MAY 30, 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!



In This Issue

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- Free Summer Meals
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- And much more!

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ANOTHER YEAR OF CELEBRATIONS & GRATITUDE

As we close the 2023-2024 school year, I am filled with immense pride and joy as we reflect on our district's achievements and milestones. This year has been a testament to our growth, resilience, and remarkable success, and it is our shared privilege to celebrate these highlights together.

First and foremost, I want to extend my heartfelt congratulations to our students. Your hard work, dedication, and passion for learning have been truly inspiring. From excelling in academics to showcasing your talents in athletics, arts, and extracurricular activities, you have demonstrated what it means to be a part of our vibrant school community.

(Continued on Page 2)

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ANOTHER YEAR OF CELEBRATIONS & GRATITUDE

(Continued From Page 1)

Our dedicated teachers and staff have played a pivotal role in guiding and supporting our students throughout the year. Your unwavering commitment to providing a nurturing and challenging educational environment has significantly impacted our students' lives. Thank you for going above and beyond to ensure that every student has the opportunity to succeed and thrive.

This year, one of the most significant achievements came from the community passing all three Bond 2023 proposals, totaling $1.8 billion. It is a testament to our ongoing partnership and commitment to providing learning environments that prepare our students for the future.

Our community's support has been instrumental in our success. We have created a strong and supportive network that empowers our students to reach their full potential, including the start of the HEAL program at Nimitz HS, our collaboration with Memorial Hermann, and the Bloomberg Foundation.



The final meeting of this school year with my amazing Superintendent's Parent Advisory! Thank you for helping us continue to evolve, improve, and demonstrate every student's promise to graduate with choices and opportunities!

This is a momentous time for our graduating seniors as they embark on the next chapter of their lives. Whether heading to college, entering the workforce, or pursuing other passions, know that you have a strong foundation and a supportive community cheering you on. Your future is bright, and I am excited to see and hear everything you will accomplish.

I am optimistic and excited as we prepare for the 2024-2025 school year. Getting us there will be our new five-year strategic plan that we will roll out this summer. With everyone's collective efforts, I am confident that we will continue elevating the learning experience for all.

In closing, I express my deepest gratitude to each of you for your invaluable contributions to our district's success. I encourage everyone to take this time to reflect on the past year's achievements, relax, recharge, and enjoy a well-deserved break. I wish you all a safe, restful, and enjoyable summer.

I look forward to welcoming everyone back for the 2024-2025 school year, recharged and ready for another year of learning and growth. I am confident that we will continue to achieve even greater heights together.

With Aldine Pride,

Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney

Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney
Superintendent

MAY 30, 2024

2023-2024 POINTS OF PRIDE

If you follow us on social media or our district website, you know a lot is happening in Aldine, from programs and student achievement to school distinctions and staff recognition. Below is a small sampling of some of the highlights and points of pride from the 2023-2024 school year:

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Academic

- 3 Aldine ISD High Schools Rank Among Best in Nation by U.S. News & World Report
- Memorial Hermann Health System, Aldine ISD Launch Innovative Health Care-Focused HEAL Program at Nimitz HS
- 1 High School Named to Prestigious AP School Honor Roll for 2023
- PreK3 Classes Expanding to All 12 AISD Primary Schools in Fall 2024
- District Expanded Dual Credit Access to High School Sophomores in '23-'24 School Year
- Over 50 Aldine ISD High School Students Named 2023 College Board National Recognition Program Awardees
- 8 AISD Magnet Schools Earn National Merit Awards
- AISD High School Named Champion at UIL Academic Bi-District Contest
- 1 AISD Student Sweeps State and Earns Claude Boutin Award of Excellence
- 2 Schools Become First AISD Teams to Compete at Pentathlon Nationals
- All-Boys Campus Chess Team Brings Home National Medals

Performing Arts

- AISD High School Theater Students Bring Home 4 Coveted Tommy Tune Awards, Including Outstanding Musical
- 1 AISD High School One-Act Play Theater Troupe Advanced to State
  - Finished fifth overall; 1 student named Honorable Mention All-Star cast
- 1 AISD Elementary School Choir Selected to Perform With the Texas Music Educators Association Performance Choir
- District's Mariachi Program Shines at Regional and State Competitions
  - Earned a First Division in the Concert and Sight Reading Evaluation competition; it advanced to the State UIL Competition for the first time and received an Excellent rating.
- Click HERE for all UIL national, state, and area qualifiers.



2023-2024 POINTS OF PRIDE (continued)

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Visual Arts

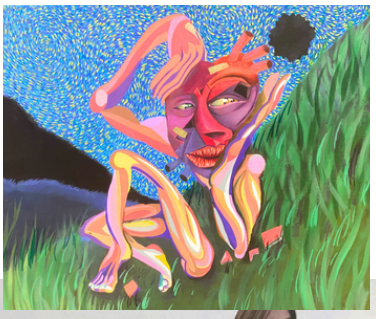
- Aldine Named District of Distinction for 5th Consecutive Year by Texas Art Education Association
- Texas School Business Magazine Features AISD's, Houston METRO's Art That Moves People Initiative
- Students Earn 41 Awards, 1 American Vision Nomination at 2024 Regional Scholastic Art & Writing Awards
- 19 AISD Students Advance State Visual Arts Scholastic Event; Students Earn 10 Medals
- 2 Students Bring in a Total of $57,000 at the Houston Rodeo School Art Auction
- 6 AISD Choice Schools Hosted 2nd Annual Collaborative Student Art Show
- A Mural of Dedication and Gratitude (a collaboration between the College Football Playoff Foundation, the 2024 Host Committee, Good Reason Houston, and AISD)
- CAMH Showcases the Young Talents of AISD Elementary Campus Students at Pop-Up Exhibition

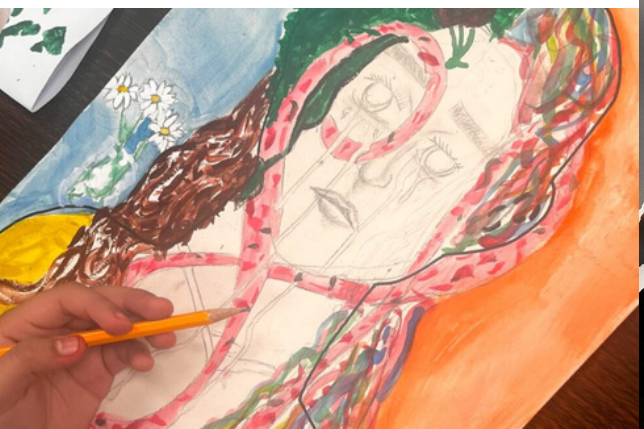
SCHOOL CULTURE

- AISD Campus Wins MSMS Best Visual and Performing Arts Award
- AISD Campus: NewSchools' Video Features How the School Builds a Culture Where Students Excel
- Good Reason Houston Names 2 AISD Campuses Among Inaugural 'Schools That Inspire' Honorees
- AISD Implements New Centegix Badges for Campus Staff

MISSION-DRIVEN LEADERSHIP

- District Develops Professional Development to Support Culturally Responsive Practices
- AISD Hosted the 3rd Annual Virtual Literacy Matters Conference









2023-2024 POINTS OF PRIDE (continued)

ORGANIZATIONAL EFFICIENCY



- Aldine Voters Approve All 3 Propositions in $1.8 Billion School Bonds
- All District Students Eat FREE in the 2023-2024 School Year
- AISD's Finance Department Earns Certificate of Achievement From GFOA
- AISD's Financial Services Department Receives ASBO's Top Financial Reporting Awards
- AISD Earns State's Highest Fiscal Accountability Rating for 20th Straight Year
- Schools Office Undergo Reorganization
- Core Team Leadership Changes for the 2023-2024 School Year
- District Names New Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning
- District Names Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Schools Team 1
- Teaching and Learning Reorganizes, Professional Learning Expanded

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH



- Hazel Health Telehealth Program offered families FREE student physical services.
- AISD collaborates with USDA to launch the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program at 13 elementary schools
- AISD partners with the University of Houston-Downtown in Bilingual E-Library
- The 2024 FFA Auction raised $168,250 for AISD student projects
- Aldine ISD's FACE Department distributed nearly 6,000 school supplies to families at the Back-To-School Expo; hosted the Annual Fall Family Conference, Community Partnership Meetings, the Annual Female Empowerment Summit, and more!
- District's Police Department Hosts Several Successful Events: Paint catalytic converters events with CTE students, community meetings, and the inaugural Trunk-or-Treat Spooktacular, where more than 600 attended.
- AISD departments Hosted several districtwide events like the Day of Learning (dyslexia), the annual Transition Expo and Transitional Job Fair and Career Expo (special educ.), the 3rd Annual Festival de Primavera (all-Spanish event), Parent Leadership Academy, Choice Schools Festival, and so much more!
- Science Department Partnered with NASA ahead of the solar eclipse; a NASA representative visited 4 campuses and donated kits to watch the solar eclipse.
- AISD's FACE Department Hosts the 3rd Annual Family and Community University Graduation Ceremony; Enrollment has soared to 1,900 parents this year, and 540 parents/legal guardians have completed graduation requirements. (Page 8)

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Class of 2024 Top Students

The district held its 5th Annual Superintendent's Top 10 Scholars celebration. The scholars, which included the valedictorians and salutatorians, represented each of AISD's 10 high schools.



AISD, Memorial Hermann Kickoff HEAL Program Partnership With Name Unveiling Ceremony



Aldine ISD and Memorial Hermann kicked off their partnership of the HEAL (Health Education and Learning) program at Nimitz High School with a name unveiling ceremony. The transformative initiative will open doors for students in the 2024-25 school year. This $250 million program, supported by an initial $31 million investment from Bloomberg Philanthropies, will connect health and education systems to create new career and technical education (CTE) high schools nationwide in 10 urban and rural communities. The program will offer a unique blend of work-based learning and classroom-based experiences, including guest lecturers, workshops, and mock hospital simulations.

It will also include a Memorial Hermann Mentorship Program, volunteer opportunities, and employment opportunities starting in the 11th grade. A Summer Infusion Program will enhance professional knowledge and skills with stipend opportunities in the 11th grade. HEAL graduates will have a guaranteed priority interview at Memorial Hermann for pathway positions (Nursing, Physical and Occupational Rehabilitation, Medical Imaging, Pharmacy, Non-Clinical Medical Administration), ensuring a promising start to their careers in the healthcare industry.

All-Boys Academy Chess Team Brings Home National Medals



The chess team at Impact Leadership Academy has had a fantastic journey. This spring, that journey led them to the 2024 National Middle School (K-8) Championships, held in Atlanta. The academy's U900 chess team placed seventh in the nation, and its U700 team earned 12th, a remarkable achievement. Additionally, two students placed 20th and 30th in the country.

In Other ILA News

The all-boys campus is a distinctive partnership between Aldine ISD and Prairie View A&M University. In a moment of great honor, the school presented President Dr. Tomikia P. LeGrande, the new PVAMU president, with an artwork. This artwork was a heartfelt expression of our appreciation for her leadership.

As the year drew to a close, the ILA students were privileged to partake in a unique learning opportunity. They visited Rice University for a mathematical campus tour, an experience that enriched their understanding of the subject.

Good Reason Houston Names Kujawa Primary and Impact Leadership Academy Among Inaugural 'Schools That Inspire' Honorees



The two Aldine ISD campuses that made Good Reason Houston's inaugural list of Schools That Inspire award honorees are Kujawa Primary School and Impact Leadership Academy. Both campuses are Choice School options within Aldine ISD.

The Schools That Inspire initiative highlights those leading in three transformative areas: PreK education, Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs, and Social Emotional Learning (SEL) initiatives. These efforts are not just about recognition but about shaping a promising future of education in Houston, where students are equipped with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed.







Aldine ISD recently hosted the annual Employee Service Awards event, recognizing and celebrating nearly 330 district employees who have reached significant career milestones — 20, 25, 30+ years. The event honored teachers, administrators, support staff, operations workers, and law enforcement officers for their decades of service, significantly shaping the district's success and positively influencing students. The event symbolizes the district's commitment to excellence in education.



AISD Hosts Family and Community University Graduation for Over 500

Aldine ISD's Family and Community Engagement (FACE) Department celebrated the graduation of 540 graduating parents and caregivers from Family and Community University (FCU). The event, attended by AISD Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney, district board members, FCU, and district leaders, showcased the transformative power of education. FACE's free classes and events are accessible to all, regardless of background or circumstances. This year, 1,900 parents enrolled in FCU courses, and the new school year will be announced in August. Click HERE to see the FCU 2024 Graduation Ceremony video.

Participating AISD Schools Offering Free Summer Meals for Kids



Aldine ISD and the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) are teaming up to provide a crucial service to our community. Participating AISD campuses will offer healthy, no-cost summer meals to children aged 18 and younger and students with disabilities up to 21 years old. The initiative is made possible through the Seamless Summer Option (SSO), a nutrition program administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Texas. The meals are a lifeline for children who rely on school meals during the academic year. Click HERE for a list of Aldine ISD Summer 2024 Feeding Sites and meal service times.

Visit Our Auxiliary & Substitute Positions Job Fair Set for June 1





Make This Summer BRILLIANT!



- Academics, sports, creative arts, and more!
- Options for students in Grades PreK4-12
- Visit SummerSchool.AldineISD.org

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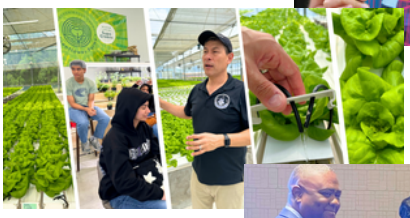
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Upcoming Events for the Community

- **June 10:** The Board of Trustees Study Session. The Study Session starts at 6:30 p.m. in the Donaldson Admin. Bldg.-Boardroom.
- **June 11:** The Board Meeting starts at 7 p.m. in the Donaldson Admin. Bldg.-Boardroom.
- **May/June: High school** graduation ceremonies will run from May 29 through June 1. Click HERE to view the dates and times for the 10 high school campuses.











Other Recent News

- Best-selling Author Matt de la Peña Meets With 2nd Grade Bilingual Students
- Conley, Gray, and Sammons Held Closing Events
- Rosalind Burns Receives Excellence in Education Award
- Carver Students Conclude Their Urban Farming, Nutritional Journey
- 9th Annual Physical Education Show Highlights Programs Across AISD
- VIDEO: National Police Week

Stay Connected

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

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Got News to Share?

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



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Monthly Observances



2023-2024

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

2024-2025

Click on TRADITIONAL Calendar or ADSY Calendar to view each one.

JUNE

- June 19: Juneteenth (Day of Freedom)



Back to SCHOOL

We will welcome students back on the following dates:

First Day of School

ADSY Calendar

Monday, July 22

Students at Ermel Elementary School, Harris ES, Smith ES, and Vines EC/PreK/K School.

Traditional Calendar

Monday, August 12

All other students.

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



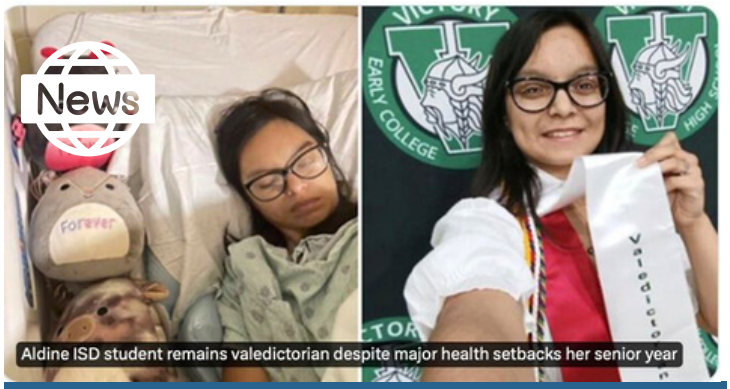
Superintendent Goffney: I visited with #MyAldine Teachers at Escamilla ES! I love witnessing the power of teaching in #MyAldine classrooms!



Superintendent Goffney: Leadership matters, and these four principals have over 100 years of @AldineISD experience and will be retiring at the end of the year! Their legacies are incredible and inspirational, and each one will be difficult to replace! Well done!



Andrew Mondragon, a senior at MacArthur High School, won State Champion at SkillsUSA and plans to major in Computer Engineering at Texas A&M University-Kingsville.



Thank you, @KHOU, for shining a light on one of our own! Despite significant health setbacks in her senior year, this incredible Aldine ISD student remains valedictorian. Her resilience and determination are truly inspiring. A must-read story: https://shorturl.at/agkEQ



A current Kujawa Primary graduate. A future Aldine ISD graduate! Congratulations to all the grads!

Engaging conversations in our first @AldineISD Parent #Leadership Academy Network. We had a wonderful time with colleagues and advocates from across the state! #MiAldine





Our very first AISD Fine Arts Signing Day was a huge success! Congratulations to all of our scholarship recipients!



Congratulations to Mr. John Gray @AldineHS_AISD for being named @AldineISD Advanced Academics Teacher of the Year. Mr. Gray and AHS have seen a 700% growth in OnRamps Chemistry students this year alone. #MyAldine #MiAldine