



**Financial Futures Committee  
December 11, 2018  
6:00 PM, Mac Bernd Professional Development Center**

WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS ..... Stephen Crumby  
FFC Chairperson

2018 AUDIT RESULTS & FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY RATING.....Cindy Powell  
Chief Financial Officer

2018-19 ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT UPDATE.....Cindy Powell

2019-20 PLANNING & BUDGET PREPARATION.....Cindy Powell

86TH LEGISLATURE UPDATE.....Cindy Powell

CAPITAL NEEDS PLANNING.....Cindy Powell

FFC NEXT STEPS.....Cindy Powell

CLOSING THOUGHTS.....Stephen Crumby





# Financial Futures Committee

December 11, 2018



## Agenda

- 2018 Audit Results & Financial Accountability Rating
- 2018-19 Enrollment Management Update
  - Discussion re plan
- 2019-20 Planning & Budget Preparation
- 86<sup>th</sup> Legislature Update
- Capital Needs Planning
- FFC Next Steps



## Big Picture

- Long-range planning must consider strategic plan, budget, legislative actions & inactions, program offerings & designs, facility needs

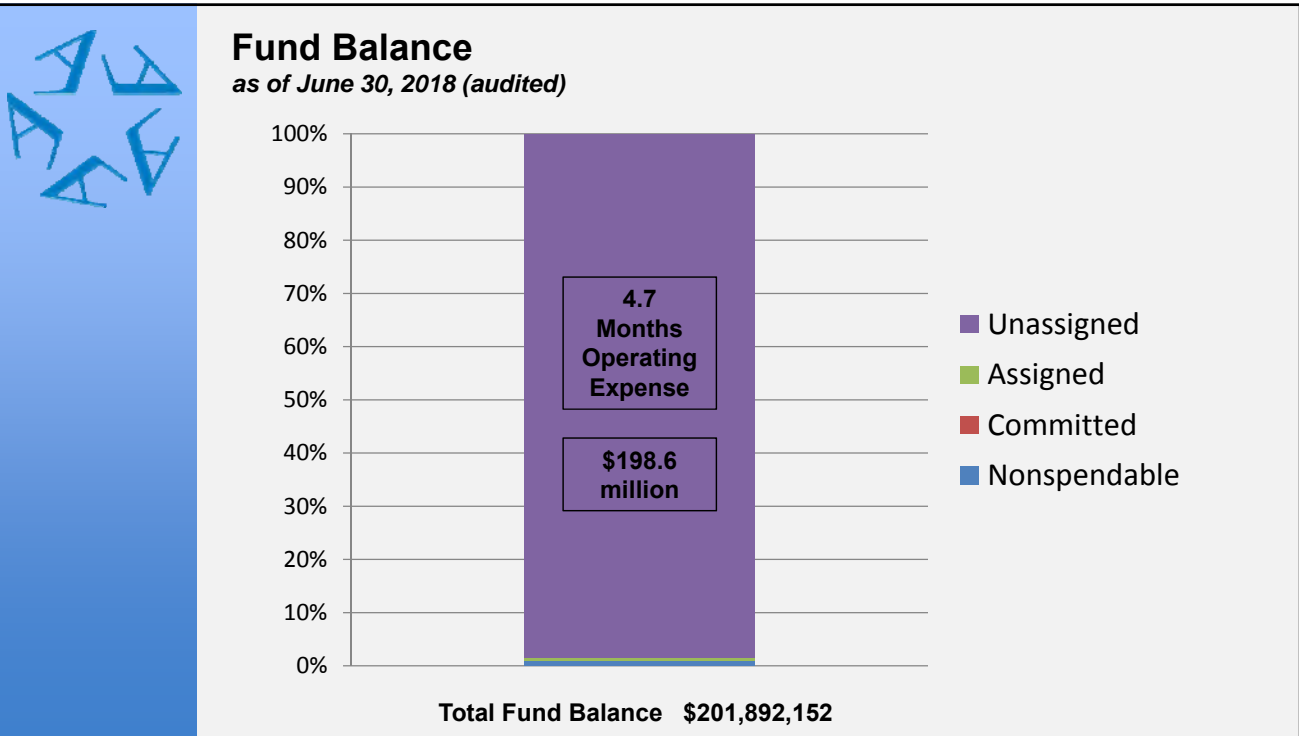
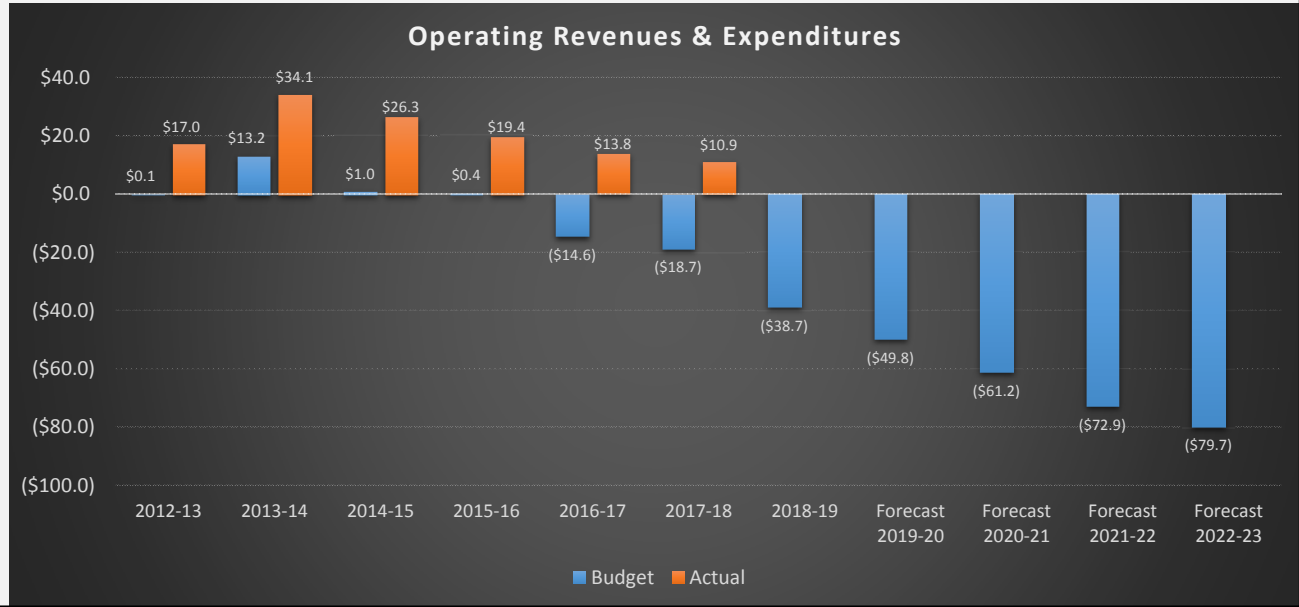


## Audit & Financial Accountability

- 2017-18 Independent Audit:
  - Report presented to Board on Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>
  - “Unmodified Opinion” on financial statements
  - No internal control findings; no compliance findings
  - General Fund ended year with operating surplus of \$10.9 million
  - Fund Balance grew by \$2.4 million
- Financial Accountability Rating
  - A-Superior Achievement



# General Fund





## Program Investments

- 2017-18 Year-End Operating Surplus: \$10.9 million
- Board approved budget amendment to use \$9.2 million of that surplus for following investments:
  - Arlington College & Career High School
  - Architectural design for Jr. High Fine Arts & Dual Language Academy at Gunn JH
  - Renovations for instructional programs and operations



## Enrollment Management Update:

### *2018-19 Student Transfers*

Student Transfers	Total 2017-18	2018-19 As of 10.30.18
Out-of-District	152	267
In-District	<u>509</u>	<u>1,224*</u>
Total Transfers	661	1,491

*\* Includes 188 students reported zoned to AISD but not attending AISD. This particular data point was not consistently tracked prior to the 2018-19 transfer process.*

*Estimated State Aid for out-of-district & zoned/not attending AISD: \$2.7 million.*



## 2019-20 Planning & Budget Preparation



## Enrollment Management Plan

- **Plan Priorities**
  - Transfers
  - Marketing
  - Customer Service
  - Targeted Support of Campuses
  - Expansion of Program Offerings



## Enrollment Management Priorities

- Transfers
  - Fall transfer window (vs. previous spring window)
  - Staffing adjustments to reflect transfers in/out
- Marketing
  - Executive Director of Marketing hired
  - Assessment of marketing needs
- Customer Service
  - Active efforts to place transfer requests



## Enrollment Management Priorities

- Targeted Support of Campuses
  - Appropriate supports and marketing efforts for a school losing enrollment
- Expansion of Program Offerings
  - Dipert CTC, Ag Science Center, STEM at MHS, ECHS, Wimbish World Language, Crow Leadership, Percy STEM, fine arts/dual language, etc.





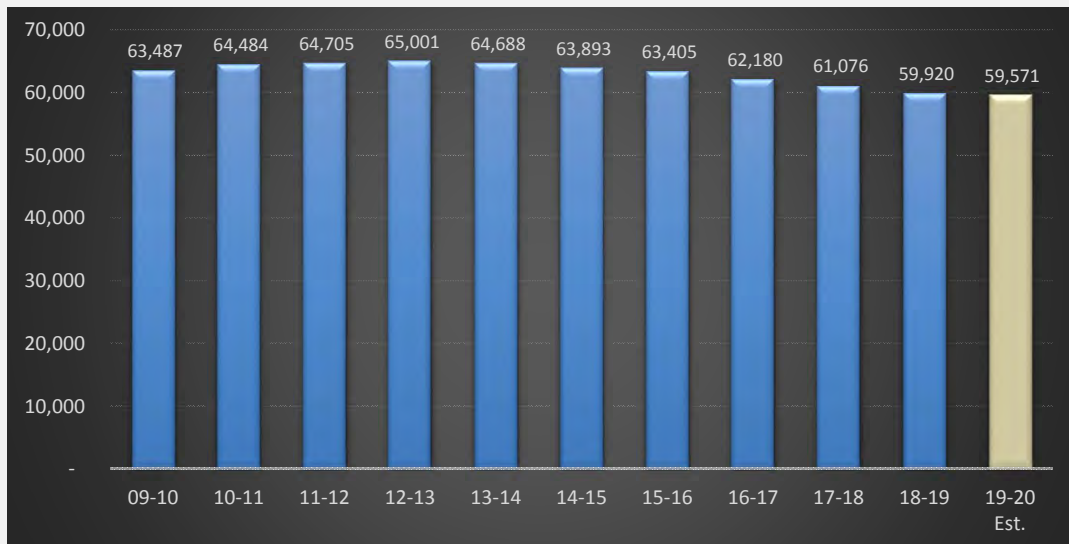


## 2019-20 Planning

- Student Transfer Process
  - First round of offers were extended Dec. 10
  - Additional rounds of offers will be beginning mid-Jan.
- Application-based Programs
  - Applications available on website through Jan 31
  - Arlington College and Career High School
    - Construction contract awarded
  - Instructional planning underway
    - Wimbish, Crow Leadership, Percy STEM, Arlington Career & College High School



## Student Enrollment





## 2019-20 Staffing

- No changes recommended to staffing ratios
- Board will consider/vote on staffing ratios Dec. 13
- Class size waivers will be requested where appropriate
- Staffing Considerations:
  - Enrollment projections and student transfers
  - Wimbish World Language Academy
  - Arlington College & Career High School
  - Crow Leadership
  - Percy STEM



## 86<sup>th</sup> Legislature

- Convenes January 8th
- Legislature's Priorities
  - School Finance
  - Property Tax Relief
  - Hurricane Harvey Recovery
- AISD Legislative Agenda
  - Academic Accountability
  - School Safety and Mental Health
  - School Finance
  - School Choice
  - Pre-K



## Commission on Public School Finance

- Working Groups:
  - Outcomes
  - Expenditures
  - Revenue
- All three working groups have reported their recommendations to the full commission
- Full commission will vote on recommendations and send report to Legislature by December 31<sup>st</sup>
  - Commission meetings scheduled for December 11 and 19



## Commission on Public School Finance

- Outcomes Working Group:
  - Incentives designed to help achieve the 60x30TX goal
    - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading
    - 8<sup>th</sup> grade achievement (reading & Algebra 1)
    - Graduation (College, Career, Military Readiness)
    - Teacher performance pay



## Commission on Public School Finance

- Expenditures Working Group:
  - Reallocate existing dollars
  - Graduated funding weights (e.g., more funding for greater concentrations of poverty, English-Language Learners)
  - CTE funding for courses offered in 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grades
  - New funding allotments:
    - Dual Language
    - Dyslexia
    - Early Childhood
    - 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Reading Incentive
    - College, Career, Military Readiness
    - Teacher Compensation Incentive
    - Extended Year Incentive



## Commission on Public School Finance

- Revenue Working Group:
  - Use increase in general revenue for school finance
  - Governor's tax plan (2.5% cap of revenue growth; state makes up the difference)
  - Recapture (use growth in recapture to reduce the compression percentage)
  - Commit savings from property value growth to education
  - Commit increases in severance taxes to education



## Governor's Tax Plan

- Caps revenue growth from property taxes at 2.5%
  - State would make-up the difference for school districts
  - Reduces recapture
- No new money for school districts
- Includes some elements also being considered by School Finance Commission
- Concept only; no details provided
- Questions re Governor's Plan
  - Equity
  - How state will fund and sustain the program



## Capital Needs Planning

- Capital Needs Steering Committee
  - Membership applications accepted
  - Board will appoint committee members on Dec. 13
  - Meetings & Community Dialogues planned Jan – May
  - Recommendations due to Board in June
- Capital Needs Steering Committee Charge
  - Approved by Board
  - Includes charge to review FFC's recommendation for TRE and consider impact of TRE & bond on tax rate



# FFC Next Steps



## FFC Review

FFC Meeting	Topics Covered
4-12-18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Investments in Elementary Schools</li> <li>▪ Update on 2018-19 Budget Preparation</li> <li>▪ Texas School Finance Update</li> <li>▪ AISD Legislative Activities</li> </ul>
5-29-18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ FFC Advocacy Letter to School Finance Commission</li> <li>▪ Update on 2018-19 Budget Preparation</li> <li>▪ Operational Efficiencies</li> </ul>
8-7-18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ FFC Input on Operational Efficiencies</li> <li>▪ New Instructional Programs</li> <li>▪ Overview of 2018-19 Adopted Budget &amp; Tax Rate</li> <li>▪ Texas School Finance Commission Update</li> </ul>
10-23-18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Long-Range Financial Planning                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ General Operating Budget Forecast</li> <li>○ Capital Needs Assessment</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
12-11-18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 2017-18 Independent Audit Results</li> <li>▪ Enrollment Management Plan</li> <li>▪ 2019-20 Budget Preparation and Long-Range Financial Planning Update</li> </ul>



***Questions?***

## Budget Calendar - FY 2019-2020

### September 2018

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

### September 2018

28 - Develop 2019-20 Budget Calendar

### October 2018

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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28	29	30	31			

### October 2018

23 – Financial Futures Committee (FFC) meeting  
 26 - PEIMS snapshot day for 2018-19 student enrollment

### November 2018

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### November 2018

1 - Budget Office requests input on budget process  
 16 - Comments about budget process due to Budget Office  
 16 - Complete 2019-20 enrollment projections and notify principals and Human Resources

### December 2018

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### December 2018

11 - FFC meeting  
 13 - Board of Trustees approves staffing ratios



## Budget Calendar - FY 2019-2020

### January 2019

January 2019

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- 7 - Budget Office enters campus allocations in TEAMS
- 8 - Open 2019-2020 TEAMS Budget System and notify schools and departments
  - Distribute instructions for personnel requests
- 16 - Budget system training
- 18 - Academic Services strategic plan activities due to Chief Academic Officer
- 23 - Discuss budget preparation process at Instructional Leadership meeting
- 25 - Requests for new positions/upgrades due to appropriate Chief/Superintendent
  - Academic Services budget requests due to be entered in TEAMS

February 2019

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### February 2019

- 1 - Begin personnel staffing conferences – Elementary Schools
- 1 - Budget requests due from Departments and Elementary Schools
- 5 - FFC meeting
- 7 - Academic Services Executive Directors Budget meeting
- 8 - Requests for new positions/upgrades due to HR
- 14-15 - Academic Services Special Populations budget review meetings
- 19 - Budget requests due from Secondary Schools

March 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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### March 2019

- 4 - Begin personnel staffing conferences – Secondary Schools
- 8 - Complete budget reviews – departments and schools

April 2019

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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
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### April 2019

- 2 - Staffing process completed by HR and posted to TEAMS
- 9 - District Instructional Decision-Making Committee (DIDC) meeting
- 10 - Finalize recommendations for new positions
- 16 - FFC meeting
- 30 - Receive certified estimate of property values from Tarrant Appraisal District (TAD)

## Budget Calendar - FY 2019-2020

### May 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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### May 2019

- 15 - Receive preliminary property values from TAD
- FFC meeting

### June 2019

### June 2019

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- 4 - Board discusses 2019-2020 Preliminary Budget
- Board approves Notice of Public meeting to Discuss Proposed Budget and Tax Rate
- 7 - Publish Notice of Public Meeting to Discuss Budget & Tax Rate (must be 10-30 days before hearing date)
- Post Proposed Budget on District website
- 11 - Board discusses 2019-2020 Preliminary Budget (if needed)
- 18 - Board holds Public Hearing to discuss 2019-2020 budget and tax rate
- Board adopts 2019-2020 budget
- 27 - Called Board Meeting if needed

### July 2019

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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

### July 2019

- 25 - Receive Certified Tax Roll from Tarrant Appraisal District

### August 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

### August 2019

- 6 - FFC meeting
- 15 - Board votes on proposed tax rate

## **ARLINGTON COLLEGE AND CAREER HIGH SCHOOL - INFORMATION SHEET**



### **A NEW EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL OPPORTUNITY – APPLY TODAY!**

The Arlington Independent School District is proud to announce the opening of its new early college high school, Arlington College and Career High School. Arlington College and Career High School is partnered with the Tarrant County College Southeast Campus and is actively recruiting current 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to become a part of the inaugural class of 2023.

Early College High School is a designation through the Texas Education Agency for innovative high schools located on or near a college campus that will allow students who would not otherwise consider attending college an opportunity to earn a high school diploma and an associate's degree (up to 60 college credit hours). In addition to earning an associate's degree, Arlington College and Career High School will also provide the option for students to earn workforce certificates in specialized areas from Tarrant County College.

AISD's first Early College High School, Arlington Collegiate High School (ACHS), has shown that high school students can successfully complete rigorous college courses while creating a pathway for future success. Establishing a second Early College High School allows the AISD to serve even more students with college potential. Students attending Arlington College and Career High School will have access to Tarrant County College facilities, resources and services, including the faculty, libraries, labs, artistic and cultural activities, and extracurricular activities, as appropriate. There is no cost to the student to attend. The Arlington ISD will pay for tuition, fees and required textbooks to the extent those charges are not waived by Tarrant County College.

AISD students who are in eighth grade may apply to attend Arlington College and Career High School beginning November 14, 2018, by picking up a paper application from their counselor or by downloading an application from the AISD or Arlington College and Career High School website. Applicants will be screened to identify that they meet established criteria, included in the application, and then identified applicants will become part of a selection process. Completed applications will be due by January 31, 2019, and student acceptance/denial letters will be mailed out no later than March 24, 2019.

Arlington College and Career High School will include strategies and activities to create a college-going culture and will enable students to build the skills and knowledge, including academic behaviors, necessary for college success. Arlington College and Career High School will provide academic, social and emotional support services to ensure student success while also including parental and community outreach programs to build a widespread understanding of college culture.

If you have any questions, please call 817-515-3550 or visit our website at <https://www.aisd.net/district/about/school-directory/specialty-campus/> for more information.

(See reverse for frequently asked questions and for parent information session dates)

## ARLINGTON COLLEGE AND CAREER HIGH SCHOOL - INFORMATION SHEET

### Frequently Asked Questions for Arlington College and Career High School-

- **Who can apply to attend Arlington College and Career High School?** Any student currently enrolled in eighth grade can apply.
- **How is a student accepted into Arlington College and Career High School?**  
All students interested in attending Arlington College and Career High School must fill out an application completely. All applications are screened and then the selection process will begin which may include student and parent interviews, parent information sessions, and possibly a lottery.
- **What type of student is accepted to Arlington College and Career High School?**  
We are looking for students who need us the most. We are also looking for students who are determined, focused on college, have a good attitude and are willing to work hard without giving up when faced with adversity. Due to the rigor of the program, disciplinary issues cannot be tolerated and excellent attendance is essential.
- **When and where will applications be available?**  
Applications for the 2019-2020 school year will be available starting November 14, 2018, on the AISD website, on the ACHS website at [www.aisd.net/achs](http://www.aisd.net/achs), or on the Arlington College and Career website at [www.aisd.net/district/about/school-directory/specialty-campus/](http://www.aisd.net/district/about/school-directory/specialty-campus/). AISD eighth grade students can also pick up an application from their junior high counselor.
- **What is the cost to attend Arlington College and Career High School?**  
There is no cost to attend Arlington College and Career High School
- **How much college credit can a student earn at Arlington College and Career High School?**  
A student can earn an associate's degree and up to 60 college credit hours. Arlington College and Career High School students begin taking dual credit classes as freshmen.
- **Is there a difference between the two Early College High Schools, ACHS and Arlington College and Career High School?**  
Students who attend either early college high school can earn an associate's degree. Students who attend Arlington College and Career High School can also earn workforce certificates from Tarrant County College. Currently certificates can be earned in Business, Hospitality, and Pre-Nurse/Health Science. Other workforce certificates could be added in the future.
- **How many students can attend Arlington College and Career High School?**  
Arlington College and Career High School will accept approximately 100 incoming freshman each year. In four years, the entire student population at Arlington College and Career High School will consist of approximately 400 total students in grades 9 through 12.
- **Do you have sports or fine arts at Arlington College and Career High School?**  
No competitive sports or fine arts are available at Arlington College and Career High School. Students who attend Arlington College and Career High School are not allowed to compete in these areas for other high schools.
- **Do Arlington College and Career High School students have to wear uniforms and is transportation provided?**  
Arlington College and Career High School adheres to the AISD dress code and no uniforms are required. Arlington College and Career High School students are required to wear a designated shirt during their 9th and 10th grade years for certain activities. Bus transportation is provided for students from every area of the Arlington ISD.

#### How can I find out more information about Arlington College and Career High School?

Check the website at [www.aisd.net/district/about/school-directory/specialty-campus/](http://www.aisd.net/district/about/school-directory/specialty-campus/) or call us at 817-515-3550. \*Attend any one of the required parent information sessions held in November, December or January. The meeting dates, times, and locations are:

November 29, 2018 – 7:00PM in the ACHS Cafeteria

December 4, 2018 – 7:00PM at AISD Professional Development Center at 1111 W. Arbrook Boulevard

December 6, 2018 – 7:00PM at Carter Junior High

December 11, 2018 – 7:00PM at Nichols Junior High

January 12, 2019 (Saturday) – 9:30AM in the ACHS Cafeteria

**\*\*STUDENTS WILL ONLY BE CONSIDERED FOR ADMITTANCE IF A PARENT ATTENDS ONE (1) PARENT SESSION. PARENTS CAN ATTEND ANY ONE OF THE ABOVE SESSIONS EVEN IF IT IS NOT AT THEIR CHILD'S CURRENT JUNIOR HIGH.\***



Wimbish World Language Academy students have the opportunity to learn dual-language Spanish or French (prekindergarten through first grades with an additional grade level added yearly) and Spanish (second through sixth grades for 2019-2020). Applications for incoming prekindergarten through sixth-grade students for the Wimbish World Language Academy will be open Nov. 13, 2018, through Jan. 31, 2019.

**Why should my student apply for the Wimbish World Language Academy?**

Second language acquisition helps students increase cognitive abilities, improve thinking and verbal skills, and improve SAT scores, among many other benefits.

**How is the dual language portion taught?**

The dual language program - beginning in 2019 with prekindergarten through first-grade students - is delivered as a partial immersion, 50/50 two-teacher dual language model. The instruction is 50 percent in English and 50 percent in Spanish or 50 percent in English and 50 percent in French depending on which track the student chooses. Math and science will be taught in Spanish or French. This means that Spanish or French is the language used to teach math and science rather than Spanish or French being taught as a subject area.

**Why does the Wimbish World Language Academy begin with dual language in prekindergarten through first grade and not include older students?**

Due to the language acquisition required in a dual language program, students experience greatest levels of success when they begin in the early primary years.

**Will second-through-sixth graders have the opportunity to learn another language?**

Yes, students in second-through-sixth grades will participate in Foreign Language in the Elementary School (FLES). FLES provides those students with the opportunity to begin studying Spanish and its culture.

**Is there a cost?**

No, there is no cost to apply for or attend Wimbish World Language Academy.

**Is transportation provided?**

Yes, transportation is available for students who live more than two miles from Wimbish World Language Academy. Transportation will not be door-to-door but will utilize a hub system. Exact locations and routes will be determined at a later date.

**Important dates for applicants**

- Nov. 13: Applications available online at [www.aisd.net](http://www.aisd.net)
- Jan. 31: Application deadline. Applications must be submitted by 4 p.m.
- March 23: All applicants will be notified of their admission status

**I still have questions; where can I ask them?**

Wimbish World Language Academy will hold four parent information meetings, all at the AISD Mac Bernd Professional Development Center at 1111 W. Arbook Blvd., in Arlington:

- 6-7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 7, 2018
- 6-7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 18, 2018
- 6-7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 11, 2019
- 6-7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 28, 2019

*\*Parents must attend an information session before students are eligible for admission to Wimbish World Language Academy.*



## 2019 Legislative Agenda

### Objectives:

- AISD believes that local authority produces stronger policies and programs to enhance the educational program and improve student performance.
- AISD believes that relevant instructional programs that reflect and compliment the provisions of HB 5 (83<sup>rd</sup> Legislative Session) will increase college, career and military readiness and raise graduation rates.
- AISD believes that suitable funding for mandated state requirements should be required, or that unfunded and underfunded state mandates be eliminated.

**Academic Accountability: *An effective, efficient and equitable state academic accountability system is necessary to carry out the mission and objectives of the Texas public education system. Texas' current academic accountability system provides confusing information to parents about the performance of their child's school and is too complex for school districts to navigate effectively. The state accountability system should be a tool that helps local school boards and educators improve student performance. The 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature should:***

1. Leave the authority to address low performing schools with the locally elected board of trustees. Local authority still depends on state standard academic measures; however, it allows the local board of trustees to determine the best response to the results of those state measures.
2. Within the A-F rating system, more clearly define the performance represented by each letter grade and differentiate varying degrees of performance within the grade. Design the system in a manner that appropriately recognizes demographic variables across districts.
3. Remove the high-stakes SSI retention provision for students assessed in grades 5 & 8.
4. Modify accountability rules to include non-test based indicators in addition to STAAR results for calculating elementary and junior high school ratings.
5. Make the provisions for individual graduation committees permanent.
6. Expand the list of industry-based certifications used for College Career Military Readiness credit in accountability to include any and all industry-based certifications rather than the select few currently used.
7. Ensure that all data used to determine district and campus accountability ratings are readily accessible to and verifiable by school districts.
8. Eliminate Public Education Grant (PEG) designations.

**School Safety and Mental Health: *Public safety is a priority for the Arlington ISD. The 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature should:***

1. Work with school districts to create a platform that identifies students with mental health needs that pose a threat to public safety;
2. Provide appropriate ongoing funding for identification, services and supports for students with mental health needs;
3. Provide appropriate funding and assistance for threat assessments; and
4. Allow school districts flexibility to determine how safety and mental health funds are spent in order to best meet local needs.

**School Finance: *Legislation and an appropriation that provides funding for public education to fully meet the mission and objectives described in Texas Education Code, Section 4.001 and the 60x30TX higher education plan impact three areas critical to public education – student achievement, qualified education workforce and local control. The 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature should:***

***Student Achievement:***

1. Revise the school finance system with long-term solutions to improve equity, reduce the dependence on local property taxes and ensure that Texas develops a workforce to fortify the state's economy. The new system should:
  - provide tax relief to property owners and maintain the state's investment in developing a competitive workforce by dedicating state budget savings derived from property value growth to public education;
  - reduce the reliance on recapture to fund public education and ensure the state funds at least 50% of the total cost of education;
  - provide an increase in the basic allotment for all school districts and include a mechanism to adjust the basic allotment each biennium for inflation;
  - adjust funding for regional variations in operating costs;
  - utilize updated formula weights that adequately recognize the incremental cost of serving special populations, such as special education, career & technical education, bilingual/ESL and economically disadvantaged students;
  - roll the current allotments for gifted/talented, high school and new instructional facilities into the basic allotment in order to simplify the funding formulas and provide greater flexibility in addressing local needs;
  - include an increased enrichment opportunity beyond the 6 pennies currently authorized, and permit districts to levy a Maintenance and Operations (M&O) tax rate up to the new maximum before requiring a tax election; and
  - require that property tax statements and Truth-in-Taxation notices include statements disclosing the contribution of local funds and state funds for the public school district's general operating budget.
2. Provide tax relief to property owners and assist school districts in providing relevant learning environments by fully funding the \$40 guaranteed yield per student for Existing

Debt Allotment and Instructional Facilities Allotment set forth in HB 21 passed by the First Called Session of the 85<sup>th</sup> Legislature.

3. Provide weighted career and technical education funding for eligible courses taught to students in 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade to prepare them to make informed choices for high school coursework and endorsement plans for their college and career choices.
4. Provide flexibility to spend State Compensatory Education funds on a school-wide basis to improve student performance, similar to school-wide provisions for Title 1 funding.
5. Increase state funding for transportation and require that the funding be adjusted for inflation each biennium. The Transportation allotment has not been updated since 1984 and currently funds less than 30% of total transportation costs.
6. Reject legislation that imposes financial responsibility or penalty on school districts to cure the state's prior policy limiting the identification of students for special education services.

***Qualified Education Workforce:***

1. Pass legislation that authorizes Arlington ISD to exit TRS-ActiveCare to establish a pilot, independent healthcare insurance plan for its employees that implements measures intended to address root causes of major cost drivers. The legislation will:
  - exit Arlington ISD from the TRS-ActiveCare System effective August 31, 2020;
  - require TRS-ActiveCare to provide Arlington ISD all of the District's health care and prescription cost experience data from the three previous plan years immediately upon passage of the bill; and
  - require Arlington ISD to report baseline and longitudinal performance data to TRS Board of Trustees and the Legislature annually by December 31 of each year for three years.
2. Ensure the Teacher Retirement System (TRS) has actuarially sound funding. Maintain TRS as a defined benefit plan and increase the state's contribution to TRS as both are significant strategies to recruit and retain qualified teachers and support staff.

***Local Authority:***

1. Permit districts to hold an authorization election rather than a tax ratification election to obtain voter approval for future assessment of the remaining M&O pennies authorized by law.
2. Reject legislation that would impose caps on revenue a District can generate, including tax caps, appraisal caps and revenue caps.
3. Reject legislation that expands required ballot language, mandates November election dates or requires a super majority for school bond and tax rate elections.
4. Grant public school districts flexibility to invest surplus oil and gas royalties in accordance with the Texas Trust Code, similar to the provisions included in HB 1472 passed by the 85<sup>th</sup> Legislature.
5. Provide relief from current unfunded state mandates and not add additional unfunded mandates (see sample list of unfunded mandates at Exhibit A).



**School Choice:** *The Arlington ISD is a district that offers choice for students and parents. While a school voucher program is perhaps the most polarizing issue in public education today, public school districts should be recognized for providing true choice to their constituents. The 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature should:*

1. Reject any legislation that diverts public funds to private institutions that are not accountable to the public for the use of those funds.
2. Incentivize school districts to provide program choices by fully funding transportation costs for choice programs.
3. Expand flexibilities available through the district of innovation regulations.
4. Require more transparency and accountability for charters, including:
  - transparency on charter school applications and student admission into charter schools;
  - enrollment demographics reflective of local demographics;
  - procedures to ensure “wait lists” are accurately reported to TEA on a semi-annual basis pursuant to a consistent uniform definition of a “wait list” student;
  - teacher certification requirements comparable to those required for public school teachers;
  - posting teacher certifications and years of experience;
  - releasing directory information consistent with the Public Information Act requests and eliminate any loopholes that allow this information to be withheld;
  - posting financial data:
    - i. expenditures per student for each campus,
    - ii. debt per student, and
    - iii. the bond rating.

**Prekindergarten:** *Pre-K programs such as formula-funded public school pre-K, the High-Quality Pre-K Expansion Grant and the Pre-K Early Start Grant provide access for children who need pre-K most. Access to quality pre-K positively impacts academic readiness and performance. The 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature should:*

1. Provide weighted funding for pre-K students through the Foundation School Program formulas to fund early childhood education as a local district decision.
2. Permit districts to offer full-day pre-K programs at some or all campuses as a local district option and provide funding for the full-day program.

**ARLINGTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**UNFUNDED MANDATES**  
**Sample List**

22:1 Student/Teacher Ratio Grades K-4 (assumes a campus-wide average K-4 staffing ratio of 24:1)	\$17,941,000
TRS - payment on salaries above state minimum	7,328,354
TRS - state contribution for 1st 90 days on new employees	450,000
TRS-Care Retiree Insurance Plan (.75% of total payroll)	2,939,894
TRS-Supplemental 1.5% Contribution	4,462,147
Special Education Program - program mandates exceed state funding	21,313,561
Gifted and Talented Program - program mandates exceed state funding	18,360,460
End-of-Course Exams and STAAR Retesting	718,147
Locally Developed or Adopted Assessments	90,000
PEIMS Data Reporting	3,648,136
Budget & Tax Rate Hearing Notice	5,640
Schools FIRST Hearing Notice	5,084
Public Information Act Requests	29,724
Payment to county appraisal district to fund its operations	1,917,123
Elections	74,858
Criminal Records Checks	32,092
Cameras in Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms	1,122,698
Statutorily Required Public Notices	10,542
<b>Sum of Sample Unfunded Mandates</b>	<b>\$80,449,459</b>
2018-19 Operating Budget (net of Debt Service & Capital Outlay)	529,167,103
Percent of 2018-19 Operating Budget	15.20%



**AISD BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHARGE  
to the  
2019 CAPITAL NEEDS STEERING COMMITTEE**

The purpose of the 2019 Capital Needs Steering Committee (“Committee”) is to provide recommendations to the Arlington ISD Board of Trustees (“Board”) for prioritized facility and identified capital needs through 2025 to support the District’s strategic plan.

The Committee shall operate strictly within the charge approved by the Board.

The Committee shall serve in an advisory capacity to the Board and shall not assume the responsibilities or duties of the Board or the administration.

The Committee shall be comprised of a maximum of 38 members approved by the Board. At the discretion of the Board, committee membership may include:

- Three AISD Trustees (ex-officio members of the Committee)
- Twelve parents – two from each of the six high school networks. Individuals serving the Committee in this capacity must reside within their respective network attendance zone.
- Three AISD principals – one representing each grade span
- Three AISD teachers – one identified by each of the three teacher associations (ATPE, TSTA, and UEA)
- Three AISD employees (non-administrative employees)
- Three individuals representing the business community
- One individual identified by the City of Arlington to represent the City
- Two AISD students - selected from the Student Leadership Advisory Board
- Six at-large representatives who are not AISD employees
- Two college/university representatives – one identified by Tarrant County College and one identified by the University of Texas at Arlington

Individuals serving on the Committee in the membership categories of parents, at-large and non-administrative AISD employees must live within the AISD boundaries and pay property taxes, if applicable, to the Arlington Independent School District to be eligible for Committee membership.

Every application received by the Board will be given careful consideration. The final selection will be determined by the Board.

The Committee shall represent all citizens, all students, all school campuses, and all taxpayers within the boundaries of the Arlington ISD.

*October 15, 2018*

The Committee shall operate within applicable AISD policies and regulations and applicable law.

The Committee shall consider and acknowledge the *Achieve Today. Excel Tomorrow.* strategic plan to ensure all recommendations are aligned with the plan.

All meetings of the Committee and its subcommittees shall be open to the public for observation. Committee functions will be limited to those approved to be on the committee.

The Board shall appoint a Committee Chairperson(s) to serve at the will of the Board.

Committee meetings will be facilitated by Cooperative Strategies.

The AISD administration shall be available to the Committee as required, but within limitations imposed by the administration's daily duties.

The Committee shall provide interim progress reports to the Board as appropriate.

Each Committee member will be asked to make a firm commitment to attend all Committee meetings, to visit district facilities as needed, and to participate in the final consensus report to the Board. Committee members shall miss no more than one steering committee meeting and one subcommittee meeting to be eligible to vote on the recommendations compiled by the Committee.

A majority of the Committee membership must be present at scheduled meetings in order for the Committee to conduct business.

All decisions of the Committee shall be made by majority vote of those in attendance who are eligible to vote.

The Committee will begin its duties in January 2019. The target date for completion of responsibilities will be June 27, 2019. This completion of responsibilities will come in the form of a final report to the Board and Superintendent from the Committee Chairperson. This report will be made at a meeting of the Board. Upon completion of its responsibilities, the Committee's charge will expire and the Committee will no longer exist.

Actions taken by the Board on the recommendations presented by the Committee could include approval, amendment, alteration, or non-approval of any or all final recommendations.

The 2019 Capital Needs Steering Committee is charged with the following:

- Review internal and external background information including the *Achieve Today. Excel Tomorrow.* strategic plan, demographics data, educational standards, findings from a comprehensive facilities assessment, and future education trends to understand the impact these issues will have on the District's facilities and capital needs.

- Review the recommendation regarding a Tax Ratification Election and bond election presented to the Board of Trustees by the Financial Futures Committee on February 15, 2018, consider the projected impact that a TRE and bond election will have on the District's total tax rate and acknowledge the projected impact in the Committee's report to the Board.
- Engage the community in dialogue regarding future direction and take public input on facilities and identified capital needs of the district to support the District's strategic plan.
- Analyze, prioritize and recommend options and funding needs through 2025 for facilities and identified capital needs of the district to support the District's strategic plan.
- Establish and organize subcommittees, as appropriate, to research and analyze capital needs of the district to support the District's strategic plan.
- Provide interim progress reports to the Board as appropriate.
- Agree by majority vote of the committee members present and eligible to vote upon all final recommendations to be presented to the community and to the Board.
- Issue to the Board a final report no later than June 27, 2019, including a set of comprehensive proposals that could be incorporated into a possible future bond election to be called by the Board at a later date.