

A MESSAGE FROM DR. CAVAZOS

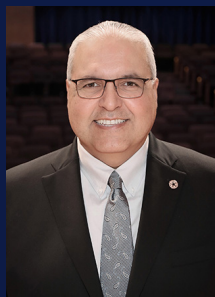
I know some people say the holiday season is the most wonderful time of the year. This edition of *MyArlingtonISD* is my favorite of the year because I get to read more about what's going on in so many of your lives.

Reading through this issue I know what a lot of you are thankful for, what you've learned about yourself and what you're looking forward to in 2022.

I am thankful for all your hard work and dedication in a memorable 2021. I'm also looking forward to seeing how you continue to shape the lives of our students in 2022.

This issue also gives us a great reminder about the gifts we have as educators, whether it's the gift of differentiation Dr. Steven Wurtz writes about or the gift of feedback Jamie MacDougall hits on. There are gifts everywhere in our district.

I hope you have a safe and restful break, and I look forward to seeing you back in 2022.



LOOKING BACK, MOVING FORWARD

To wrap up 2021 for MyArlingtonISD we wanted to hear from you. It's been another interesting year so we asked some of our stakeholders a series of questions. Here's what they had to say.

WHAT ARE YOU MOST THANKFUL FOR?

"I am most thankful that I have passed my certification tests so that I can apply for my standard teacher's license and for relocating to Texas!" **-Khanda Ward, Sherrod Elementary Inclusion Teacher**

"I am thankful for the people that are showing strength and resilience as we are preparing for what is next. And people that keep working to heal our community - no matter how they are showing compassion, whether they are working in the hospitals, teaching our children, helping with vaccines, assisting a neighbor in need or cleaning our schools." **-Rosana Renzzo, Crow Leadership Academy Nurse**

"I am truly thankful for the gift of life this year. I learned how quickly life can be taken and to cherish the moments and people that we have every day." **-Esther Gay, Sam Houston High School Teacher**

"I am thankful for my health and the health of my family. We have been fortunate to have been spared any of the miseries of COVID-19." **-Tammy Beaumont, Fitzgerald Elementary Nurse**



THE GIFT OF DIFFERENTIATION

By Dr. Steven Wurtz, Arlington ISD chief academic officer

Differentiation. It's a word that is commonly used throughout the education community. It is also a word that is routinely misused. Most individuals using this term do so to describe their effort to provide a variety of entry points to children in the learning process. We often hear of differentiation of content (what is taught), process (how it is taught), product (how mastery is demonstrated) and the learning environment. Examples are regularly provided with teachers creating centers and students rotating through a variety of learning activities to practice new concepts. And while it is true that differentiation can in fact include these things, that is only a small part of the story.

So what is true differentiation and why is it so important? As public school educators, we have the unique privilege of providing a high quality education to all students in our community - not just some. These learners come from a variety of backgrounds. Some students arrive at the school's doorstep with a strong foundation in basic literacy and numeracy skills. Others may need teachers to build that foundation to prepare them for more complex concepts down the road. Regardless of the skill sets students arrive with, we want school to be meaningful and engaging whenever a student participates in the learning process. This requires us as educators to first do our homework. I would like to suggest two main assignments.

1. Get to know each student on an individual level. What does your learner think about and enjoy when they are on their own time? Do they have passions or interests? Do they have hobbies? What aspects of the world or their community peak their interest or inspire them to ask questions? The more we know about our learners, the better we are able to ensure that we frame and shape the lessons in a way that is engaging and naturally draws them into the learning process. Who wouldn't want to master new skills while diving into topics that we are naturally drawn to?
2. Understand what the individual students know and don't know about the concept about to be taught. Like we talked about last month, we need to pre-assess our learners to make sure we know what they already know about our unit of study. By understanding where they are on the continuum of mastery, we can be sure that the learning process includes the very skills they need to successfully meet the expectations of the grade level standard.

Differentiation is a gift. It is one that is wrapped with care and effort by the teacher. The best gifts we receive are those we can tell came from a giver who knew us well and used that knowledge to find something that would bring us a small moment of joy. This holiday season, let's continue to provide our students with the joy of learning and gift them with learning that is customized and differentiated just for them.

DISTRICT BREAKS GROUND FOR NEW BERRY AND THORNTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

The gray skies, chilly temperature and occasional drizzle could not dampen the mood.

As Arlington ISD broke ground this month for the construction of a new Berry Elementary, Berry principal Rose Ravin's excitement and anticipation was contagious.

Ravin reminded everyone why the original Berry, which opened in 1955, was demolished this fall and now will be replaced with a new school funded by the 2019 Bond. With 18 years working in east Arlington elementary schools, she has served at Knox (built in 1960), Thornton (built in 1956), Berry and Roark (built in 1961).

"As I reflect upon those four buildings," Ravin said, "all I can say is – it's time. It is time!"

The new building has been designed to offer students the opportunities they need to thrive in the 21st century but also to preserve and promote the strong legacy and community Berry already has. It's a legacy of love and community, of outstanding students and caring teachers, that will carry into the new building.



Thornton Elementary School Groundbreaking

"Berry Elementary holds a special place in a lot of our hearts," said Arlington ISD Board of Trustees Vice President Bowie Hogg. When Hogg was a high school student at Arlington High School, he served as a Berry Buddy, visiting Berry each week to help mentor elementary students.

"It has been a staple of the community," he said. "It is critical to our success in the entire City of Arlington."

THORNTON ELEMENTARY

Exactly one week before Berry's groundbreaking, the district broke ground just a couple miles away at the Thornton Elementary site.

"It's for them," Arlington ISD superintendent Dr. Marcelo Cavazos said about the students. "It's not for us, not for the adults. It's for them today, tomorrow, for their future, for their siblings

and for generations for years to come."

"It" is a new school building for Thornton. The original building, which first opened in 1956, was demolished this fall, and a new school will be constructed on the same site.

"A state-of-the-art brand-new building will definitely elevate our school and our community," said Thornton principal Alicia Rodriguez, "but we need something else."

That "something else" is something they already have. That "special ingredient," she said, is the people, the wonderful teachers, students, parents and community that have made Thornton an incredible place for 65 years.

"We can hardly wait to see what our new school will look like," a Thornton student told the audience before Thornton choir students sang a song about their school pride. "But we know it will be great because what really counts is on the inside."

2019 BOND

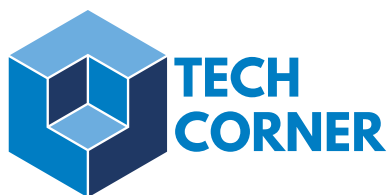
Replacing Berry and Thornton is part of a larger plan for



Berry Elementary School Groundbreaking

SEE BOND 2019

16



TEACHER USES H5P TO MEET A VARIETY OF NEEDS

H5P is a tool that allows teachers in grades 3-12 to create and share interactive videos, presentations, quizzes, timelines and much more through a Canvas integration.

It's ideal for providing students with quick, self-paced checks for understanding on Canvas pages. The dynamic interactives can also be created as Canvas assignments that automatically populate scores in the Canvas gradebook. Furthermore, teachers can choose from a wide array of interactive question types, including multi-select, hot spot and drag & drop. These are question formats that students will soon see on future STAAR tests.

Ginny George, math teacher at Bailey Junior High, says that she uses H5P interactives when delivering content, checking for understanding, and for graded assignments. She really likes using this collection of tools to provide opportunities for low stakes checks for understanding among her students.

"We have used accordion, hot spots, interactive videos, flash cards, quiz, drag and drop, fill in the blanks, image choice/sequencing," she said. "Last year, it was awesome because students were able to check for their own understanding and decide if they were ready to attempt a graded assignment or if they needed to reach out for help."



*Ginny George,
Bailey Junior High School*

Many teachers are also seeing the benefit of H5P as the Active Learning Cycle rolls out at their campuses. Tools like interactive videos are great to use in both the Inspire phase and the Acquire phase of the process, while using tools like Drag & Drop, Find the Hotspot, or Sort the

Paragraphs are great for building creative pre-assessments in the Commit phase.

"This year, it is equally awesome doing ALC," George said. "We usually work it into their learning pathways so that they can check to see if they know what they are doing before the graded level up. It's also nice that they can't just skip through videos if they are assigned one for a DIY."

To learn more about building interactive content with H5P or about getting started with any other TI2 endorsed apps, please visit aisd.net/endorsedapps.

DYNAMIC DIGITAL RESOURCES FROM LIBRARY MEDIA SERVICES

TumbleBook Library is an online collection of animated, talking books that help students find joy in reading picture books in a format they love.

TumbleBooks add sound, music and narration to electronic picture books that can be read or read to the student. Some books have a Word Helper feature that allows students to click on a book to hear a sentence repeated or click on a vocabulary word to hear it pronounced. The collection is always available with no downloads and no holds. To read, watch or listen to a great book, click on the icon below and enter the username and password shown below.



Username: aisdsec

Password: student

FEEDBACK IS A GIFT!

By Jamie MacDougall,
Arlington ISD director of
curriculum and instruction

Feedback is the secret sauce that allows us to take our work to the next level. It tells us what is helpful and relevant. Through this process, we also discover ideas and suggestions that help us improve our work. Our goal in the curriculum and instruction department is to support teachers in designing and implementing instruction that produces relevant, responsive and effective teaching and learning.

We are gathering feedback through focus groups, campus discussions and surveys that will provide a comprehensive picture of our celebrations and opportunities. Be on the lookout for an email when you return in January to provide more detailed feedback on what we need to celebrate and where we need to adjust.



WHAT ARE YOU MOST THANKFUL FOR?

CONTINUED

"This year I am most thankful for the family and co-workers that I have. I already believed everyone to be great, but these bumpy roads we've traveled and continue to travel only showed me how resilient and selfless they are." **-Liliana Garcia, Crouch Elementary Teacher**



"My life." **-Colette Adams Taylor, Blanton Elementary Student Support Interventionalist**

"My new husband - he's amazing (encourages me in my faith and fitness journey, helps with laundry and dishes, and picks up the dog poop)!" **-Shayla Chapman, Gunn Junior High Teacher**

"Surviving another year of the pandemic."
-Gilbert Dunn, Johns Elementary Special Education Teacher

"I'm thankful to work with not only the best examples of humanity (our students), but I'm also thankful to work with such a dedicated group of educators. They are true professionals, expert relationship builders and knowledgeable instructional leaders. They prioritize their learning for the benefit of their students, and they have high expectations for every single student to grow." **-Aimee Myers, Fitzgerald Elementary Instructional Coach**

"I am thankful for my students being able to return to the classroom."
-Sarah Alderman, Sherrod Elementary Teacher

"I'm thankful to have a family that loves and supports me in all my life decisions. On a side note, I am thankful for the \$500 that AISD has decided to give us for the holidays." **-Kesha Summerhill, Ditto Elementary Counselor**

"This year and every day of my life, I am most thankful for my relationship with God my Father, Christ Jesus my Lord, the Holy Spirit my Comforter, all the angels the Lord sends to minister to me, and the wisdom found in the Bible. I'm also grateful to share the gift of love with my family, friends and associates." **-Sherry Hopwood, Transportation**

"People that I work with that care and show it."
-Christine Dixon, Dunn Elementary Secretary

WHAT ARE YOU MOST THANKFUL FOR? CONTINUED

"My family." **-Amy Gramolini, Workman Junior High Teacher**

”

"I am most thankful for my awesome husband, Mike, and for my family. Time with them is always a treasure."

Cindy Harbison, Duff Elementary Principal



"I am thankful for my team and family." **-Dara Cunningham, Fitzgerald Elementary Teacher**

"I am most thankful for the dedication and perseverance my peers and students have shown these past two and a half years. It shows that no matter the circumstances, we all can strive to be the best versions of ourselves each day." **-Michael Spurlock, Atherton Elementary Teacher**

"Being given the opportunity to transfer to a new position within my home campus, which gave me an overall chance to improve my well-being while keeping my mantra of helping my community." **-Zonia Uriegas, Bryant Elementary Attendance Clerk**

"I'm most thankful for the incredible support I have received this year since coming aboard here at Atherton." **-Danial Emory, Atherton Elementary Teacher**

"I am so thankful to have grown through each challenge this past year. My perspective has shifted and turned to an outlook of gratitude. It has impacted everything in my life, and I consider each new challenge as joy in being able to grow further!" **-Victoria Medrano, Carter Junior High Teacher**

"I am thankful for having a family that loves one another and cares for one another." **-Edwin Holmquist, Newcomer Center Teacher**

"My job, my house, my car, my family, my pets, my school-family and my students." **-Nina Papadopoulos, Blanton Elementary Teacher**

"The opportunity to return to face-to-face instruction after it was interrupted, suspended, and paused due to COVID-19. Seeing students and teachers back in the building makes school feel real and alive again!" **-Chauncey Reese, Sam Houston High Dean of Instruction**

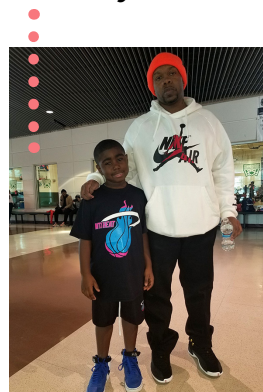
"Always thankful for God and family. Teaching in person and our bonus was a nice surprise." **-Kandice Rockett, Ashworth Elementary Teacher**

"This year, I am most thankful for my team. They support me when I am having a rough day and encourage me to keep going. They keep me smiling." **-Amy Laird, Johns Elementary Teacher**

"I am most thankful for a caring team who is dedicated to making the most out of situations and finding fun ways to connect with our students." **-Bailey Searcey, Boles Junior High Teacher**

"I am thankful for my family and my Fitzgerald Elementary family." **-Karla Murray, Fitzgerald Elementary Teacher**

"I'm most thankful for my son's father, who has stage 4 cancer, having the opportunity to finally get to come home after being in the hospital since November 3." **-LaSonia Blackston, Percy STEM Academy Teacher**



WHAT ARE YOU MOST THANKFUL FOR? CONTINUED

"My health. I am so grateful to have never contracted COVID-19." **-Cyndi Chlup, Corey Academy Teacher**

"I am most thankful for the wonderful people I work with who support each other through thick and thin." **-Cindy Calaluca, Dunn Elementary Teacher**

"To be able to teach during the pandemic." **-Angela Lam, Corey Academy Teacher**

"What I am most thankful for this year is growth, perspective and most importantly health."

-Dahtiya Murray, Transportation

"A supportive loving family, friends and church family." **-Carrie Wulfsberg, Boles Junior High Teacher**

"My co-workers - I hear them on the radio helping each other out and that warms my heart to know they all have my back and I have theirs." **-Eliza Zepeda, Transportation**

"I am thankful for Crumbl cookies and Borden whole milk." **-Fanis Wade, Gunn Junior High Teacher**

"I am so thankful for the hard work my students provide. I am thankful for all of the support given by my administrators when I need to take time for GT Cadre. Most of all, I am thankful for colleagues who are more like family rather than coworkers. They always offer kind and encouraging words, chocolate and listening ears." **-Susan Welch Anderson, Crow Leadership Academy Teacher**

"I am most thankful for my wonderful sixth-grade team here at Pearcy. We have overcome and flourished in very tumultuous seas this year. Their strength, patience, endurance, creativity and love for their students make me a better teacher." **-Robin Lage, Pearcy STEM Academy Teacher**



"I am most thankful for being alive this year. I survived a stroke on April 16 and have been able to come back to work and live life with gusto!" **-Paige Rodgers, Lamar High Nurse**

"Less COVID-19, 6th graders and 1/2 of a new building." **-Cyndie Stevens, Gunn Junior High Nurse**

"I am most thankful for life! My husband and I had severe long COVID-19 for almost three months. We were both in the hospital and almost died, but the Lord decided he wanted us to be here on earth a little longer." **-Cathy Wilkerson, Atherton Elementary Nurse**

"I am truly thankful that I still know how to reach and teach my students. After being physically, emotionally and educationally separated from a normal setting for nearly two years, I was starting to doubt myself. I cannot express how thankful I am for each and every student in my classroom. We needed each other, and things are getting better each day!" **-Sherri Wade, Sam Houston High Teacher**



"I am most thankful for the students and staff at Sam Houston making me feel welcome as a newcomer this year!"

• • • • • **-Teresa Burt, Sam Houston High Teacher**

"I am most thankful for the love and support of my family and co-workers. I couldn't do this without them." **-Charlene Monroe, Bebessee Elementary Teacher**

"I am most thankful for my family's health and well-being this year." **-Chantil Bounheuavilay, Wimbish World Language Academy Teacher**

“Personally, I am most thankful for my boys moving closer to me. One son lived in California and one in Arizona, and this year they both relocated to San Antonio. I’m one happy mom! Professionally, I am most thankful for a classroom full of scholars who are excited to come to school every day and learn. I love my pre-K 4 babies!” **-Gabrella Ayala, Anderson Elementary Teacher**

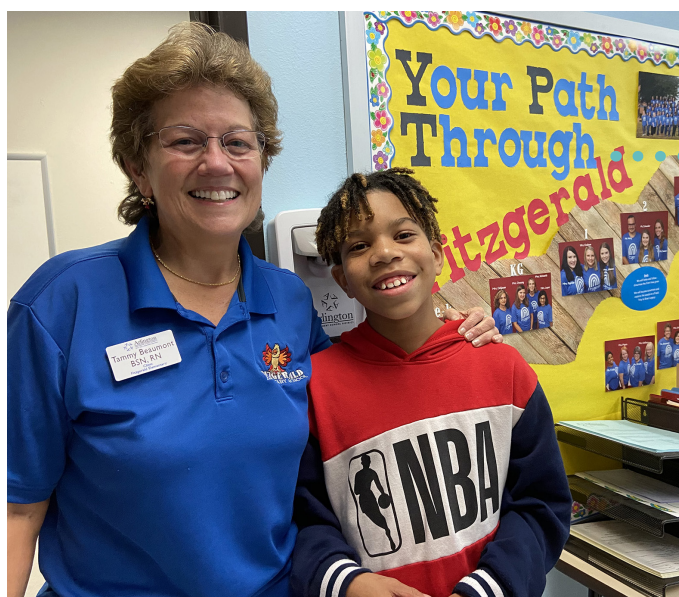
“I am most thankful for a job and students who want to learn and seem to enjoy learning.” **-Brenda Payne, Key Elementary Teacher**

“This school year, I am thankful for my team. In this post-COVID-19 learning environment, it has been so valuable to have a team that I can lean on for support.” **-Stacey Williams, Lamar High Teacher**



“I am thankful for my husband and my two teenagers. My son is a senior in high school this year, so I am thankful for his drive and determination to complete his college entrance essays. I am thankful for my daughter making the 7th grade basketball team. I am also thankful for my husband taking the lead with my teenagers while I attend school at night and on the weekends to complete my doctoral degree.” **-Camille Austin-Henderson, Sherrod Elementary School Counselor**

WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED ABOUT YOURSELF THIS YEAR?



“As a nurse working with children for the first time, I have learned that the innocence of my elementary school students has touched my heart like nothing else I’ve ever experienced in nursing.”

••• **-Tammy Beaumont, Fitzgerald Elementary Nurse**

“I have learned that learning new things and growing professionally benefits the entire school.”

-Sarah Alderman, Sherrod Elementary Teacher

“I have learned that sometimes I need support and that it is okay to lean on those around me.”

-Liliana Garcia, Crouch Elementary Teacher

“I am more resilient than I thought I was.”

-Kesha Summerhill, Ditto Elementary Counselor

“That I can face challenges and come out positive.”

-Christine Dixon, Dunn Elementary Secretary

“Personally, I have learned that I am one strong amazing woman! I recently got out of a very unhealthy relationship, and I am making it on my own and living life to its fullest! Professionally, I have learned that I am even more flexible with teaching than I thought possible. I made it through a pandemic teaching both virtually and face to face. We got this!” **-Gabrella Ayala, Anderson Elementary Teacher**

WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED ABOUT YOURSELF THIS YEAR?

"I've learned that despite a global pandemic, I am still capable of making a positive impact on the students and community I serve." **-Michael Spurlock, Atherton Elementary Teacher**

"I learned that as a nurse, I do not have superpowers. However, I do have more empathy and humanity inside me than I once thought was possible."

-Rosana Renzzo, Crow Leadership Academy Nurse



"Regardless of the amount of trials in my life, I can get through it." **-Amy Gramolini, Workman Junior High Teacher**

"That I can accomplish challenging tasks with support from my school and coworkers." **-Dara Cunningham, Fitzgerald Elementary Teacher**

"I have learned that I only have to keep putting one foot in front of the other to continue to grow." **-Karla Murray, Fitzgerald Elementary Teacher**

"This year has taught me to keep persevering and pushing forward, seize every opportunity to learn new things, and improve myself! Attract what I expect, reflect what I desire, become what I respect and mirror what I admire." **-Dahtiya Murray, Transportation**

"I can stay calm under pressure."

-April Gallegos, Beckham Elementary Teacher

"I can change the way I teach and my expectations of students at the drop of a dime." **-Nina Papadopoulos, Blanton Elementary Teacher**

"I learned that I can lose 25 pounds when I try hard enough." **-Cyndi Chlup, Corey Academy Teacher**

"I learned that I am an empath and because of that, I have to be intentional in my self-care in order to be a better wife, mother and teacher." **-Esther Gay, Sam Houston High Teacher**

"I have learned to give myself credit and grace. Credit for knowing more than I ever acknowledged due to the pandemic and losing my father forced me to live differently than I ever have had to before." **-Chauncey Reese, Sam Houston High Dean of Instruction**

"Treasure the present. Things can be changed overnight." **-Angela Lam, Corey Academy Teacher**

"I learned that my resilience and optimism could be tested but not broken."

-Suzanne Kelley, Arlington High Teacher

"I am more emotionally and mentally flexible than I realized." **-Cyndie Stevens, Gunn Junior High Nurse**

"I have learned that I am much happier when I set work/life boundaries. I am more willing to give more with the time I set aside for each." **-Bailey Searcey, Boles Junior High Teacher**

"I've learned that I am stronger than I thought and that it is never too late to get healthier. I can now walk 3.5 miles without dying!" **-Paige Rodgers, Lamar High Nurse**

WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED ABOUT YOURSELF THIS YEAR?

CONTINUED

"I've learned that with age I get a bit more patient and definitely more sarcastic." **-Fanis Wade, Gunn Junior High Teacher**

"I have learned that I am more resilient and determined than I have ever been or even thought I was. Even when I have been faced with opposition, I have persevered and stayed strong and resilient." **-Khanda Ward, Sherrod Elementary Inclusion Teacher**

"I've learned that 40 isn't as bad as I thought. It's actually like my life is just beginning in many ways. I have learned that although I cannot control the actions of others, I can always control my response. Sometimes simply doing nothing is the best course of action. It only took me 40 years to learn that one!" **-Shayla Chapman, Gunn Junior High Teacher**

"I have learned that mindset is everything." **-Teresa Burt, Sam Houston High Teacher**

"I have learned to always focus on the bigger picture and put God first when making tough decisions." **-Camille Austin-Henderson, Sherrod Elementary School Counselor**

"This year has taught me more than ever to trust in God's timing and that I can do HARD things." **-Charlene Monroe, Bebessee Elementary Teacher**

"I have learned that it's the simple things in life that truly make me happy!" **-LaSonia Blackston, Percy STEM Academy Teacher**

"I have learned that I have strength, resilience and determination." **-Cindy Calaluca, Dunn Elementary Teacher**



"I've learned that it was okay to say that I'm sad, scared and frustrated as we tried to return to 'normal' teaching this year. I also learned that it was okay to cry, doubt and laugh with my colleagues about these same concerns. It's been really hard, but we can move forward together."

-Sherri Wade, Sam Houston High Teacher

"I have learned that I can accomplish anything I put my heart and mind into." **-Michelle Hernandez, Foster Elementary Teacher**

"I have learned that I am more resilient than thought I was. This was not the ideal time to return to teaching after a long break, but the rewards are unbelievable." **-Brenda Payne, Key Elementary Teacher**



"I have discovered that I am a valued and trusted employee. I have learned to take 30 minutes at the end of the day to do something self-care related like jam to my favorite tunes while singing loudly, soaking in a scented hot bubble bath or just sitting in complete silence to reflect on what I have accomplished that day. This small thing has helped me become more balanced as an employee, friend, wife, mother, grandmother and human."

-Susan Welch Anderson, Crow Leadership Academy Teacher

"I can learn new things (such as the electric bass haha)!"

-Teresa Francis, Butler Elementary Teacher

"I have learned that I can do hard things. This year has been challenging in ways I never imagined. I have learned how to do so many things and have powered through when times got tough. I tell my students they can do hard things, and I am proud of how far we have all come so far." **-Amy Laird, Johns Elementary Teacher**

WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED ABOUT YOURSELF THIS YEAR?

CONTINUED

"I have learned that I turn to sugar when I'm stressed. But in all seriousness, I have learned the importance of saying 'no.' In an attempt to experience some kind of 'normalcy,' I found myself agreeing to be involved in everything and not allowing room for myself to mentally recover from the stressors of this year. The need to say no and prioritize self-care has never been my go-to, so this year I have been trying to make a conscious effort to prioritize myself." **-Stacey Williams, Lamar High Teacher**

"I need to pause and listen more."
-Serena Howcroft, Shackelford Junior High Counselor



"As a school bus driver, I have learned more about how to manage difficult and sometimes tedious situations when they come up. And especially not to overreact and keep my composure. How to try to never talk down to my kids and always try to leave them with something positive to think about." **-Leo Patterson, Transportation**

"I have definitely learned flexibility. As educators, we often have a Type A personality and want to control our surroundings. In this environment, it is paramount to let go of the things we can't control. Also, I have always been a huge proponent of forging meaningful student/teacher relationships. In our current climate, however, these relationships are more crucial for our students than ever before. Noticing a new haircut, asking about a sick relative, celebrating achievements and supporting them during disappointments have never been more important!" **-Robin Lage, Pearcy STEM Academy Teacher**

"I have learned that there are a lot of wonderful people out there that sincerely care and want to help you through your hardship. I was humbled and blessed to know these people, and I learned that if you give, others give back. I discovered you can experience the worst and come out stronger in other areas."

-Cathy Wilkerson, Atherton Elementary Nurse

"I've learned that I don't get lasting fulfillment from my material possessions, although I'm grateful for all the material blessings the Lord has given me. More importantly with peace and joy, I have the desire to love and bless others."

-Sherry Hopwood, Transportation

"I learned that I could let my guard down to trust the team I work with. I also learned that I am stronger than I give myself credit." **-Melody Remington, Lamar High Teacher**



WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO MOST IN 2022?

"I am looking forward to peace and prosperity in 2022. I am also excited to take my two small children to Walt Disney World for the first time."

-Kesha Summerhill, Ditto Elementary Counselor

"Growing in every area of my life - spiritually, mentally, physically and in wealth and prosperity."

-Colette Adams Taylor, Blanton Elementary Student Support Interventionalist

"A new and exciting year!" **-Gilbert Dunn, Johns Elementary Special Education Teacher**

"A new home." **-Serena Howcroft, Shackelford Junior High Counselor**

"I'm looking forward to all the celebrations of growth to come. We love to celebrate hitting goals, as well as growth towards those goals!"

-Aimee Myers, Fitzgerald Elementary Instructional Coach

"I am looking forward to the progress my students will continue to make in 2022." **-Sarah Alderman, Sherrod Elementary Teacher**

"I look forward to seeing all of us continue to blossom after these stormy times."

-Liliana Garcia, Crouch Elementary Teacher

"Continued good health and more kindness in the community." **-Christine Dixon, Dunn Elementary Secretary**

"Spending more time with my family and exploring a new career opportunity in addition to teaching."

-Amy Gramolini, Workman Junior High Teacher

"I am looking forward to seeing growth in my students and my brother's graduation." **-Dara Cunningham, Fitzgerald Elementary Teacher**

"Continuing to help my co-workers to the best of my ability, as well as continuing to grow in my position." **-Zonia Uriegas, Bryant Elementary Attendance Clerk**

"I am looking forward to seeing how my relationships with students continue to grow and their progress throughout the rest of the year."

-Bailey Searcey, Boles Junior High Teacher



JANUARY HOLIDAYS AND OBSERVANCES

Texas School Board Appreciation Month National Mentoring Month

New Year's Day	Jan. 1
Teacher Prep Day	Jan. 4
Start of Fourth Six Weeks	Jan. 5
Elvis Presley Birthday	Jan. 8
Law Enforcement Appreciation Day	Jan. 9
School Board Recognition at Board Meeting	Jan. 13
World Religion Day	Jan. 16
Martin Luther King Jr. Day (Student/Staff Holiday)	Jan. 17
Chocolate Cake Day	Jan. 27
All Positions Job Fair	Jan. 27

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO MOST IN 2022? CONTINUED

"Hopefully, a true end to this pandemic or at least a transition to more normalcy as we continue to learn how to cope with it. Other than that, I hope that my co-workers, students, friends and family all stay healthy and safe in the new year." **-Michael Spurlock, Atherton Elementary Teacher**

"I am looking forward to returning to some level of normalcy." **-Edwin Holmquist, Newcomer Center Teacher**

"I am looking forward to growing as an independent woman and strong teacher!" **-Gabrella Ayala, Anderson Elementary Teacher**

"Spending more time with family and at my church." **-Nina Papadopoulos, Blanton Elementary Teacher**

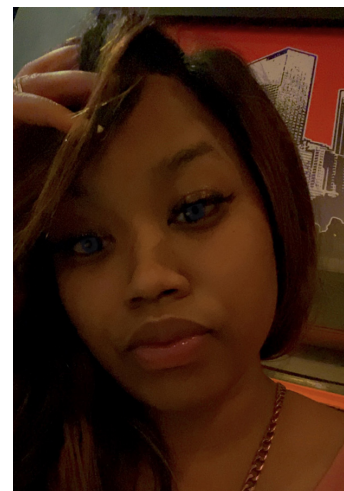
"I am looking forward to my son graduating from high school." **-Camille Austin-Henderson, Sherrod Elementary School Counselor**

"I am looking forward to new adventures in 2022!" **-Esther Gay, Sam Houston High Teacher**

"I am looking forward to celebrating my first school year with Arlington ISD." **-Melody Remington, Lamar High Teacher**

"My new clinic. Seeing Gunn FADL completed! Traveling more, again!" **-Cyndie Stevens, Gunn Junior High Nurse**

"I'm looking forward to watching the Dallas Cowboys play in the Super Bowl and Adidas Yeezy coming out with some more Foam Runners. Plus, physical education locker rooms being done!" **-Fanis Wade, Gunn Junior High Teacher**



"I am looking forward to growth, opportunities and elevation in every aspect of my life." **-Khanda Ward, Sherrod Elementary Inclusion Teacher**

"I'm looking forward to COVID-19 being under control and they find a cure. I'm looking for peace and comfort for all that have suffered." **-Cathy Wilkerson, Atherton Elementary Nurse**

"Societal peace." **-Carrie Wulfsberg, Boles Junior High Teacher**

"I am looking forward to 2022 and watching our students grow academically, emotionally and physically!" **-Teresa Burt, Sam Houston High Teacher**

"In the coming new year, I am most looking forward to celebrating each new day with thankfulness and joy. I have never realized how much I have taken for granted in my life! I truly feel the depth of my gratitude will equal the height of my joy in 2022!"

-Robin Lage, Pearcy STEM Academy Teacher

**Paige Rodgers,
Lamar High
Nurse**

"Completing the third year as a school nurse here at Lamar with the Alt. C. group of kids and continuing to get healthier throughout the year and going on adventures with my husband on our days off!"

**Charlene Monroe,
Bebensee
Elementary
Teacher**

"In 2022, I am looking forward to re-centering, redirecting my teaching and myself, and focusing more on what God has planned for me."

**Eliza Zepeda,
Transportation**

"I'm hoping to become a third-party instructor. I love what I do here, and I love the people and my bosses. I've been wanting to be a third-party instructor for years, so I'm taking it upon myself to get it done in 2022."

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO MOST IN 2022? CONTINUED

"To continue to learn, grow and improve, not only as a teacher, but as a total being." **-LaSonia Blackston, Percy STEM Academy Teacher**

"I am most looking forward to see my students' continued successes, good health and belief in themselves grow." **-Suzanne Kelley, Arlington High Teacher**

"New opportunities to learn, grow and make memories." **-Michelle Hernandez, Foster Elementary Teacher**

"I am looking forward to seeing further growth from my students." **-Brenda Payne, Key Elementary Teacher**

"I am looking forward to continuing to grow and learn with my awesome staff at Duff. I love that we are lifelong learners together!" **-Cindy Harbison, Duff Elementary Principal**

"I'm looking forward to having fun with my students." **-Teresa Francis, Butler Elementary Teacher**

"Seeing my students' continuous growth! They have been working so hard and have made this job worth it. I love my students!" **-Amy Laird, Johns Elementary Teacher**

"2021 brought a lot of personal and professional development. For 2022, I look forward to new opportunities and experiences to apply my learning, as well as continuing to grow and develop my leadership skills."
-Stacey Williams, Lamar High Teacher

"I want to strive to be a better school bus driver every day. After I drop my group off - no matter whether it's a field trip, regular route or special events - I want the people I transport to think to themselves, 'Wow! That driver was cool or awesome!' I guess I just want them to know I enjoy driving them, and it is not just a job to me."
-Leo Patterson, Transportation



**Chantil Bounheuanguvilay,
Wimbish World Language
Academy Teacher**

"I am most looking forward to planning my wedding in 2022!"



**Cindy Calaluca,
Dunn Elementary Teacher**

"I am looking forward to a Mediterranean cruise that has been postponed for two years."



**Cyndi Chlup,
Corey Academy Teacher**

"Watching my youngest son graduate from high school."



REPORTING AN ACCIDENT

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.

Tina Baze, Specialist
Risk Management
Arlington ISD
690 E. Lamar Blvd.
Arlington, TX 76011
Office: 682-867-7649
Fax: 682-867-4682

BE PREPARED TO STAY SAFE & HEALTHY IN WINTER

Winter storms and cold temperatures can be dangerous. Stay safe and healthy by planning ahead. Prepare your home and vehicles. Prepare for power outages and outdoor activity. Check on older adults.

Although winter comes as no surprise, many of us may not be ready for its arrival. If you are prepared for the hazards of winter, you are more likely to stay safe and healthy when temperatures start to fall.

PREPARE YOUR HOME

Staying inside is no guarantee of safety. Take these steps to keep your home safe and warm during the winter months.

1) Winterize your home.

- Install weather stripping, insulation and storm windows.
- Insulate water lines that run along exterior walls.
- Clean out gutters and repair roof leaks.

2) Check your heating systems.

- Have your heating system serviced professionally to make sure that it is clean, working properly and ventilated to the outside.
- Inspect and clean fireplaces and chimneys.
- Have a safe alternate heating source and alternate fuels available.

3) If you do not have a working smoke detector, install one. Test batteries monthly and replace them twice a year.

4) Prevent carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning emergencies.

- Install a CO detector to alert you of the presence of the deadly, odorless, colorless gas. Check or change the battery when you change your clocks in the fall and spring.
- Learn the symptoms of CO poisoning: headache, dizziness, weakness, upset stomach, vomiting, chest pain and confusion.

PREPARE YOUR VEHICLE

Get your vehicle ready for cold weather use before winter arrives.

1) Service the radiator and maintain antifreeze level.

2) Check your tires' tread or, if necessary, replace tires with all-weather or snow tires.

3) Keep the gas tank full to avoid ice in the tank and fuel lines.

4) Use a wintertime formula in your windshield washer.

5) Prepare a winter emergency kit to keep in your car in case you become stranded. The kit should include:

- Cell phone, portable charger and extra batteries;
- Items to stay warm, such as extra hats, coats, mittens, blankets, or sleeping bags;
- Food and water;



SAFETY CONTINUED

- Booster cables, flares, tire pump and a bag of sand or cat litter (for traction);
- Compass and maps;
- Flashlight, battery-powered radio and extra batteries;
- First-aid kit; and
- Plastic bags (for sanitation).

PREPARE FOR EMERGENCIES

Be prepared for weather-related emergencies, including power outages.

- 1) Stock food that needs no cooking or refrigeration and water stored in clean containers.**
- 2) Ensure that your cell phone is fully charged.**
- 3) When planning travel, be aware of current and forecast weather conditions.**
- 4) Keep an up-to-date emergency kit, including:**
 - Battery-operated devices, such as a flashlight, a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio and lamps;
 - Extra batteries;
 - First-aid kit and extra medicine;
 - Baby items; and
 - Cat litter or sand for icy walkways.
- 5) Protect your family from carbon monoxide (CO).**
 - Keep grills, camp stoves, and generators out of the house, basement and garage.
 - Locate generators at least 20 feet from the house.
 - Leave your home immediately if the CO detector sounds, and call 911.

TAKE PRECAUTIONS OUTDOORS

Outdoor activities can expose you to several safety hazards, but you can take some easy steps to prepare for them.

- 1) Wear appropriate outdoor clothing: wear a tightly woven, preferably wind-resistant coat or jacket; inner layers of light, warm clothing; mittens; hats; scarves; and waterproof boots.**
- 2) Sprinkle cat litter or sand on icy patches.**
- 3) Learn safety precautions to follow when outdoors.**
 - Work slowly when doing outside chores.
 - Take a buddy and an emergency kit when you are participating in outdoor recreation.
 - Carry a cell phone.



BOND 2019 CONTINUED

for east Arlington included in the 2019 Bond program that is also replacing Carter Junior High, built additions at Crow Leadership Academy (already open) and is providing renovations at every other school. And not far from east Arlington, Webb Elementary also has a replacement building currently under construction.

“We are excited about what this is going to bring to our community,” Ravin said, “not just our district but especially in our east Arlington area. We know this building will provide opportunities for our east Arlington students. We are excited because they will be a part of making new history, new memories, new learning, new designs and new creations.”

The new Berry and Thornton are both scheduled to open in the fall of 2023.

To keep up with other bond diggity projects, visit aisd.net/bond2019/.

