APRIL 5, 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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- STAAR Testing Dates
- Stories About Students and Programs
- Author Visits
- In Case You Missed It
- Staff News
- AISDPD Community Meeting Dates
- Sports Updates
- And much more!

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APRIL IS FULL ACTIVITIES, STAAR TESTING, AND 'THANK YOU' TO APs, PARAS, AND LIBRARIANS

As we move towards the end of the school year, my calendar fills up with events I've been looking forward to all year. From the PreK Expo, to Fun Day in the Park, Mariachi Acero's annual end-of-the-year concert, and Festival de Primavera, I hope to see you this month all across AISD — you'll find details about these events in this issue. We also have many activities scheduled for students across the district from spring open houses, proms, award events, and graduation ceremonies. Please be on the look out for announcements of activities.

(Continued on Page 2)

APRIL IS FULL ACTIVITIES, STAAR TESTING, AND 'THANK YOU' TO APs, PARAS, AND LIBRARIANS

(Continued From Page 1)

Everyone is closely watching the weather. The forecast has clouds, but hopefully, they will clear. I know many are looking forward to experiencing the solar eclipse. Many campuses across the district will use the event as a unique learning experience with planned activities. The district has secured viewers for students and staff members for a safe and engaging learning environment.

April is also an important time for our staff as they work to ensure that our students reach their academic goals for the school year. STAAR testing will begin next week on April 9. Your child's school will share more information; you can find a calendar in this issue. A lot is happening, so I encourage you to stay updated with campus communication and help us prioritize student attendance as we close the school year.

A school district excels based on the quality of its staff. There are a few staff members I want to recognize. This week was Assistant Principals Week. I loved serving as an AP from 2002 to 2004 — one of my favorite jobs ever! My primary responsibilities were textbooks, transportation, and discipline. The position has evolved, and so has my love for those who serve as APs. They are indispensable in supporting principals, teachers, and students.

On any given school day, there are many adults working to support student learning, including paraprofessionals. They are the backbones of the classroom for their work supporting student learning and well-being. They are essential members of a school's staff, providing different kinds of support that help make classrooms more inclusive. Thank you to our paraprofessionals who help our students grow and thrive. You are greatly appreciated!



Librarians wear many hats, but their role can be broken into three key parts: literacy advocate, resource manager, and research specialist. They help students and teachers find the information they need for their academic work and encourage a love of reading.

During National Bilingual Multilingual Learner Advocacy Month, take a moment to check out out Multilingual Services Department and the programs we offer. Also visit the Advanced Academics website to learn more about the Gifted and Talented offerings — this week was GT Awareness Week.

As with every issue of this newsletter, it is full of the latest news and information. The pages have active links. One final thought: Let's finish strong!

With Aldine Pride,

Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney
Superintendent

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April 6: PreK Expo & Enrollment Expo



Saturday, April 6
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Bamberg Professional Development and Resource Center
9999 Veterans Memorial Dr.

Parents will have the opportunity to learn what to expect from the AISD Prekindergarten Program, meet principals, and learn more about the school their child will attend.

District personnel will assist parents with one-on-one registration support.

What Else to Expect?

- Each prekindergarten (PreK) child who attends will receive a free backpack, books, and school supplies.
- Enjoy games, activities, music, and food!

NASA Administrator Visits and Solar Eclipse Watch



Earlier this week, a NASA administrator visited four AISD campuses leading up to the solar eclipse excitement for **Monday, April 8** — weather permitting. The Houston area will be experiencing a partial eclipse, starting from 12:20 p.m. and peaking at 1:40 p.m., lasting until 3:01 p.m. A number of schools across the district will use the celestial event as a unique educational experience. Click HERE to learn how the district will observe the astronomical event and eclipse viewing safety.

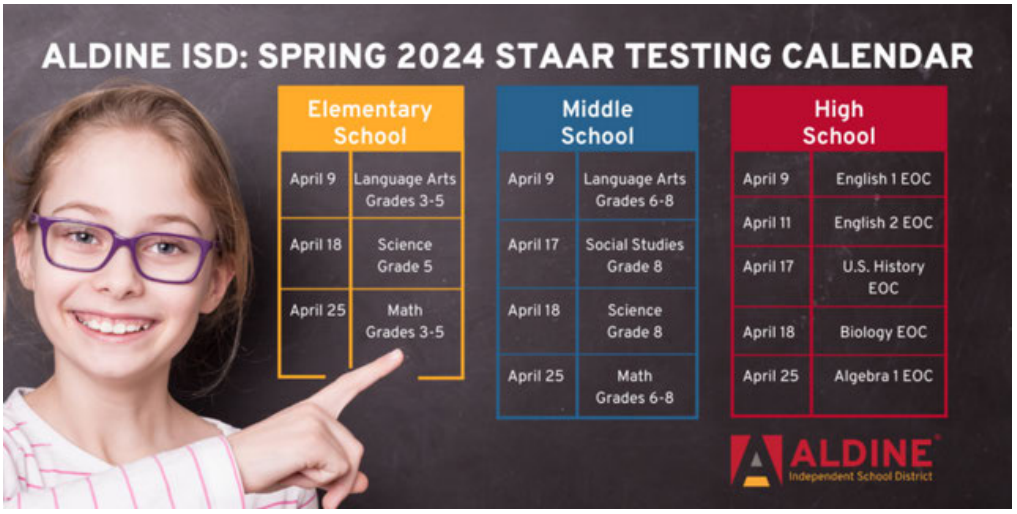
April 20: Fun Day in the Park; Supporting Students on the Autism Spectrum

The fun-filled event will offer resources to help support and empower families of students in Grades PreK-12. We have a variety of activities planned, including hands-on sensory activities, games, and crafts for all ages. Parents/legal guardians are encouraged to register if you plan to attend.

Saturday, April 20
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Registration Link:
https://tinyurl.com/bde932z6
East Aldine District Park
2800 Aldine Mail Rt.



STAAR Testing Starts Next Week: Testing for eligible students will occur from April 9-26. Click HERE to learn more about STAAR testing and tips on how you can help your student be comfortable and confident.







April 30: 'Liftoff to Lone Star College' Session

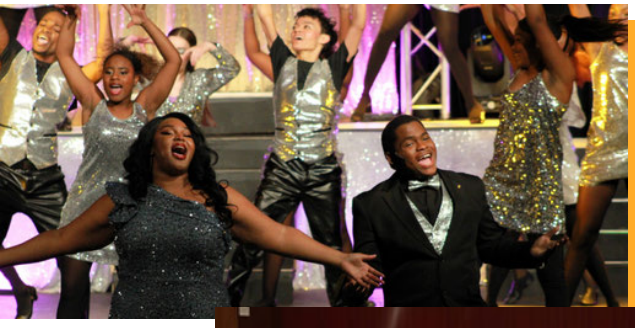
"Liftoff to Lone Star College" is a collaborative event between Lone Star College and Aldine ISD to support graduating high school seniors with disabilities as they transition to college. Click HERE to learn more.

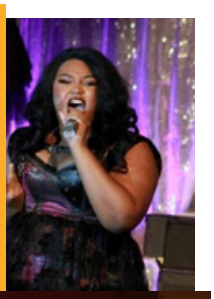
Tuesday, April 30
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
5:30-7:30 p.m.
M.O. Campbell Educational Center
Click HERE to register to attend.

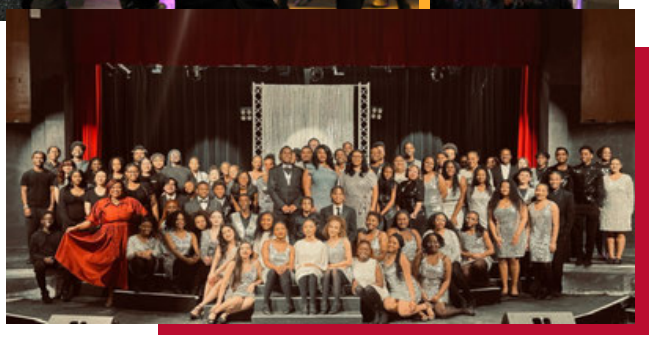
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Carver High School Theater Students Bring Home 4 Tommy Tune Awards, Including Outstanding Musical







Theatre Under The Stars (TUTS) 2024 Tommy Tune Awards Ceremony was held Thursday, March 28, at the Hobby Center for the Performing Arts. It marked the 20th celebration as one to be remembered. It certainly was memorable for Carver — for a second year in a row, the Choice School campus won the Outstanding Musical Award. Click HERE to read about the awards Carver HS students brought home, the production team, and the outstanding performing arts program at the campus. Also, read the student headed to the Jimmys this summer in New York City.

2 Students Bring in a Total of $57,000 at the Houston Rodeo School Art Auction



Martín Figueroa, MacArthur High School



Cristofer López, Anderson Academy

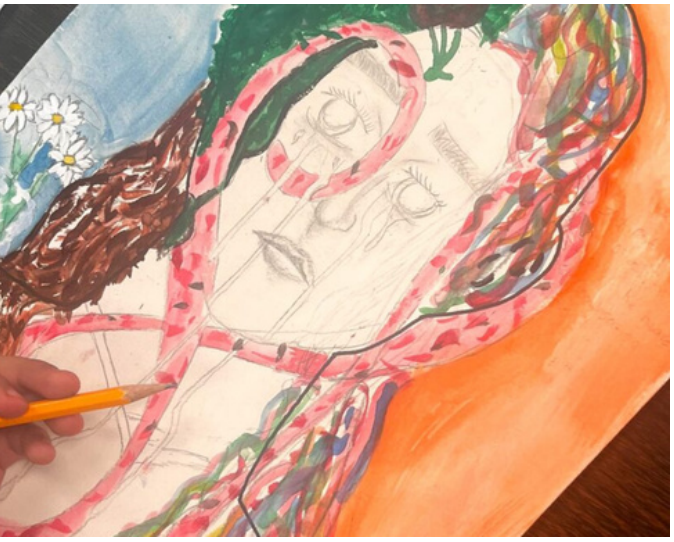
Cristofer López's artwork (Anderson Academy) fetched an impressive $47,000, and Martín Figueroa's piece (MacArthur High School) sold for $10,000 at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo (HLSR) School Art Auction held on March 10. Click HERE to read more about them and their art teachers.

District's Mariachi Acero Shines at Regional and State Competitions



For the first time, the mariachi group advanced to the state-level contest after earning Sweepstakes at regionals. Mariachi Acero received a 2nd Division Rating and seven outstanding medals for the best violin section at the state event. The group also played at the Mariachi Region Concert in March. Click HERE to read more.

CAMH Showcases the Young Talents of Hill Elementary Students



The Contemporary Arts Museum Houston (CAMH) invited the community to a special pop-up exhibition at Aldine Branch Library on March 19 featuring extraordinary works by Hill Elementary's students. In collaboration with the Teaching Artists in Classroom project, this exhibition celebrated the resilience, identity, and creativity of these young minds. CAMH proudly showcased the remarkable self-portraits created by Hill Elementary's Hill Hawks Art Club students in collaboration with teaching artist Janice Warren. Click HERE to learn more about the initiative and to view more students artworks.

A Student-Teacher Venture



Click HERE to read about AISD grad Zacchaeus Henry's venture with teacher Peter Smith. Henry and Eisenhower High School alumnus and former team quarterback had an idea for a barbershop. He got support and guidance from his father and Smith, a physics and astronomy teacher at Eisenhower. For Henry, the venture represents more than just a business: "It's a gateway to building relationships." For Smith, "it's about making a tangible impact on youth." Their vision is to sow the seeds of empowerment and self-sufficiency in individuals of all ages.

Empowering Dreams for All



Providing choices and opportunities for all students, today and for their future.

Last month, the Aldine Special Education Department held its Transitional Job Fair & College Expo. The annual event targets students with special needs and disabilities aged 16-22 considering their options after graduating high school. It serves as a gateway for students to explore career paths and college programs. Companies that are committed to being inclusive in the workforce were also present. Click HERE to read more about the fair/expo and the students who benefitted.

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Brianna Ponce Makes History as First Powerlifting State Champion in AISD



Brianna Ponce, a senior powerlifter from Aldine High School, won the gold medal in the unequipped division (165 pounds) at the Texas High School Women's Powerlifting Association's State Tournament. Brianna lifted 280 pounds in the squat, 140 pounds in the bench press, and 355 pounds in the deadlift for a total of 775 pounds, becoming the first student-athlete in Aldine ISD's history to win a state championship. Click HERE to read more about Brianna, her coach, and her teammates.



Davis Lady Falcons Take 14-6A District Title; 16 Golfers Qualify for Regionals

The Davis High School Girls Golf Team finished in first place at the District 14-6A meet. In addition, 16 Aldine ISD golfers qualified for the Region 2 Golf Tournament, slated for April 14-18, 2024, at Bear Ridge Golf Club in Waco. Click HERE to see the list of golfers from Davis HS, Aldine HS, and Nimitz HS.s.

5 AISD soccer teams secure playoff spots



It was a very competitive season where any team could win any week. With so much talent in District 14-6A, every coach knew that preparation and intentional practice were vital to earn a spot in the playoffs.

Women's soccer

The MacArthur women's team, led by rookie coach Leisy Olivares, completed another undefeated season, earning them the District 14-6A title. MacArthur advanced to the playoffs. Under the guidance of coach Mark Kuehl, the Aldine Lady Mustangs won their last five games of the District 14-6A season, securing them a spot in the playoffs.

Men's Soccer

After two competitive months, MacArthur won the title of District 14-6A champion. The male teams of MacArthur, Eisenhower, and Aldine secured playoff spots for the second consecutive year. The teams are led by Coach Salvador Fernández (MacArthur), Coach Daniel Bui (Eisenhower), and Coach Melbin Barahona (Aldine).

April Brings Author Visits: An Excellent Way to Create Excitement About Reading

International Bestseller Angie Thomas Visits Hoffman MS



Angie Thomas, author of "The Hate U Give," visited with select students at Hoffman Middle School on April 4 for the release of her latest book, "Nic Blake and the Remarkables." English language art teachers selected 150 students to attend the presentation, which included 45 receiving a VIP button to participate in a meet-and-greet and book signing after the presentation. Thomas is making her middle-grade debut by launching an inventive, hilarious, and suspenseful new contemporary fantasy trilogy inspired by African American history and folklore. Click Here to read more about the book, which is sure to interest students.

Bestseller Matt de la Peña to Visit With AISD Bilingual Second-Graders



Matt de la Peña, author of "Last Stop on Market Street," will be visiting with select Aldine ISD second-grade students at M.O. Campbell Educational Center on Monday, May 13, for the release of his latest book, "The Perfect Place," a moving picture book about the perils of perfectionism.

The event, sponsored by the Multilingual Services Department in collaboration with the Aldine Media Services Department, will invite selected second-grade bilingual students to listen to De la Peña and pick up a book for their home library in the language of their choice—English or Spanish.

Click HERE to read more about Matt de la Peña and a summary of his latest work.

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In Case You Missed It

Aldine ISD's Purchasing Department Earns Prestigious 'Award of Merit'

The Purchasing Department was bestowed the "Award of Merit for Purchasing Operations" by the Texas Association of School Business Officials (TASBO). The Award of Merit was established in 2009 to recognize Texas school districts, open-enrollment charter schools, and education service centers committed to following professional standards in acquiring goods and services. Click HERE to read more.

Theater Students Shine at Spring UIL One-Act Play Contests





Click HERE to read how Carver, Davis, and Nimitz high schools fared at Zone and District 14-6A One-Act Play events. Click HERE to see how Carver and Davis theater troupes did at the Bi-District event and advanced to the Area competition.

Houston Sports Authority, Chevron Make $53,300 Donation to AISD

During the March 19 Board meeting, the Houston Sports Authority and Chevron donated $53,300 to Aldine ISD as part of the Houston Loves Teachers (HLT) campaign. The funds will be used to purchase classroom supplies for selected teachers, help cover Field Day expenses at several AISD campuses, and provide two aspiring principals with funds for professional development this summer. Click HERE to read more.

Women's History Month

March went by in a blur! In case you missed the series featuring some leading ladies of Aldine ISD, here is your chance to learn more about:







- Principal Ana Flores-Bolivar
- Executive Director Gina Foroi
- Executive Director Susan D'Amico

Just click on the links above to read more about each Woman of Aldine.

Staff News

Years of Service Awards Recognition Reception

The Aldine ISD Employee Recognition reception will be held on Monday, May 13, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the M.O. Campbell Educational Center. The district will send invitations to employees who will be recognized via email and postal mail.

For details, please review the email Chief of Staff Sheleah D. Reed sent on Thursday, April 4. You'll find detailed information about service pins and who to contact in HR if you have questions about years of service.

Thank you in advance for your work and for choosing to serve the Aldine Independent School District.

AISD Employee Student Transfers

If you are a full-time employee of Aldine ISD and want your child to attend an AISD school on a student transfer (this excludes Choice Schools), it is time to submit a 2024-2025 transfer application. This includes students currently on a transfer who reside outside of Aldine ISD or will attend a new campus for the 2024-2025 school year.

For details, please review the email Chief of Schools Javier Villarreal sent on Thursday, April 4. You'll find detailed information about who must submit a transfer application, steps to access and submit the Employee Student Transfer Application, who to contact for additional information or questions, and other important information.





March: Women's History Month

Women's History Month wrapped up! Administrative staff enjoyed activities throughout the month from wearing purple to making perfume, to food. Thank you to everyone that made the activities and fun possible!

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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.

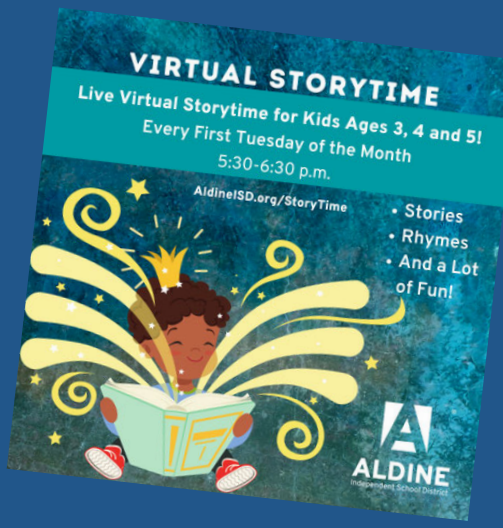
Sessions are provided in English and Spanish.

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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UPCOMING EVENTS FOR THE COMMUNITY

- **April 15:** The Board of Trustees Study Session starts at 5:15 p.m. in the Donaldson Admin. Bldg.-Boardroom..
- **April 16:** The Board Meeting starts at 7 p.m. in the Donaldson Admin. Bldg.-Boardroom.

FACE Offers Computer 101 Class

Learn how to open and access Email, navigate the Internet, write a résumé, use Class Dojo, how to access and use your school district HAC account, use Google to look for a job, translations, and more!

Computer 101 Class

Tuesdays and Thursdays thru May 2, 2024
6-8PM
Classes at Houston Academy

Register al https://shorturl.at/EIJ06 or call (281) 985-3786

Class will be delivered in English and Spanish.

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)

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

MAY

Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month

- May 1: Decision Day (College Decision Day)
- May 6-10: Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 3: School Lunch Hero Day
- May 8: School Nurse Day
- May 10: School Communicators Day
- May 15-21: National Police Week
- May 18: Speech Pathologist Day
- May 24: Half Day for Students / Work Day (ADSY)
- May 27: Student Holiday (all students)
- May 30: Last Day of Classes (traditional)
- May 31: Student Holiday/Staff Development Day (traditional)

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



Fourteen La Promesa TAFE students advanced to the state competition held in Round Rock, TX, and ight of them advanced to nationals! They will head to Washington, D.C., to compete this summer!



Congratulations to Nimitz HS head coach, Kendra Venzant, on earning her second District 14-6A Coach of the Year honors. Congratulations also to the coaching staff and our athletes. Great job this season!



SUPERINTENDENT GOFFNEY: You're looking at #MyAldine Superintendent Student Ambassador who will make history: Christian Acosta, a senior, will be the FIRST Eisenhower HS student EVER to earn an associate degree — 18 courses and 64 college hours — at Lone Star College-Houston North BEFORE graduating high school! He is also an early admit to Johns Hopkins University! Congratulations!





P-TECH Mechatronics at Carver HS Team 9515 attended its second FIRST Robotics Competition and advanced to the FIRST in Texas Robotics Tournament based on their VEX robotics project. The students also won the Top Safety Awards of the tournament!



NASA visited several AISD schools. KHOU Channel 11 came out cover it. NASA also brought viewing kits for the solar eclipse.

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#MyAldine



Thank you to Senator Carol Alvarado's staff for hosting Young Women's Leadership Academy students at the Texas Capitol.



Hill Elementary Art Club students dazzled at their exhibition reception at the Houston Public Library. Families soaked in the fun atmosphere and marveled at the fabulous student artwork (self-portraits and writings) on display. It was a celebration of creativity and community!



Susan D'Amico, executive director of child nutrition services, is seen advocating for school meal programs with the School Nutrition Association during the Legislative Action Conference in Washington, D.C. Access to healthy and nutritious meals for all students is our main priority!

Superintendent Dr. Goffney: I am super proud of our Multilingual Department, which had eight submissions accepted to present at the National Association for Bilingual Education! Educators from across the US attended to hear how our Aldine ISD teachers and leaders are working to dramatically improve student outcomes!





Superintendent Goffney: Thank you, State Representative Armando Walle, for convening this meeting of Aldine ISD leaders, the Lone Star College Chancellor, and the University of Houston-Downtown President. I am super excited about this collaboration and the choices and opportunities it will provide for #MyAldine students! This will be a national model!



Superintendent Goffney was honored to speak at See to Succeed, celebrating 11 years of participation. This initiative provides free eye exams and glasses, enhancing students' vision and shaping a brighter future.