



For Immediate Release

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Pre-K teachers set to showcase training, resources from AISD Pre-K Academy Presented by the AISD Education Foundation

ARLINGTON, Texas, October 17, 2018 – Pre-K teachers at Kooken Education Center will showcase training and resources from the Arlington ISD Pre-K Academy presented by the AISD Education Foundation, held late last spring.

The training provided pre-K teachers, teacher aides, campus principals, campus leadership team members and community-based pre-K center staff members with a full-day of professional learning geared toward strengthening their readiness to improve the quality of instruction in AISD's prekindergarten classrooms. The day included a keynote from former Sesame Street star Sonia Manzano, who shared strategies for working with children of poverty. In addition to the keynote, attendees participated in breakout sessions including working with students of poverty, managing early childhood classrooms, student behavior toolbox and successful standard-based learning centers. The \$52,507 in funding from the AISD Education Foundation also provided teachers with instructional resources to implement within the classroom.

"The AISD Pre-K Academy provided highly engaging training and best practices as well as instructional resources to teachers of our more than 3,500 prekindergarten students," said Superintendent Dr. Marcelo Cavazos. "This kind of training and resources and the funding from the AISD Education Foundation are vital to our success. We are excited to showcase the training and resources gained through this grant."

This is one of several strong community partnerships that support the district and its programs – \$13 million from Tarrant County College for the Arlington Collegiate High School facility; nearly \$2.1 million from Raise Your Hand Texas, the Meadows Foundation, American Express and the National Association of Secondary School Principals, the Sid Richardson Foundation, and the Rainwater Charitable Foundation for the Emerging Leaders Program; full funding from the Holdsworth Center for leadership training; \$1.1 million from the Boys & Girls Clubs of Arlington for an after-school center within Peach Elementary; \$500,000 from Texas Trust Credit Union for

an outdoor performance area at one of the district's fine arts/dual language academies; more than \$200,000 from Moritz Dealerships for the automotive technology program; \$75,000 Perkins Reserve grant for an Anatomage table; nearly \$100,000 from the Gene and Jerry Jones Family Arlington Youth Foundation for programs including the AISD Back to School Kickoff, a character training initiative for secondary coaches and athletes and funding for all fifth graders to take part in the art tour at AT&T Stadium; \$1.85 million from the Gene and Jerry Jones Arlington Youth Foundation, NFL Foundation, and Hellas Construction to replace the current grass on the field at Workman Junior High School with a synthetic turf surface, as well as upgrade and replace the lighting and scoreboard; \$135,000 from Dan Dipert for a Steinway Spirio Model B Grand Piano to be located at the AISD Fine Arts Center, scheduled to open in fall 2020; and \$95,000 for the Ti Training Corp TL-102 simulator in partnership with the Arlington Police Department.

MEDIA AVAILABILITY: Media partners have an opportunity to experience the pre-K classroom instruction and resources at Kooken Education Center – 423 N. Center St., Arlington, TX 76012 on Thursday, Oct. 18 from 2 to 3 p.m. There will be an opportunity to visit classrooms as well as meet with Dr. Cavazos and AISD Education Foundation leadership. Coordinate your interest with Leslie Birdow.

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