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## A MESSAGE FROM DR. CAVAZOS

We're off and running for another school year and another year of *MyArlingtonISD*. The year is already off to a successful start because of the support we had from everyone on our annual Back to School Kickoff event at AT&T Stadium. The event wouldn't be possible without the support we have from our sponsors and volunteers, and I want to thank them again for their effort.

Congratulations to Boles Junior High principal Codi Van Duzee for being selected to represent our district in the Cahn Fellows Program for Distinguished Principals. The mission of the program is to improve large urban school systems by providing distinguished school leaders with professional development and recognition. Van Duzee will be an outstanding representative for our district.

I hope your school year is off to a great start. I look forward to sharing the great stories throughout the district in these pages in the coming months.



## IT'S ALL ABOUT PERSPECTIVE

Head on. Face to face. She prefers to look challenges directly in the eye.

After being in the education field for over 20 years, it can be easy to get comfortable with the rhythms of the school year. The list goes on and on, from never-ending professional development and specialized trainings to constant programming for students.

That's not the case for Codi Van Duzee, principal at Boles Junior High, though.

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Year after year, it is inevitable for new challenges to arise with students. But Van Duzee is always up for a challenge.

Because of her commitment to adapting to students' unique needs, she was recently selected to represent Arlington in the Cahn Fellows Program for Distinguished Principals.

The fellows program will allow representatives from across the nation to gather virtually and in person to discuss the role that systems, equity, gender, race, communication and other elements play in education. Their first stop is New York in October followed by a trip to Gettysburg in

though. The committee wanted to hear from the ones most impacted by Van Duzee's leadership, so they went into the community. Parents at her current and previous school, teachers and Osten were asked about Van Duzee.

There is no doubt about her love for kids and the impact she's had on the community, and the committee agreed by selecting her for the program.

The Fort Worth native always knew she wanted to work with kids and started off going to the University of North Texas for counseling. Her heart for children with unique learning styles was the catalyst for the career path switch from counseling to teaching.

This may be her first year at Boles, but she's not new to the district. The 22-year Arlington ISD veteran went from being a substitute at Percy to the principal. Her many roles at Percy, including special education teacher, interventionist and assistant principal, developed her love for teaching and passion for helping students thrive in and out of the classroom.

"Codi is an excellent example of continuous improvement, and I'm proud of her commitment to the success of her students and staff," said Dr. Marcelo Cavazos, Arlington ISD superintendent. "The emphasis she puts on ensuring each student's unique needs are met and her heart to empower those around her is what makes her a true leader in education."



*"There are always going to be challenges, and we shouldn't be afraid to face them, take risks and adjust to provide better outcomes for students."*

December

"My favorite part of being a principal is building relationships with the kids, getting to know them individually, and coaching and supporting teachers," said Van Duzee. "Not only will the fellows program help grow my leadership skills so I can be more effective, but it will help grow the people around me."

She was nominated for the program by Arlington ISD executive director Shelly Osten. From March to July, Van Duzee submitted multiple essays and data and was interviewed by the program's director.

She wasn't the only one getting interviewed,

With three boys of her own and working as an adjunct professor at Southern Methodist University, Van Duzee has her hands full. They are never full enough to extend them to others, though.

"Ultimately, I want to share things I've learned with the people around me," Van Duzee said. "I'm most excited to learn from others around the country. There's great value in diverse perspectives and experiences."

"There are always going to be challenges, and we shouldn't be afraid to face them, take risks and adjust to provide better outcomes for students."



## NEW ONLINE REPORTING FOR WORKER'S COMP COMING SOON!

A new online reporting system will go live October 3, 2022, for worker's compensation claims. Supervisors, foremen, school secretaries, nurses or other department designees must report workplace injuries by completing the First Report of Injury (FROI) form online immediately following any incidents.

Several virtual training sessions on how to report an injury online have been scheduled through the month of September. All supervisors, foremen, school secretaries, nurses and department safety representatives are required to attend this training.

Please encourage your staff to sign up for one of these trainings.

Registration is available in [KickUp](#), our online sign-up portal.

Once registered, your staff will get an e-mail with more information regarding the training.

If you have any questions for risk management staff, please contact [riskmanagement@aisd.net](mailto:riskmanagement@aisd.net).

### AVAILABLE TRAINING DATES

1. **Wednesday, September 7, 2022**  
1 - 2 p.m.
2. **Thursday, September 8, 2022**  
10 - 10:45 a.m.
3. **Tuesday, September 13, 2022**  
10 - 10:45 a.m.
4. **Wednesday, September 21, 2022**  
1 - 2 p.m.
5. **Tuesday, September 27, 2022**  
10 - 10:45 a.m.
6. **Thursday, September 29, 2022**  
9 - 9:45 a.m.

## SEPTEMBER HOLIDAYS AND OBSERVANCES

Library Card Sign-up Month [arlingtonlibrary.org](http://arlingtonlibrary.org)  
National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month

|                                    |             |                                   |          |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Christa McAuliffe's Birthday       | Sept. 2     | Texian Navy Day                   | Sept. 17 |
| Labor Day (Staff Holiday)          | Sept. 5     | National Cheeseburger Day         | Sept. 18 |
| Texas First Responders Day         | Sept. 11    | Talk Like A Pirate Day            | Sept. 19 |
| Cowboys Begin Super Bowl Run       | Sept. 11    | National IT Professional Day      | Sept. 20 |
| Patriot Day                        | Sept. 11    | International Day of Peace        | Sept. 21 |
| Grandparents' Day                  | Sept. 11    | First Day of Fall: Autumn Equinox | Sept. 22 |
| National Arts in Education Week    | Sept. 11-17 | End of First Six Weeks            | Sept. 23 |
| Hispanic Heritage Month Begins     | Sept. 15    | Rosh Hashanah Begins (sundown)    | Sept. 25 |
| Stepfamily Day                     | Sept. 16    | Start of Second Six Weeks         | Sept. 26 |
| Citizenship Day & Constitution Day | Sept. 17    | Rosh Hashanah Ends (sundown)      | Sept. 27 |

In the event of an emergency, clarity is key. Here are the terms you need to know:

## LOCKDOWN

A **LOCKDOWN** is when there is a direct threat or hazard to people or school property. From parental custody disputes to intruders to an active shooter, Lockdown uses classroom and school security actions to protect students and staff from threats.

**WHAT STUDENTS AND STAFF HEAR:**

“We are in lockdown. Use the LACE/Lock protocol to lockdown in the nearest safe place.”

**EXAMPLE:**

There is a person causing a severe safety threat on the property.

**WHAT IT MEANS:**

There could be a report of an armed intruder or any person who is posing a possible direct threat to the campus and the students, staff and visitors present.

**WHAT WE’LL DO:**

Arlington ISD Security and local law enforcement will work together to identify and contain the threat as fast as possible.

**WHAT YOU SHOULD DO:**

Look for updates by text message, email, the campus Facebook page or the [Security Tracker](#). The scene is unsafe. Stay a safe distance away and wait for instructions from the district and law enforcement.

## SHELTER

**SHELTER** is when there is a threat or hazard outside the school building. Whether it’s due to police activity in the immediate neighborhood, or a dangerous animal on the playground, Shelter uses the security of the physical facility to act as protection.

**What you’ll hear:**

“There is a safety threat outside the facility.”

**EXAMPLE:**

There is police activity in the area; there is a barking dog on the playground; there is a suspicious vehicle parked near the football field.

**WHAT IT MEANS:**

The situation does not currently pose a known threat as long as students, staff and visitors are inside the building.

**WHAT WE’LL DO:**

Get all students, staff and visitors inside the building, lock all doors from the inside, monitor the situation and send notifications to families and staff.

**WHAT YOU SHOULD DO:**

Look for text and email updates. Because the threat is not in the school, it is unsafe for you to come to the school as it could place you near the external threat. Please do not come to the school during a shelter event.

If you are campus-based, make sure that you are signed up to receive text notifications from Blackboard in emergency situations. Check the “permission to text” box next to your cell phone number in the employee service center. It’s that easy!

## WEATHER

### **WHAT YOU’LL HEAR:**

“The National Weather Service has issued a severe weather alert. Take shelter on campus and follow severe weather procedures.”

### **EXAMPLE:**

The National Weather Service has issued a tornado warning for Tarrant County.

### **WHAT IT MEANS:**

A Tornado or Severe Thunderstorm WARNING means that the hazard has been spotted or is indicated on radar.

### **WHAT WE’LL DO:**

Arlington ISD staff, students and visitors will move to the safest locations within each facility affected by the warning and take cover until the severe weather passes. We will notify families when, where and how to pick up students as quickly as possible after the storm has passed.

### **WHAT YOU SHOULD DO:**

Take shelter in the nearest safe location, away from windows and on the ground floor if possible. Know that school personnel are getting your kids to safety. Do not drive to the school as vehicles are unsafe during severe wind, hail and flooding events. Look for updates by text message, email, the campus Facebook page or the [Security Tracker](#).

## HAZMAT

### **WHAT YOU’LL HEAR:**

“There’s a potentially hazardous situation outside of the facility.”

### **EXAMPLE:**

A train or large truck carrying chemicals is involved in an accident and there is a release of dangerous substances that first responders have deemed a threat to public safety.

### **WHAT IT MEANS:**

First responders have declared that the area outside of the facility is not safe at that time. No one will be allowed to leave the facility, or enter it from the outside.

### **WHAT WE’LL DO:**

Students, staff and visitors will shelter in place within each facility and Arlington ISD Facility Services will close off the outside air to the facility and remain in constant communication with Arlington Fire officials for further instructions.

### **WHAT YOU SHOULD DO:**

Stay away from the facility and look for updates by text message, email, the campus Facebook page or the [Security Tracker](#).



The eighth annual Arlington ISD Back to School Kickoff at AT&T Stadium was the place to be. Arlington ISD students received free backpacks filled with school supplies, dental and vision screenings and haircuts. There was also a resource fair with more than 100 vendors ready to help students and families get the year off on the right foot. More than 800 volunteers were also on hand to help wherever needed. The event couldn't have happened without them and these sponsors: the Gene and Jerry Jones Arlington Youth Foundation, BluSource, Atmos Energy, Baylor Scott & White Orthopedic and Spine Hospital Arlington, Fielder Church, North Davis Church of Christ, Texas Trust Gives Foundation, WSS, Rush Creek Church, Cook Children's Health Plan, Gospel City Church, The Grace Place, Greater Arlington Chamber of Commerce, Inspired to Live Church, Kestrel on Cooper, McDonald's of North Texas, PetSuites of Arlington, Westminster Presbyterian, Xi Theta Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc.

