

Moore AP Zook writes book

Moore Elementary Assistant Principal Michael Zook had written several books over the last couple of years.

But getting one to the finish line had been another story.

That changed earlier this year when Zook had his first book published. The children's book "[Hadrian's Purpose](#)" is a far-reaching one, too, as the book was written in English as well as Mandarin Chinese. To help the book reach an even broader audience, the book has Bopomofo characters for young Chinese readers and pinyin characters for readers who are trying to figure out the phonetic spelling of the Chinese words.

"To just hold it and it has my name on the front and my wife's [Linley] drawings," said Zook, who is in his first year at Moore and has also worked at Sam Houston High School



Moore Assistant Principal Michael Zook and his wife, Linley, did a lot of the work for their book over the Christmas break.

and Williams Elementary. "People are excited about it. The fact it is also written in Chinese is an eye-catching

factor. We've gotten a lot of feedback about the art and the book."

The 30-page book serves

plenty of purposes.

First it tells a story that originally came to Zook

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A message from Dr. Cavazos

It's always fun to find out what our stakeholders do outside of school. It makes sense that our educators are involved in literature, which is the case with Moore Elementary Assistant Principal Michael Zook.

It's interesting that his first published book is written in English and translated in Mandarin Chinese, which sounded like a challenge.

I wonder what our students at Corey and Jones academies would think of the translation. Some can probably read the book in both languages.

It's also great to see the way our Transformation Through Innovation grants impact the district.

Kudos to the social studies department for getting the Google Expedition kits in the hands of teachers so they can find effective ways to use them.

While the school year is winding down, it's never too late to nominate a co-worker for great customer service. It's an important part of our *Achieve Today. Excel Tomorrow.* strategic plan.

Nominating someone is easy, too. All you have to do is click on this [link](#).



Make the most of moments

Have you ever wondered what makes a moment a moment? Each day we spend our time engaging in experiences that make up what we call life. Some things are routine and rote, so much so that we are barely aware that we are doing them. For example, we may drive the same route to work each day and it becomes so automated that at times we arrive at our destination and don't even remember the drive. That's a little scary! Then there are those moments that stick with us forever; things that we experience that make the moment so defining that we never forget it.

Have you ever asked yourself how that happens? What are the qualities of those moments that make them so memorable? Wouldn't it be incredible if we could have more of those in life? Wouldn't it be awesome if our learners have those same moments when learning in our classrooms?

While some moments are serendipitous in nature, we actually have a lot more influence in their creation than we may realize. In the book "The Power of Moments" by Chip and Dan Heath, we learn



of the qualities of such experiences and how to intentionally generate them for ourselves and others. These qualities include four key components. They are:

1. Elevation. Special moments are those that rise above what is typical in a day. They provoke memorable delight and fond reflection. These are moments when something out of the ordinary occurs, so much so that it strikes you as different. We notice this when we experience out of the ordinary customer service or when someone does something that is very kind and unexpected.

2. Insight. Defining moments are those moments that rewire our understanding of ourselves or the world. They are

moments when we are suddenly influenced by something that forever changes the way we see the world or ourselves. For example, the day you realized you were going to marry the person you did or the moment you realized what your calling in life was and what you were going to spend the rest of your days on Earth doing.

3. Pride. Exceptional moments catch us as our best selves. They can be moments of achievement or times when you had to be courageous. This can happen for our students when they celebrate the moment they received their acceptance letter to their dream college or stood for something when it was hard to do.

4. Social. Oftentimes, defining moments are social in nature. Moments such as weddings, graduations, work triumphs and vacations are all times when we are surrounded by others and they share in the moment with us. This social aspect solidifies the experience and makes it memorable.

Not every memorable moment includes all of these aspects, but research shows that most include at least two. I wonder how we

can leverage this insight to create learning moments for our students? How can we design experiences that are intentionally elevated out of the ordinary? How can we create learning opportunities that help students to reflect on their lives and have 'aha' moments that are so powerful they actually redefine how they see themselves and their potential impact on the world? How can we elevate their demonstration of learning in such a way that they feel a sense of pride as we celebrate their accomplishments? How can we provide students with more opportunities to collaborate with their peers solving real problems in the world in a way that is socially binding and unforgettable?

We have the best jobs on Earth. We get the opportunity to intentionally create moments that shape people for the better and impact the world in a tangible way. May we all challenge ourselves to provide these moments to each of our learners; for these are the moments that bring meaning to their lives and ours.

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

Early student release date will not impact staff

Since the Texas Legislature amended the Texas Education Code in 2015 to require districts to provide at least 75,600 minutes of instruction instead of 180 days of instruction, the AISD calendar has included enough minutes so students would not have to make up operational time lost in the event schools are closed due to inclement weather or other reason. The 2017-2018 calendar includes

76,650 minutes of operation, which is 1,050 minutes – the equivalent of two-plus days – more than what is required, which allows the district to release students early if not needed.

Since schools have not been closed this year, the AISD will release students two days early, on June 1. May 31 and June 1 will be exams and early dismissal for secondary schools, and June 1 will be early dismissal

for elementary students. However, if schools need to be canceled for any reason later this spring, students may need to attend one or both of those days.

Campuses and district staff will be revising end-of-year activities accordingly.

Please note that this applies only to students. Teacher and staff work days will not change.

Bond helps AISD-TV go HD

Thanks to bond-funded upgrades, broadcasts of AISD board meetings and AISD-TV News now stream in high definition. Previously shot in standard definition with an image resolution of 720 x 486 pixels, these programs now have a significantly higher picture quality at 1920 x 1080 pixels.

The primary upgrade in equipment needed to take the news broadcasts to HD was a new HD camera. But taking the board meeting broadcasts to HD was a much larger endeavor.

"We had to gut everything," Robert Spence, AISD media production technician, said about the board room. "We stripped everything out and started from scratch."

All the equipment was replaced, including cameras, speakers, monitors (which dated to the 1980s and 90s), an amplifier from the 1970s and the mixing console. The voting boards from the 1970s were also replaced with a digital system, plus two 90-inch flat screens replaced the old projectors and a 65-inch LED screen replaced the 50-inch plasma screen in the back of the room. In addition to the new technology, the board room also received new carpet and paint.

"Before, everything ran on coax cable," Spence said. "Now, everything



is digital and networked."

The advantages of the upgrades go beyond a higher-quality picture. The wider imager allows more to fit in the frame. The old cameras couldn't quite capture all the board members in the picture. The faces of the two members on either end would be cut off. But now all the members fit on the screen, along with everyone else sitting at the front during the meeting. The wider image is also beneficial when student groups perform at a meeting. Now a single straight shot can show the entire group.

The board room also now includes four mounted PTZ (pan, tilt, zoom) cameras instead of just three. The additional camera affords better camera angles and allows for straight-

on shots of everyone in the meeting, something that wasn't possible before.

Moving to HD brings the AISD up to the industry standard. All local TV news outlets broadcast in HD, so now the district can easily share meeting highlights with them. In fact, the local news can and has pulled portions of the meeting broadcasts straight from the live online feed. The board room also has a new audio press box that allows news reporters to plug in and get the original audio feed, eliminating the need to place their own microphones near the speakers.

All AISD TV-News and board meeting broadcasts are available on YouTube. Visit AISD TV's [webpage](#) for links.

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when he was an elder at a church. The plot centers around a pot who is trying to find out his purpose in life. Hadrian learns about selflessness along the way and eventually figures out his true purpose.

Zook hopes the book reaches a broad audience.

"It gives parents a chance to read the book with children and talk about life's purpose," Zook said. "We decided on this book because it's about a pot who doesn't know his purpose. Throughout the book he finds out it's to grow tomato plants. And then he starts to tell other

pots."

The message is simple but Zook hopes the impact of the book is big. One of the main reasons he wrote it was to raise support for mission work in Taiwan. The Zooks did mission work in Taiwan where they also taught English.

They are hoping the book will help them raise money.

"We were looking for ways to raise support for mission work in Taiwan," he said. "We lived there five or six years ago. We worked with a missionary over there and looking to go back. We also wanted to find a

way to support him [the missionary]."

While the book is out now and available on Amazon and Kindle, it wasn't an easy process to get there. The translator Zook used lives in Taiwan so they had to work around the time difference in communicating the changes in the book. They also had to buy a font specially to use for the translations. There was also tinkering with art and fleshing out the story more to make it the correct length.

Zook had an idea of what he was getting into thanks to his bloodlines. His father

is also an author of young adult fiction and his mother has had work published, too. Zook also wrote some for Radio Disney after he graduated from college at Stephen F. Austin.

Zook has gone to a couple of book fairs to sell and talk about his book and his dad is also helping him.

One thing he hasn't done is promote the book on campus or in the district.

"I don't want to be too pushy," he said. "It's not my intention to push the book at work at all. It's kind of weird when you already work at a school and then write a kid's book."

TI grant helping social studies

The social studies department launched its Google Expeditions learning program in April. The inaugural professional learning session was filled with teachers who were packed and ready to go on an excursion to Tanzania. Well, not literally. Actually teachers were there to experience their trip in virtual reality.

Last October, the department was awarded the Transformation Through Innovation grant which allowed the department to secure three Google Expedition kits. Google Expeditions is a virtual reality teaching tool that lets teachers lead or join immersive virtual tours all over the world. Students are able to get up close with historical landmarks, explore the geographical wonders of the world and even visit outer space.

The purpose is to expose



and engage students in learning experiences that will cause them to ask the why and how questions, will promote critical thinking, and will lead to dynamic discussions about events in the past and the impact of those events on the future. Attending the session put AISD social studies teachers one step closer to bringing this innovative instructional tool into their

classrooms.

Meanwhile in Tanzania, teachers experienced a virtual tour of the country just as their students would experience during their expeditions. As teachers toured the country they wrote journal entries about what they discovered followed by a group discussion. Teachers saw how by using the Google Expedition VR tool they

could engage their students in numerous learning experiences that are directly related to the social studies content they teach.

One said, "This provides a real-world experience that kids may not have otherwise had as an opportunity."

Social studies teachers who have completed the session will be able to reserve Google Expedition kits for use in their classrooms. If you were unable to attend the spring professional learning session, there will be more opportunities to attend, so be sure to look for that information in an upcoming edition of "The Bulletin," the social studies department online newsletter. If you do not currently receive the newsletter please email social studies curriculum coordinator Angela L. Davis Henry at adavishe@aisd.net to be added to the distribution list.

Remember to make sure your address is updated in TEAMS to receive information on enrollment

**2 MONTHS UNTIL
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS
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7/1/18 - 7/31/18

WWW.MYAISDBENEFITS.NET



Arlington
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
More Than a Remarkable Education

**2
MONTHS**

Fitness perk one of many available

Are you looking for a way to get into shape this summer?

24 Hour Fitness has discounted rates for AISD employees. There is an ad for the rates below or you can go to the intranet and print out a [seven-day pass](#) so you can try out the gym for free. OrangeTheory and LA Fitness also have discounts if 24 Hour Fitness isn't for you.

That's just one of the deals being offered on the revamped intranet, which is constantly being updated with discounts for AISD employees.

One of the newest is a discounted membership deal from AAA that includes three different pricing structures, all of which are well below the price available to the public.

There are also deals on

everything from restaurants to cellular providers to pest control for you to choose from.

The intranet also includes the staff favorites section, which will quickly guide you to the most commonly-used links like the account code manual, a log to chart your mileage for reimbursement, and the employee perks and discounts.

If you have any suggestions about discounts you want to see, send an email to aandro@aisd.net.

You can also use that same email address if you know a great story about a staff member in the district that needs to be told. We are always looking for story ideas as a way to spread the word of all the good things happening.

Spotlight Discount of the Month



More Ways to Live Your Best

Lift your day in every way with special membership rates at 24 Hour Fitness. From amazing studio classes to on-demand workouts to convenient locations near work and home, we make it easy to work in your workouts, so you can live your best.

Special Membership Rates for Arlington ISD

Standard Program		All Club Sport	All Club Super-Sport	All Club Ultra-Sport
Employee	Monthly Payment with 1 year commitment	\$00.00 Initiation fee, \$28.99 dues/month	\$00.00 Initiation fee, \$38.99 dues/month	\$00.00 Initiation fee, \$73.99 dues/month
Employee	Monthly Payment	\$29.99 Initiation fee, \$29.99 dues/month	\$29.99 Initiation fee, \$39.99 dues/month	\$29.99 Initiation fee, \$74.99 dues/month
Each Add On	Monthly Payment	\$00.00 Initiation fee, \$28.99 dues/month	\$00.00 Initiation fee, \$38.99 dues/month	\$00.00 Initiation fee, \$73.99 dues/month

Pay first and last month's dues at time of enrollment. Commitment membership is monthly payment and requires a 1 year commitment.

Join Today. Go to www.24hourfitness.com/corporate and enter your corporate ID: **109010CORP**

For more information, please contact:

Your dedicated Account Manager: Kyle Jacobsen
Call: 760.918.4567 or Text: 916.216.7043
Email: [kjacobson@24hourfit.com](mailto:kjacobsen@24hourfit.com)



Do More With Your 24™

Studio & Cycling Classes
Strength & Cardio Equipment

24GO™ On-Demand Workouts
Pool & Basketball

Personal & Group Training*
Kids' Club*

24Life™ Magazine
My24* App

*Offer valid for new members only; offer expires 06/30/2019. Offer valid on select All-Club Basic and Commitment Payment memberships only with valid employee ID, business card or current pay stub as proof of eligibility for employees of participating companies. One-year commitment required for Commitment memberships. Pay \$49.99 Annual Fee once during first year and annually thereafter. Club of enrollment must be within 50 miles of purchaser's residence. All-Club access depends on membership purchased. All-Club Sport memberships do not include access to Super- or Ultra-Sport clubs. All-Club Super-Sport memberships do not include access to Ultra-Sport clubs. Taxes may apply. Not valid for current members. Dues must be paid by preauthorized payment (EFT). Access level for add-ons will be the same as the Primary Membership access level. Maximum of 4 add-ons per Primary Member account. Add-on monthly dues must be debited from the same account as the original Primary Member. Kids' Club, Group/Personal Training, specialty classes and class reservations are available for an additional fee. Must be at least 18 years old or 12 with parent. No other discounts. Incentives may be offered. Facilities and amenities vary. Not all clubs open 24 hours. See club for details. ©2017 24 Hour Fitness USA, Inc. Texas Health Studio #080501. Florida Registration numbers HS7895, HS7421, HS7643, HS4505, HS7479, HS7436, HS7776, HS4504, HS7004, HS7746, HS7025.



IMPORTANT MAY DATES

National Inventors Month
Be Kind to Animals Month
Physical Fitness and Sports Month
Better Hearing & Speech Month

Hug Your Cat Day	May 3
Star Wars Day	May 4
AISD Rangers Night	May 4
Cinco de Mayo	May 5
National Nurses Day	May 6
Teacher Appreciation Week	May 6-12
National Music Week	May 6-13
World Red Cross Day	May 8
VE Day	May 8
National Teacher Day	May 8
Willie Velasquez Day	May 9
Paraprofessional Day	May 9
Clean Up Your Room Day	May 10
Mother's Day	May 13
Ramadan Starts	May 15
National Pack Rat Day	May 17
Armed Forces Day	May 20
EMS Week	May 20-26
Pick Strawberries Day	May 20
Service/Retirement Dinner	May 22
Lucky Penny Day	May 23
Sally Ride Day	May 26
Memorial Day	May 28
STAR Luncheon	May 30

Tina Baze, Specialist
Risk Management
Arlington ISD
1203 W. Pioneer Pkwy.
Arlington, TX 76013
Office: 682-867-7649
Fax: 682-867-4682

*****Accident***
What to do next?**

Contact supervisor. If an emergency response professional is needed call 911.

Contact the risk management office at 682-867-7649.

[Complete workers' comp packet.](#)

Completed packet should be sent to the risk management office in the administration building.

I've learned that 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 APRIL 2018

Be aware of spiders

Spiders to avoid: Because of their venom, some of the spiders that are capable of biting humans are called poisonous spiders. A few to watch out for include the black widow, the brown recluse and the hobo.



What to do if a bite occurs:

- Stay calm. If possible, try to identify the type of spider that bit you. Identification will assist in any medical treatment.
- Wash the area of the bite with soap and water.
- Put a cloth dampened with cold water or filled with ice on the bite area to help reduce any swelling.
- Do not attempt to remove the venom from the bite.

How to prevent spider bites:

- Pay attention to what you are doing. This is the best way to avoid being bitten by a spider.
- Don't reach into areas where you cannot see.
- Look inside shoes and gloves that have been sitting unattended before putting them on.
- Wear a long-sleeved shirt, hat, gloves and boots when in crawl spaces.
- Use insect repellent on clothes and shoes.

Influencing attitudes for safety

Negative attitudes can certainly affect safety and put people at risk. Just as overconfidence has the belief that experience and skill can replace the need for safety precautions, underconfidence has the belief that you are unable to influence your safety environment.

Safety is not a matter of chance, fate or destiny but rather it is a personal action. The nature of our jobs does not require overlooking safety practices. You should always voice your concerns about safety to your supervisor. Making the correct safety choices does not have a negative impact on how you are perceived. Others will notice your good and safe work habits and will be inspired by you.

Be Alert and Stay Safe!

ACCESSIBILITY
TANGIBLES
RELIABILITY
RESPONSIVENESS
EMPATHY



Accessibility
Charrasen Kennedy
Transportation

What they said: She is always available to help. She always returns emails and phone calls. She is willing to make changes to our transportation requests when needed. She has helped our campus get the buses we needed, even when requests were not submitted correctly.



Tangibles
Griselda Antu

State & Federal Programs
What they said: Being able to contact Mrs. Antu this year has been a lifeline to performing my job at campus level. Speer Elementary is grateful for such a willing and competent district-level employee to help us facilitate business through the state and federal office.



Reliability
Vera Lea
Psychological
& Counseling Services

What they said: She can be depended upon to keep things organized for her team involving ordering testing protocols, supplies, books, manuals and other necessities for her team of 36 in order to facilitate their jobs.



Responsiveness
Kim Johnson
Security

What they said: She responded to a call for a student in one of our ABE classes. She handled the situation with grace and empathy and even worked to form a relationship with the student.



Empathy
Clint Reynolds
Technology Support

What they said: He always contacts the user quickly, works with them on diagnosing the problem, then works the problem until it is solved. Clint never makes a user feel as if their issue is insignificant.

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 bit.ly/AISDSERVE, and we'll recognize them! Be sure to let us know which component of the framework was exemplified (accessibility, tangibles, reliability, responsiveness or empathy).

APRIL EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH



Gabby Riehle
Goodman Elementary
Elementary Teacher of the Month



Gaya Jefferson
Academic Services
Department Employee of the Month



Rachel Nielsen
Shackelford Junior High
Junior High Teacher of the Month



Claudia Moya
Venture High School
High School Teacher of the Month