



For Immediate Release

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES NAMES ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

ARLINGTON, Texas, Jan. 17, 2019 – The AISD Board of Trustees today announces assistant principals at Sam Houston High School, Barnett Junior High, Jones Academy of Fine Arts and Dual Language, and Speer Elementary.

Myrna Vazquez has been named an assistant principal at Sam Houston High School. Vazquez has been a bilingual/ESL/migrant language testing coordinator in the Irving ISD since 2015. Prior to that, she was an assistant principal at the Newcomer Academy in the IISD from 2015 to 2017. Vazquez was a Title I and parent involvement coordinator in the Mission Consolidated ISD from 2012 to 2014. She worked as a senior education specialist at the Region I Education Service Center from 2009 to 2012 and an eighth-grade English-language arts teacher in the MCISD from 2003 to 2009. Vazquez has both a bachelor's and a master's from the University of Texas Pan American.

David Downs has been named an assistant principal at Barnett Junior High. Downs has been a math teacher at Carter Junior High in the AISD since 2018. Prior to that, he was an eighth-grade social studies teacher (2017-2018), an eighth-grade math teacher (2015-2017) and a sixth-grade science and math teacher (2014-2015) at Austin Middle School in the Irving ISD. Downs was a seventh- and eighth-grade math teacher at Family Faith Academy in Oak Cliff from 2012 to 2014. Downs was also a seventh-grade social studies teacher (2010-2011 and 2007-2009) and an eighth-grade math teacher (2009-2010) at Brewer Middle School in the White Settlement ISD. Downs has two bachelor's degrees from the University of Texas at Arlington and a master's from Southwest Baptist Theological Seminary.

Marisa Guzman has been named the assistant principal at Jones Academy. Guzman has been an instructional coach at Wolfe Elementary in the Katy ISD since 2014. Prior to that, she was a fourth-grade bilingual teacher at Sundown Elementary in the KISD from 2009 to 2014. Guzman was also a

bilingual kindergarten teacher at Schulze Elementary in the Irving ISD from 2006 to 2009 and a bilingual and first-grade teacher at Good Elementary in the IISD from 2002 to 2006. Guzman was a first-grade bilingual reading recovery teacher and bilingual kindergarten math and science teacher at Parker and Houston elementaries in the Midland ISD from 2001 to 2002, and she was a pre-K bilingual/migrant teacher at West Early Childhood Center in the MISD from 1998 to 2001. Guzman has a bachelor's from the University of Texas Permian Basin and a master's from the University of Texas at Arlington.

Dr. Kimberly Saffold has been named an assistant principal at Speer Elementary. Saffold has been the academic dean at Speer since 2017. Prior to that, she was an elementary math instructional specialist in the curriculum and instruction department for the AISD from 2014 to 2017. Saffold was a K-8 intervention specialist at Schulze Elementary in the Irving ISD from 2013 to 2014. She also taught fifth- and sixth-grade math and science at Eubanks Intermediate (2001-2013) and Durham Intermediate (1998-2001) and third grade at Durham Elementary (1995-1998) and Carroll Elementary (1994-1995) in the Carroll ISD. Saffold has a bachelor's from Northwest College in Minnesota and a master's and doctorate from American College of Education.

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