implementation of high-quality curriculum and instructional materials has an impact on student learning (Must be implemented with fidelity).
- Formative and summative assessments aligned to these materials that enable frequent progress monitoring toward grade-level mastery must be in place.
- Instructional materials must support all learners, including students with disabilities, English Learners, and students identified as gifted and talented.
- High-dosage tutoring can meaningfully accelerate student learning when coupled with frequency, consistency and high-quality instructional materials
- Strategic scheduling to increase time for learning acceleration
- AISD will address pandemic-related learning loss by focusing on 4 key areas that drive student success: Tier 1 Instruction, Time, Talent, Targeted Supports

**ACTION ITEM:**

How will success be measured?

Which Initiatives/Actions are Short Term vs. Long Term Investments?

**Investment Total: \$44M**

Initiative	Allocation	Description
High Intensity Tutoring	\$12M	Tutoring to support student learning
Acceleration Academies	\$9M	Acceleration and Intervention
ADSY (2 campuses)	\$600K	Additional Learning Time - Ext. Week/Summer
Purchase curriculum materials for literacy and math	\$6.7M	Math and Literacy adoption materials - Eureka, CKLA, etc.
Early Learning Quality Framework	\$750k	Strategy development for early learning - All primary schools
Instructional Supports	\$15M	Renaissance STAR 360, Freckle, MyOn, Waterford, Calculator Emulators, MClass, GT Mastery Prep

**2. Social and Emotional Learning and Student Engagement**

What we know:

- Systems should be in place to ensure that every family has one primary point-of-contact at the school (especially for secondary campuses).
- There is demand from some families and the community for more contact and resources to support learning at home.
- A plan must be in place to measure students' social, emotional, and mental health needs?
- Sufficient staff is needed to meet students' needs, such as counselors, social workers, and school psychologists. Wraparound supports are needed.
- Access to resources (e.g. curriculum, technology) to support students' social and emotional development should be in place

**Investment Total: \$2.6M**

Initiative	Allocation	Description
Increase access to mental health services and supports	\$1.2M	Hire additional social workers, invest in restorative and mindfulness practices and training
Social and emotional learning	\$100K	Additional Resources to support students and staff - CASEL
Family Engagement	\$500K	Expand outreach efforts
Targeted Student Enrollment and Attendance	\$500K	Outreach Efforts to recover students
LSSP (4)	\$320K	Additional Staff to support students and staff
Mentorship	TBD	Supplemental support for students
Professional Learning on Mental Health & Awareness	TBD	Training for staff

### 3. Strategic Staffing, Teacher Supports and Adaptable Instruction

**What we know:**

- Teachers must be trained in delivering research-based literacy instruction that translates to effective instructional delivery practices.
- Students must have explicit, systematic practice with Foundational Skills.
- Our current approach to literacy must include opportunities for students to read, write, and speak about both literary and informational grade-level texts.

- Our current approach to math must include a strategic progression of concepts, not just isolated skills.
- Our approach to math must emphasize mastery of conceptual understanding prior to moving to procedural fluency and applications.
- We must have enough time and flexibility in our schedule and staffing model to allow for strategic acceleration/intervention.
- We must have instructional materials aligned to prerequisite skill gaps that teachers can use for acceleration or interventions.
- We must have a clear set of researched-based differentiation/scaffolding strategies that teachers know how to implement.
- We must have a plan in place to monitor student progress and the effectiveness of intervention programs.
- We should have a system in place for training and coaching instructional support staff.
- Teachers should have been trained on how to utilize instructional support staff in their classrooms.

**Total: \$164M**

Initiative	Allocation	Description
Strategic Staffing	\$90M	Smaller classrooms in targeted areas
Expanded coaching and supports for schools	TBD	Addition of LPAC coordinators, dedicated substitutes, AP teacher training, etc.
Tiered Campus Support	TBD	Additional resources and support for highest need campuses.
Opportunity Culture	TBD	Expansion of Opportunity for additional campuses
COVID Leave/Vaccine stipend	\$20M	Support for Health Fund Expenses associated with COVID and Incentive for staff to get vaccinated.
Retention Incentive	\$21M	Incentive to staff for commitment to district
Professional Dev. and Training for Teachers and Leaders	\$5M	Instructional Partners, TNTP, Coaching for integrated professional learning - job embedded - content based
Capacity Building and Expand Pipelines	TBD	UofH partnership to support male HS Students pursuing a teaching degree
Homegrown	TBD	Expanded Opportunities for paraprofessionals to become teachers
Dual Credit Expansion	TBD	Stipends & Tuition Support for Teachers

#### 4. Technology Supports & Facility Needs

What we know:

- All students must have access to adequate instructional facilities and devices to support learning.
- Continuous health and safety considerations must remain a priority.
- A plan must be in place to monitor and support Multi-Tiered Systems of Support.
- Centralized data and support systems are essential.
- Ongoing technology training and support are necessary.

**Total: \$25M**

Initiative	Allocation	Description
Technology Infrastructure	\$3M	Continuous improvements are needed to support technology -Updated internal operating system - Ongoing cost for device maintenance
Software, hardware upgrades to facilitate student learning	\$5M	Admin laptops, cyber security training and support, Network maintenance upgrades
Ventilation improvements	\$15M	HVAC updates and replacements Air Purification systems
Ongoing health and safety considerations	\$2M	Cleaning and disinfecting supplies, PPE