MARCH 8, 2024

ALDINE Independent School District

GOFFNEY CHRONICLES

The Official Newsletter of the Superintendent of Schools

Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney

Superintendent of Schools

With Aldine Pride!



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- And much more!

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THORNE STADIUM, DISTRICT CHANGES, WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH, EDUCATORS OF THE YEAR, AND MORE!

March is here, and there is so much to share with you. First, I am excited that we are on track to open the new Thorne Stadium, as promised, in time for the start of the 2024 football season. Before we started the project, it had been 44 years since the stadium was built. Everyone working on the project is thrilled with this state-of-the-art facility for our student-athletes, student performers, fans, and community members. And who can forget all the other performing arts events like band or watching our ROTC cadets on the field that will benefit from playing and performing in a premier facility we can take pride in.

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THORNE STADIUM, DISTRICT CHANGES, WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH, EDUCATORS OF THE YEAR, AND MORE!

(Continued From Page 1)

This week, we had several community meetings planned at Conley, Gray, and Sammons elementary schools, which are set to close at the end of the '23-'24 school year. These decisions were made after careful review and evaluation of information. Aldine ISD will continue to focus on offering students choices and opportunities. These schools will maximize the use of the campuses and continue to fulfill our mission of providing a rigorous and enriching educational experience that prepares our students for college, career, and life success. Families that attended learned how the decisions were made and how it will impact students.

There are several observances in March, including Women's History Month. Our district proudly recognizes and supports Women's History Month as a time to celebrate women's incredible achievements and contributions throughout history. At Aldine, we believe in the importance of teaching our students about the pivotal role that women have played in shaping our society, and we are committed to promoting gender equality and empowering the next generation of female leaders. In this issue is a flyer with all the planned events celebrating women.

You will often hear me say that a school district is made up of its people — its staff. There are two groups of people this week — Diagnostician's Week and National School Social Worker Week. It is also SEL (social-emotional) Week. So many individuals impact students' lives every day. Thank you for all you do and for making a difference here at Aldine ISD.

Today, we celebrated our Educators of the Year Breakfast. Leadership matters, whether you lead a campus or a classroom. Principals create and sustain the environment for student learning and growth, and teachers are the backbone of education, offering guidance and dedication and giving young people the power of education. Congratulations to all the honorees!

As with every issue of this newsletter, it is full of the latest news and information. You'll find active links within the pages. One final thought: May everyone have a fun, safe, restful spring break.

With Aldine Pride,



Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney
Superintendent

DISTRICT CELEBRATES ITS EDUCATORS OF THE YEAR AT EN BLANC BREAKFAST



Aldine ISD celebrated its top teachers and principals at the annual Educator of the Year Breakfast, held on March 8.

Amanda Lee of Carmichael Elementary School was named AISD's Elementary Teacher of the Year and Leticia Vargas of Davis School was named AISD's Secondary Teacher of the Year.

The four Teacher of the Year finalists were Wilhemina McCraw of Impact Leadership Academy, Beverly Berryman of Johnson Elementary School, Óscar Medina of Eisenhower High School and Sokhna Kabore of Victory Early College High School.

Ricky Ward of Johnson Elementary School was the Rookie Elementary Teacher of the Year and Ryyan Pritchett of Shotwell Middle School was the Rookie Secondary Teacher of the Year.

Rosalind Burns of Jones Primary School was the Elementary Principal of the Year, while Dr. Cedric Stewart of Houston Academy was the Secondary Principal of the Year and La'Keshia Williams of Carver High School was named the Rookie Principal of the Year.

Click HERE to read the full story.

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AISD HOSTED COMMUNITY MEETINGS ABOUT UPCOMING CHANGES

Upcoming Changes

Students currently zoned to Conley will be rezoned to Carmichael Elementary and Spence Elementary. Students zoned to Gray will be rezoned to Stehlik Elementary and Goodman Elementary School — an Accelerating Campus Excellence school. Students zoned to Sammons Elementary will be rezoned to Carter Academy and Hill Elementary. Conley, Gray, and Sammons will close at the end of the 2023-2024 school year due to a variety of factors. Students will be rezoned to the closest schools.

School Boundary Revisions

Additionally, there will be a revision to the boundaries of **Lewis Middle School** and **Teague Middle School** to send students to **Stovall Middle School** and **Aldine Middle School**.

"These decisions were made after careful review and evaluation of information. I believe these schools will maximize the use of the campuses and continue to fulfill our mission of providing a rigorous and enriching educational experience that prepares our students for college, career, and life success."
— Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney



At the meetings, campus and district leaders shared more about how they decided to close the campuses and how it will impact their students. They took questions from parents and community members in attendance.

Click HERE to read the whole story.

Community Meetings

Gray Elementary School
Tuesday, March 5, 2024, 3:30 p.m.

Conley Elementary School
Wednesday, March 6, 2024, 5:30 p.m.

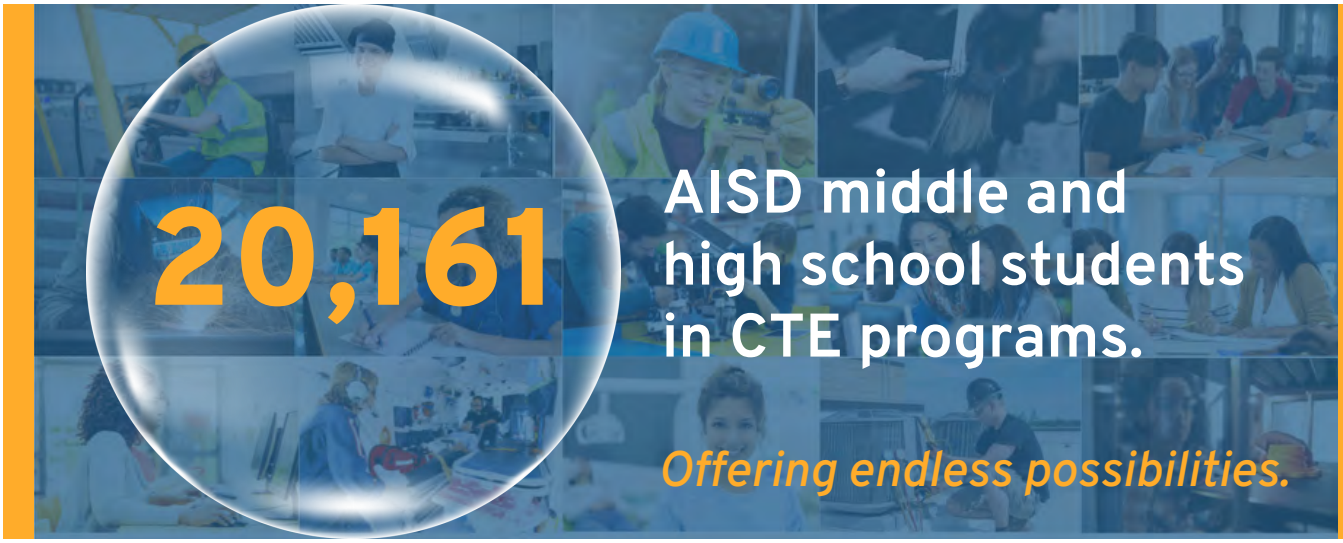
Sammons Elementary School
Thursday, March 7, 2024, 5:00 p.m.

W.W. THORNE REPLACEMENT STADIUM ON SCHEDULE TO BE COMPLETED BY JULY



The construction of Thorne Stadium is set to be completed by July, marking a significant improvement across the district. The stadium will host three scrimmages before the 2024 high school football season, with a capacity of 10,000. The stadium will feature a press box, concession stands, restrooms, a football field, concrete bleachers, platforms, and a front entrance. A groundbreaking ceremony took place in January 2023. Click HERE to read the whole story.

SPOTLIGHT ON CTE PROGRAMS



AISD's Chief Transformation Officer, Dr. Adrian Bustillos, discussed the company's CTE programs, which offer hands-on training in manufacturing, healthcare, information technology, and culinary arts. These programs bridge the gap between education and employment, equipping students with the competencies needed for a competitive job market. Bustillos also announced partnership with Memorial Hermann for medical career training. Click HERE to read the whole story.

HILL ELEMENTARY 5TH GRADER WINS AISD SPELLING BEE



Forty elementary and middle school students came together on February 21 to vie for the top spots in the District Spelling Bee. After a thrilling eight rounds of competition, Leonardo Escobar-Phan, a fifth-grader from Hill Elementary School, won the District Spelling Bee. Eduardo Soto, a fifth grader from Odom Elementary, secured a 2nd place finish. Leonardo and Eduardo will advance to the Scripps Houston Public Media Spelling Bee. Click HERE to read the whole story.

AISD STUDENT EARNS TEXAS THEATRE SCHOLAR AWARD





District student Chacen Cloud from Nimitz High School recently earned the Texas Theatre Scholars Award from Texas Thespians for the 2023-2024 school year.

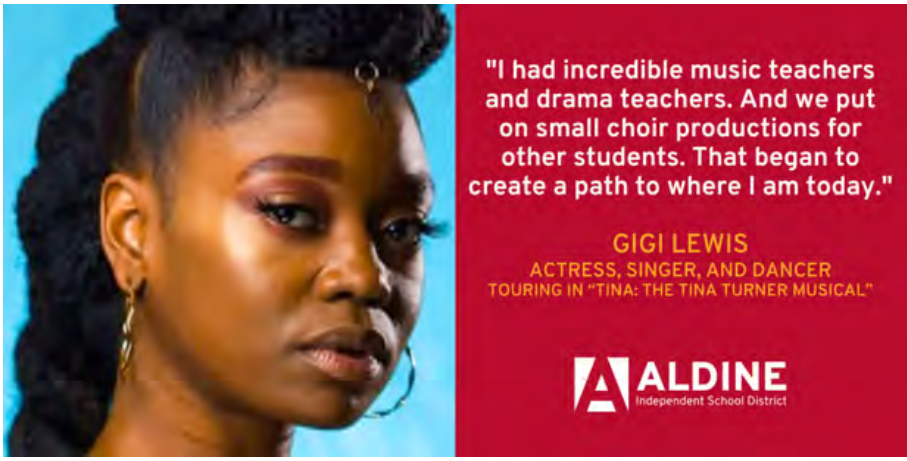
The initiative, launched in 2022-2023 from the Texas Thespians Advocacy Network, recognizes and honors high school theatre students who demonstrate achievement in theatrical performance, exhibit high academic success, and outstanding citizenship. Click HERE to read the whole story.

ALDINE HS GRAD STARS IN 'TINA: THE TINA TURNER MUSICAL'

Houston native and AISD grad Gigi Lewis forms part of the cast touring the U.S. in Tina: The Tina Turner Musical last month at the Hobby Center for the Performing Arts.

Lewis lauds the incredible music and drama teachers she had and the opportunities to participate in choir productions.

Click HERE to read the whole story.



COLLEGE SIGNING CEREMONIES: 35 STUDENT-ATHLETES EARN SCHOLARSHIPS



During February, Aldine ISD's five high schools — Davis, Nimitz, MacArthur, Eisenhower, and Aldine — held college signing ceremonies across the district.

The male and female student-athletes received the chance to continue their academic and athletic careers by signing with several colleges and junior colleges across Texas and the United States.

There could be other AISD student-athletes signing in the spring semester. Click HERE to read about the 35 student-athletes and which colleges they signed with.

BASKETBALL ROUND-UP

The Nimitz High Cougars advanced to the Region 2 Tournament in the Class 6A state basketball tournament. The Cougars won three playoff games to advance to the Regional Tournament, where they fell to Rockwall in the semifinals.

The Davis High School Falcons advanced to bi-district.

The Nimitz High School Lady Cougars won bi-district and advanced to the Area round of the Class 6A State Basketball Tournament, while the Davis High School Lady Falcons advanced to bi-district.





This is the deepest a Nimitz boys' team has advanced in the Class 6A basketball playoffs since 2003.



NIMITZ UIL INCLUSIVE BASKETBALL TEAM EARN SILVER AT REGIONALS

Congratulations to the incredible Nimitz High School UIL inclusive basketball team for winning the silver medal in Regionals! The team advanced to the state.

The Unified Champion Basketball games promote inclusion, teamwork, and sportsmanship among students with and without disabilities. The Nimitz team is coached by Julie Grutzmacher, Kendra Venzant, and Ben Wells and supported by the structured learning teachers and Principal Walter Stewart.



Grutzmacher is the Adapted Physical Education Department lead and one of the game organizers.

JONES ELEMENTARY GETS SURPRISE VISIT

Harris County Commissioner Precinct 3 and Harris County-Houston Sports Association recognized teacher Breanna Calloway of Jones Elementary for her unwavering dedication to education with a $1,000 check. The school also received a $4,000 monetary prize. Click HERE to see a video.



Pictured (l-r) are Calloway, Principal Dr. Darnisha Harvey, and representative from Harris County Commissioner Precinct 3.

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FAMILY AND COMMUNITY UNIVERSITY



The university provides strategies to increase family and community members' knowledge about resources and build participants' self-confidence to better support their children.

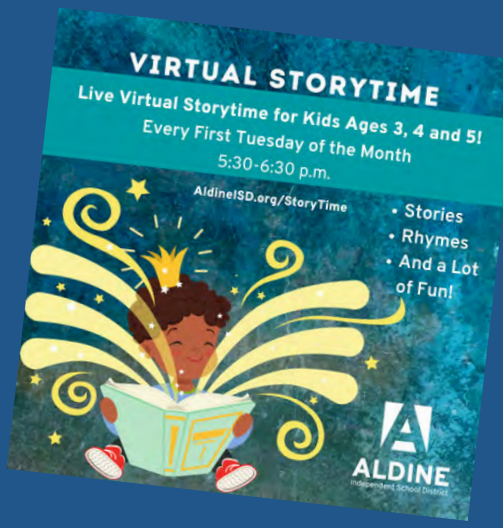
Sessions are provided in English and Spanish.

For convenience, parents, legal guardians, and community members have three ways to participate in sessions – in-person, virtual, and pre-recorded.

Click HERE to contact FACE for information.

Upcoming FACE Events

- First Tuesday of Every Month: Join us for Virtual Story Time! Virtual Story Time is for primary students (Grades EC/PreK/K), from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Learn more at AldineISD.org/StoryTime
- Visit the FACE Department webpage for details about upcoming events.





LEARN MORE ABOUT ALDINE ISD'S FAMILY AND COMMUNITY UNIVERSITY

Click here to view a video. Hear directly from parents who are Family and Community University graduates.

ALDINE Independent School District



ALDINE ISD CHIEF OF POLICE PAUL CÓRDOVA AND THE MULTILINGUAL DEPARTMENT INVITE YOU TO

ALDINE OFFICERS AND THE COMMUNITY

Learn how the Aldine Police Department is making our community safe and how you can protect your children.

JANUARY 17, 2023, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Topic: Aldine PD Response to Crisis and Consequences
M.O. Campbell Center Room 104 / 1865 Aldine Bender Rd., Houston, Tx. 77032

FEBRUARY 13, 2024, 9:30-11:00 a.m.
Topic: Gangs
Bamberg Professional Development and Resource Center, Room #5
9999 Veterans Memorial Dr., Houston, Tx. 77038

APRIL 30, 2024 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Topic: Summer Safety and Gun Safety
M.O. Campbell Center Room 104 / 1865 Aldine Bender Rd., Houston, Tx. 77032



For more information

281.985.2193
EGodoy@aldineisd.org

COMMUNITY POLICING
Hand in Hand With the Community

ALDINE Independent School District
MULTILINGUAL DEPARTMENT
For Familes of Emergent Bilingual Students

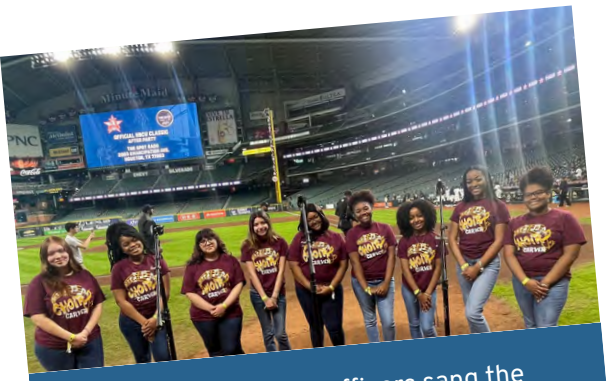
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BLACK HISTORY MONTH ROUND-UP

Aldine ISD celebrated Black History Month. Campuses planned BHM events and celebrations along with planned districtwide events. District administrative staff also had opportunities to observe the month with planned celebrations, events, and activities.





Carver High School officers sang the Negro National Athena and the National Anthem at the 2024 Cactus Jack HBCU Classic at Minute Maid Park.





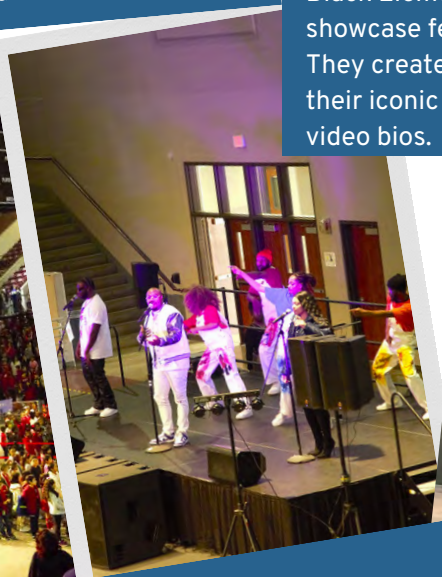


Black Elementary students curated a fantastic showcase featuring African American singers. They created QR codes to scan and groove to their iconic songs and view student-created video bios.









School Yard Rap brought Black history to life through music and student engagement, making learning fun and memorable!



Carver High School's choir visited the Bamberg Resource and Professional Development Building to kick off the day with a few songs for Black History Month. Click HERE to listen to the choir.


ALDINE
Independent School District
March
INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S DAY
#MyAldine #InspireInclusion
Celebrate women's achievements.
Raise awareness about discrimination.
Take action to drive gender parity.
MARCH 4-8
"Thank a Woman"
post on Social Media
YouTube: Phenomenal Woman
YouTube: Empowerment
MARCH 6, 20, 27
"Purple Out Wednesdays"
MARCH 19
"Strokes of Genius"
by Visual Arts Dept.
BAM 11 am-12 pm
max 30 people
Register here
MARCH 20
"Create Your Own Scent-Sational Essential Oil Spray" by SEL
DAB & BAM, 9-11 am,
located in the foyer
MARCH 18-21
"Purple Out Photo Challenge"
ILT celebration by CTE
MARCH 22
"Strokes of Genius"
by Visual Arts Dept.
DAB 9-10:30 am
max 30 people
Register here
MARCH 25
"Feel the Beat With Zumba"
BAM 11:30 am-12 pm
bring your tennis shoes
MARCH 27
"Feel the Beat With Zumba"
DAB 11:30 am-12 pm
bring your tennis shoes
MARCH 28
"Afternoon Delight"
by FACE
DAB & BAM, 1-2 pm

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UPCOMING EVENTS FOR THE COMMUNITY

- **Mar. 18:** The Board of Trustees Study Session starts at 6:30 p.m. in the Donaldson Admin. Bldg.-Boardroom..
- **Mar. 19:** The Board Meeting starts at 7 p.m. in the Donaldson Admin. Bldg.-Boardroom.

SPANISH CONVERSATION CLASS

The Family and Community University, in partnership with Lone Star College-East Aldine Center, will offer a Spanish Conversation Class for parents/legal guardians and community members. Participants must commit to all sessions. Call (281) 985-3786 for further information.

Spanish Conversation 1 & 2

Tuesdays and Thursdays
6-9 p.m.
March 19-April 11, 2024
LSC-East Aldine Center
2430 Aldine Mail Route Rd.
Houston, TX 77039

¡HOLA!

Click HERE to enroll.

STAY CONNECTED

Follow us by visiting AldineISD.org. Check out our District News and Aldine ISD pages to stay updated on all the great things happening in our district.

/AldineSchoolDistrict
/AldineISD
/AldineSchoolDistrict

GOT NEWS TO SHARE?

Do you have a story idea? Reach out to the Office of Communications: comms@aldineisd.org



COLLEGE COLORS MONDAYS



College Colors Day will become a permanent part of #MyAldine! For the rest of the '23-'24 school year, every Monday will be College Colors Day! All staff and students can wear jeans, tennis shoes, and a branded college, trade school, career, or military shirt! Remember, it has to be a branded shirt. That means it must have the logo — it can't just be school colors.



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MONTHLY OBSERVANCES

2023-2024

Click Here to View School Year Calendars (Traditional & ADSY)



MARCH

- Mar: Women's History Month
- Mar. 4-8: Celebrate Texas Public Schools Week/Discover Aldine ISD
- Mar. 8: International Women's Day*
- Mar. 8: End of Nine Weeks (ADSY)
- Mar. 11-15: Spring Break (All)
- Mar. 18: Start of Nine Weeks (ADSY)
- Mar. 22: End of Nine Weeks (Traditional)
- Mar. 25: Start of Nine Weeks (Traditional)
- Mar. 29: Student Holiday (All)
- Mar. 31: César Chávez Day

APRIL

- Natl. Bilingual/Multilingual Learner Advocacy Month
- Natl. School Library Month
- Natl. Volunteer Month
- Apr. 1: Student Holiday (ADSY)
- Apr. 1-5: TX Gifted & Talented (GT) Awareness Wk.
- Apr. 1-5: Natl. Assistant Principals Wk.*
- Apr. 3: Paraprofessional Appreciation Day*
- Apr. 4: School Librarian Appreciation Day*
- Apr. 9 & 10: ENVI210N School Days (ADSY)
- Apr. 10: Student Holiday/Staff Development Day (traditional)
- Apr. 12: Half-day for Students/Work Day (ADSY)
- Apr. 23: School Bus Drivers Day*
- Apr. 24: National Administrative Professional's Day*

REMINDERS FOR FAMILIES

- Outside food and beverages are prohibited on all secondary school campuses (middle, ninth-grade, and high school campuses) premises. Click here for details.
- The state requires high school seniors to apply for financial aid to graduate. — FAFSA Application link or TASFA Application links
- The state requires all entering college students to take the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) Assessment. (details).

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#MyAldine



KHOU Channel 11 News featured Aldine ISD's new 'HEAL' program, which will open in fall 2024. HEAL at Nimitz Ninth Grade will prepare AISD students with the skills needed to pursue careers in physical therapy, nursing, pharmacy, clinical administration, and imaging. Click HERE to see the story that aired.



Ermel Elementary students are seen embracing small group teaching with designated mini teachers. Notice them using math strategies and being patient with their peers. Thrilled to see one-way dual language firsties engaged and collaborated with each other.



OneGoal and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation visited Carver High School to speak with campus and district leaders and students. Aldine ISD Chief of Staff, Sheleah Reed, moderated the visit, which focused on discussions about college and career readiness.



Greenspoint Elementary: Ms. Romo's homeroom students celebrated with a pizza party for being the first class to hit an average puzzle goal progress of 100% on their STMathTX. Way to go, kiddos!



Griggs Primary's inaugural annual Black History Month Book Character Parade was successful! Teachers, students, and school friends did a great job showing their creativity!



VYPE held its Aldine ISD 2024 Spring Media Day recently. Check out the Davis High School behind-the-scenes hype video! Click HERE.

#MyAldine







Congratulations and job well done to Eisenhower High School, Aldine Middle School, and De Santiago Primary cafeteria staff for being honored for excellence by the USDA for their participation in the APEC review study!



Prairie View Trailriders visited Harris Elementary to help kick off Rodeo Houston! The students look forward to seeing the rodeo for a school field trip.









District CTE students did an excellent job answering questions and participating during the Teen CERT training.





Dave Campbell's Texas Football magazine and Texas Children's teamed up to spotlight student training squads in the Houston and Austin markets. They recently highlighted the hard work and dedication of the Aldine High School student training squad.