

## Bond work paying dividends

Wednesday, Aug. 23 was a momentous day for the district as the brand new [AISD Dan Dipert Career and Technical Center](#), a centerpiece of the 2014 Bond program, opened for students.

Ginger Polster, CTC principal, described the memorable day:

“After more than three years of planning, today we welcomed students from across the district to the AISD Dan Dipert Career and Technical Center,” she said. “To see the faces of our young adults look upon the CTC and realize the opportunities they now have will forever be etched in my memory. The students’ expressions and words said it all. Just a few of the many things they said today included:

‘How cool is this,’  
‘I can’t believe I get to go



The Dan Dipert Career and Technical Center is now open for students.

to school here,’  
‘I wish I could stay here,’  
‘This is unbelievable,’  
‘I’m going to be able

to get a job when I leave here.”  
Polster continued, “The first day at the CTC was

an absolute success, which would not have been possible without

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## A message from Dr. Cavazos

With the school year less than two weeks old, it’s already been a busy start to what I expect will be a successful and memorable 2017-2018 school year.

As you can tell by reading this issue of *My AISD*, we’ve hit the ground running for the school year.

There was no summer break for work being done through the 2014 Bond, with the new AISD Dan Dipert Career and Technical Center opening up for students this month. There’s also plenty of other bond work being done across the AISD to help provide better opportunities for our students and staff.

From my experience at the tweet-along on the first day of school, I can tell how

excited our teachers and staff members are to get going this school year. Even though it was only the first day, I saw teachers already engaged and working to help their students excel. Your hard work will help the potential get real for AISD students.

One of the reasons teachers were ready to go is because so many spent time this summer working on their craft at the Summer Institute. I would like to thank everyone who played a role in making the institute the success it was.

And congratulations to everyone who went above and beyond in providing outstanding customer service in the district.

# Intentionally designed lessons vital

We hope that you enjoyed your time off with your families and friends and that you were able to take some well-earned quality time for yourselves. The summer months provide us each with an opportunity to get re-energized and to get re-acquainted with our personal hobbies and interests. It is our hope that your summer months have been invigorating and that you are looking forward to the upcoming school year with enthusiasm!

This school year is full of exciting new opportunities! It's a chance to further stretch ourselves as learners and refine our practice as we seek to provide students with meaningful experiences that will prepare them for their futures. Have you ever paused and wondered what we are preparing students for? We often say "their futures," but what is in the future? The interesting thing about the word future is that it embodies great potential within an unknown context. So how do we ensure that students are exceptionally prepared to actively contribute to a future society and engage in work that is not yet even imagined?

As we have pondered that question,



## THE LEARNER'S EXPERIENCE

we have realized that not only must we ensure students master content, but also that we must intentionally design and provide each learner with daily experiences that allow them to develop future-ready skills that launch them to their desired destinations. So what are these future-ready skills? What is the profile of an Arlington ISD graduate that we believe is exceptionally prepared?

An exceptionally prepared student:

- Models responsible citizenship
- Is self-directed and intrinsically motivated
- Collaborates with individuals who think and act differently.
- Can think critically and synthesize information in a way that effectively solves real problems that affect our world
- Communicates effectively with others verbally and in writing

Just as young children learn to walk by mastering movement and practicing daily, we too must work to intentionally design daily learning experiences that foster and develop these skills in our young people.

I want to wish you a terrific start to the school year! I hope your reunion with your learners is filled with excitement. May you experience deep joy this year as you facilitate your learners making their true potential become real.

*Dr. Steven Wurtz is the chief academic officer for the AISD*

## September Dates

Library Card Sign-up Month  
arlingtonlibrary.org

Sam Houston HS Homecoming	Sept. 1
Christa McAuliffe's Birthday	Sept. 2
Labor Day (Staff Holiday)	Sept. 4
Grandparents' Day	Sept. 10
Cowboys Begin Super Bowl Run	Sept. 10
National Arts in Education Week	Sept. 10-16
Patriot Day	Sept. 11
U.S. National Chocolate Day	Sept. 13
Arlington HS Homecoming	Sept. 15
Hispanic Heritage Month Begins	Sept. 15
Stepfamily Day	Sept. 16
Citizenship Day & Constitution Day	Sept. 17
Rosh Hashanah Begins (sundown)	Sept. 20
Peace Day	Sept. 21
Rosh Hashanah Ends (sundown)	Sept. 22
First Day of Autumn	Sept. 22
End of First Six Weeks	Sept. 29
Yom Kippur	Sept. 29-30

## Orange Frog Workshop coming in November

The AISD will host the Orange Frog Workshop Nov. 7-9 at the PDC.

The event is in partnership with International Thought Leaders Network.

The [workshop](#) tries to create a more positive and productive workplace.

It focuses on discovering a blueprint for increasing employee engagement and tapping into people's intrinsic motivations for higher productivity and results.

The event is based on the works of Shawn Achor, who spoke at the PDC during the spring. Achor is the author of *The Happiness Advantage: The Seven Principles of*



**Shawn Achor and Dr. Steven Wurtz**

*Positive Psychology that Fuel Success and Performance at Work.*

Tina Baze, Specialist  
Risk Management  
Arlington ISD  
1203 W. Pioneer  
Arlington, TX 76013  
Office: 682-867-7649  
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**\*\*\* Accident \*\*\***

**What to Do Next?**

- Contact supervisor. If an emergency response professional is needed, call 911.
- Contact the risk management office 682-867-7649.
- Complete workers comp packet.
- Completed packet should be sent to risk management office at the administration building.

**People will forget what you said,**

**People will forget what you did,**

**But people will never forget how you made them feel.**

**Maya Angelou**

# Risk Management Review

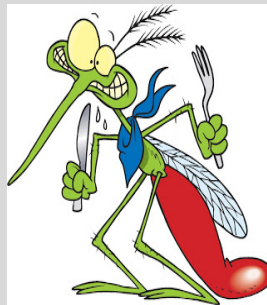
## August 2017

### Hydration

Our bodies depend on water to survive. Every cell, tissue and organ in our bodies needs water to work properly. We should drink 6 to 8 eight-ounce glasses of water each day. Be sure to stay hydrated.



### Guard Against Zika Virus



While Zika virus is not common in Texas, it serves as a reminder that many mosquito-borne diseases can affect the health and safety of Texas' students, faculty and staff. We should monitor conditions that can lead to the breeding of pests (i.e., mosquitos), including garbage accumulation, overgrown vegetation and stagnant water.

### Proper Lifting

Do not attempt to lift by bending forward. Bend your hips and knees to squat down to your load, keep it close to your body and straighten your legs to lift. Never lift a heavy object above your shoulders. Avoid turning or twisting while lifting.



### Automobile Accidents

Minimize distractions such as using cell phones, picking up items from the floor, changing radio stations or reading. Allow plenty of time to arrive to your destination. Be courteous behind the wheel, don't give into road rage. Leave a safe distance between your vehicle and the vehicle in front of you. Be aware of your surroundings and you can avoid an accident and arrive at your destination safely.



**Be Alert and Stay Safe!**



# First day of school tweet-along



Ousley Junior High



Barnett Junior High



Bebensee Elementary



Wood Elementary

12,446 steps  
86.2 miles  
15 stops  
12 schools  
10 hours  
1 eclipse



Goodman Elementary



Amos Elementary



# First day of school tweet-along



Johns Elementary



Young Junior High



Larson Elementary



Pope Elementary



Ousley Junior High



Hill Elementary



The drive home



Swift Elementary



**ACCESSIBILITY**  
**TANGIBLES**  
**RELIABILITY**  
**RESPONSIVENESS**  
**EMPATHY**



**Accessibility**

**Dominic Harrison**  
**Records Management**

**What they said:** We want to thank Dominic in records management. He is always very helpful, accessible and responsive to the HR department in our times of need.



**Tangibles**

**Luis Echeverria**  
**Warehouse**

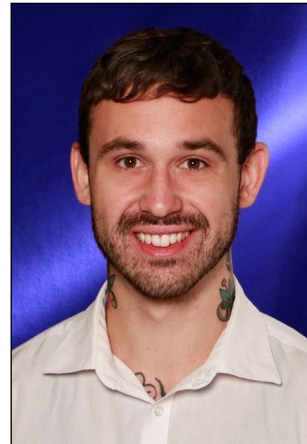
**What they said:** He provided excellent customer service at the warehouse on a recent visit with my colleagues. He was very accessible as he greeted us, answered questions and showed us well-organized furniture options.



**Reliability**

**Shelley McNamara**  
**Human Resources**

**What they said:** Shelley wears many hats. The entire department depends on her for assistance with our daily work activities. When you give Shelley a task, she gets on top of it as soon as possible.



**Responsiveness**

**Frank Sack**  
**Web Services**

**What they said:** During the very busy time of the launch of the new AISD website, he took time to address my concerns. He was accessible from the first email I sent. He continued to be reliable and responsive as we worked through some difficulties.



**Empathy**

**Brian O'Briant**  
**Plant Services**

**What they said:** He deserves to be recognized for his outstanding customer service, especially at the Enterprise Centre. Brian is always calm, kind and courteous. He does a great job of explaining what is going on and never leaves without resolving the issue.

**A customer forms an impression of service received over time depending on a range of experiences. Have you recently experienced exemplary service from anyone in the AISD? If so, affirm their practice by sending a shout out to [aisdserves@aisd.net](mailto:aisdserves@aisd.net), and we'll recognize them! Be sure to let us know which component of the framework was exemplified (accessibility, tangibles, reliability, responsiveness or empathy).**

# Summer Institute a huge success

As educators, we serve in a profession with new beginnings and ceremonial endings. We celebrate graduating one group of students while ushering in another. While summer may signify slower days and vacation for some, it also offers valuable time for professional learning. This past June and August marked the implementation of the third-consecutive year for the Arlington ISD Summer Institute hosted by the professional learning department and enjoining administrators and educators from academic services, administration and technology departments.

During this year's summer institute, the Arlington ISD forged strategic alliances with the International Center for Leadership in Education (ICLE), Kagan Publishing and Professional Development, Search Institute, and Texas Educators for Restorative Practices to strategically advance a multitude of professional learning opportunities centered on increasing student growth. At the heart of every session was an emphasis on student-centered instruction. Featured sessions allowed participants to invest in actualizing how to bridge the focus on student-centered instruction with best practices, including data-driven instruction, differentiation and effective questioning.

Departments extended stellar learning experiences at the summer institute through a variety of symposiums. Each symposium was specifically designed with input from the field, and, of upmost importance, aligned to prioritize student needs. Talk about taking learning "to infinity and beyond!" World languages sponsored a symposium titled, "Kagan Structures to Skyrocket Comprehension and Fluency." This course introduced and reinforced strategies participants will implement to promote English fluency while improving mastery of academic content. Our cups runneth over with learning, and instructional technology sponsored, "It's Time for a Refill," adding the best new tech tools for engaging students, assessing knowledge and delivering curriculum to the menu. Two symposiums, "Restorative Chats," sponsored by



student behavioral support systems and, "Igniting Sparks," sponsored by guidance and counseling, proved to be a transformational experience for participants as they honed in on how to build relationships with students through conversations, questions, reflections, motivations and actions.

The breakout sessions also drew large crowds. Canvas took center-stage as instructional technology offered tiers of learning options for teachers and administrators. The Canvas courses were extremely popular and continued our strong trajectory toward achieving expected outcomes for blended learning associated with the *Achieve Today. Excel Tomorrow.* strategic plan. The makerspace session made its debut with library media services transforming the Seguin High School library into a wildy creative learning space. Participants experiencing the makerspace tinkered their learning across more than 20 stations. Thanks to our curriculum and instruction department, inquiring minds explored how to promote critical thinking across content and strategies for amplifying student voice and choice. Breakout sessions addressing diverse learners were abundant as the advanced academics, special education, and state and federal programs departments brought impactful learning around ELL, GT, special education and Title I student needs.

Summer Institute 2017 also marked the introduction of the first AISD EdCamp, a participant-driven, un-conference that empowers educators to maximize professional learning experiences and peer networks. So, you may be asking: What did our EdCamp participants connect around both as learners and learning leaders? Here are some of the topics that achieved billboard status and that will be coming to classrooms around the AISD in 2017-2018: blogging and digital journals, differentiation and small group instruction, effective collaboration tools, flexible seating configurations, gamifying learning, goal setting and tracking data, learning by observing/lesson study, restorative circles/restorative justice, standards-based assessments, student motivation and incorporating STEM activities. Educators are already asking when the next EdCamp will be available in our area. The answer is easy: Sept. 9 at UTA. Details are on the way.

Learning took on a new look at Summer Institute 2017 as the professional learning department and the 18 PLUSS program launched the opening of a digital café. As participants enjoyed the learning vibe of the café, Twitter accounts were opened and personal learning networks were initiated. Students representing 18 PLUSS and the Seguin National Honor Society served up greatness as they attended to the needs of our adult learners. Without a doubt, the digital café quenched our educators' thirst for learning and their appetite for networking with peers. In short, there was a latte learning going on.

Each year, the Summer Institute would not be possible without the contributions of many. A special thank you to the campus leadership teams at Seguin and Arlington Collegiate high schools and Crouch and Patrick elementarys.

We appreciate you opening your doors for adult learning in the service of our student learners. More than 8,560 learning seats were extended to our AISD teachers to learn, and learn we did. Thank you AISD educators for your participation.



# AISD perks page full of deals

If you're looking for an easy way to find out about the latest deals available for AISD employees, all you have to do is head to the new [perks](#) page.

The perks page is full of easy-to-read discounts available for all our stakeholders, many by just showing your badge at the place of business.

The perks page isn't the only spot

on the intranet geared for employee discounts. The classifieds [page](#) is also full of offers and gives employees a place where they can list their items for sale.

It's also a spot where you can find part-time opportunities, like the one currently being offered by the Boys & Girls Clubs of Arlington.

The intranet page, which will

undergo a facelift this fall, is also your landing spot for all the forms you need to use, tech help requests as well as a place where you can find e-mail addresses for all district employees.

If you have suggestions on what you'd like to see on the intranet and the type of discounts and deals you're interested in seeing, please e-mail Anthony Andro at [aandro@aisd.net](mailto:aandro@aisd.net).

## BOND FROM PAGE 1

the collaborative effort by the entire district to bring this all together, including transportation, food service, IT, facilities and maintenance, central office staff, our teachers and of course our students."

Though classes are now being held in the CTC, the entire building is not open yet. Construction on part of the building continues. Most of it will be ready in September, but a few classrooms won't open until this winter.

Once fully complete, the 169,800 square-foot CTC will offer juniors and seniors from all AISD high schools 27 programs of study, including 17 that are new to the district. More than 4,700 students will attend classes at the CTC and the future Agricultural Science Center each week.

Construction of the new Ag center is scheduled to conclude in October.

The new CTC and Ag Center were not the only bond-funded construction over the summer, and at many schools, construction is continuing into the fall.

More than 30 campuses currently have ongoing projects, while another 45 projects are currently in the design stage. Much of the summer work centered around providing elementary schools with two STEM labs, a strings room and security vestibule. Twenty-six elementaries had STEM and strings room work over the summer and are in various stages of completion, with a few finished and many getting close.

Two schools – [Sam Houston High School](#) and Boles Junior High – opened new classroom additions for the first day of school. Renovations at Sam Houston in the existing building for fine arts, career/tech and athletics



The new classroom addition at Boles Junior High.



The new ninth-grade wing at Sam Houston High School.

spaces should wrap up next month and the new dining hall addition is targeted to open in October.

Boles Junior High also received renovations inside the existing building, including a new special education suite. The new STEM lab addition at Foster Elementary

is getting close to completion and the classroom and administration additions at Crow Elementary will take a few more months.

Keep track of all the bond projects and see photos from each campus at the AISD's bond website: [www.aisd.net/bond](http://www.aisd.net/bond).