

Plano Independent School District 2017 Annual Report, Unfold Your Future

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A First Day of School to Remember: Solar Eclipse, August 21, 2017

While every first day of school is memorable, not every year begins with a solar eclipse. The Great American Eclipse, as it has been called, is the first total eclipse in the United States since 1991; the first in the mainland U.S. since 1979; the first to sweep across the entire country since 1918; and the first solar eclipse on the first day of school in Plano ISD ever. Plano students of all ages, along with teachers, administrators and staff incorporated this real-life science lesson into their first day experience.

Although the Plano area was not in the path of totality (the track of the moon’s umbral shadow across the earth which provided total darkness), students witnessed a 76% coverage—through special safety glasses, the sun looked like it had a bite out of it, still a stunning observation. In Plano, the eclipse began at 11:40 a.m., peaked at 1:08 p.m. and was over at approximately 2:39 p.m. as hundreds of Plano ISD sky-watchers were outdoors heads up, wearing safety glasses provided by the district or local PTAs to experience an unforgettable solar show on the first day of school. The next total solar eclipse in the United States will be April 8, 2024, and the Dallas area will be in the path of totality for this eclipse.



Mila Tsvetanova, Plano East Senior High School.



Hightower Elementary fifth grade students Miku Coulston, Marlee Flanigan, Simon Gebremicael, Saanvi Tare and Liam Madison.



Kindergarteners like Alvin Kinney, pictured above with Sigler Elementary School Counselor Kim Edwards during the 2017 eclipse, will be in the sixth grade for the next solar eclipse.

Future Graduate, Class of 2030, Alvin Kinney, Sigler Elementary, Kindergarten

Alvin Kinney's bright future in Plano ISD is just beginning to unfold. According to Sigler Kindergarten Teacher Sarah Noble, "Alvin is a creative young man who brings joy to our classroom family. His enthusiasm for learning is contagious and his determination drives not only himself, but his peers to success."



Alvin Kinney

Dear Plano ISD Community:

On behalf of the Plano ISD leadership team and Board of Trustees, we are pleased to bring you our 2017 Annual Report. We invite you to unfold the pages of this report—a comprehensive catalog of student and staff accomplishments and a reflection of our district’s strong, supportive community of parents, volunteers and corporate and civic leaders.

A strong school system is a cornerstone of a vibrant community, and in Plano ISD we are proud of our community connections. We believe successful learning is best achieved through engagement and collaborative partnerships, extending to all reaches of the community. An excellent example of this principle was seen this summer when the district partnered with the Plano Mayor’s Summer Internship Program and Capital One to pilot the Teacher Externship Program, providing unique professional learning opportunities for Plano ISD teachers in cooperation with local partners in business and industry. Teachers gained access to learning that reached beyond the traditional classroom, working side-by-side with knowledgeable and skilled industry employees to form partnerships of shared expertise, build meaningful community relationships and provide valuable insights for classroom and workplace application.

Our classroom-to-community connection continues to unfold through two district programs now in their second year. Community and corporate donors have stepped up in support of the Plano ISD Education Foundation’s CORE Store, which allows teachers to shop for school supplies for their students at no cost. Enrollment in the district’s RSVP (Retired Seniors Valued in Plano) Program continues to grow and over the past year, members participated in a number of district- and student-led activities, in addition to fine arts programs and sporting events.

With a commitment to equity being a major district goal, this past year saw an expansion of Plano ISD’s full-day pre-k program. Launched during the 2016-17 school year at our three Early Childhood Schools and five elementary campuses, the program grew to include six additional elementary campuses for the 2017-18 school year. This income-based program provides free, full-day pre-kindergarten instruction to young learners, allowing them an early educational start and increasing their potential to succeed during the school years that follow.

Working on behalf of the community this legislative year, the Plano ISD Board of Trustees made a successful impact during the 85th Texas Legislative Session. With school funding and transparency in taxation being two of the board’s top legislative priorities, Plano ISD trustees led a grassroots advocacy initiative related to transparency in taxation called “Taxparency.” Through this effort, the school board collaborated with other Texas public school districts to keep our constituencies informed about how their tax dollars are being spent, including how recaptured funds have benefited the state’s general revenue fund rather than school districts’ operating budgets. As a result of our board’s legislative testimony, community outreach, social media implementation and multiple media interviews, Taxparency was addressed in bills proposed by both the House (HB1890) and the Senate (SB1407).

The ultimate purpose of these efforts is to support the district’s mission to provide an excellent education for each student. This report provides an update for our community on a number of student, staff and district accomplishments representative of the strong link between our schools and the greater Plano ISD community. On behalf of the administration and school board, we invite you to explore our 2017 Annual Report. We look forward to continuing to build strong connections in support of student success in the coming year, and celebrating Plano ISD’s strong schools and strong students.

Sara M. Bonser

Sara Bonser
Interim Superintendent of Schools



Missy Bender

Missy Bender, President
Plano ISD Board of Trustees



District Leadership

Plano ISD trustees are elected to the board and serve, without compensation, for overlapping terms of four years each. Elections are conducted in May of odd numbered years. While candidates run for specific places, they do not represent specific geographical areas; rather, each represents Plano ISD at large. Following the election, the board elects a president, vice president and secretary to serve for one-year terms.

2017 Plano ISD Board of Trustees



Missy Bender
President



David Stolle
Vice President



Nancy Humphrey
Secretary



Angela Powell
Trustee



Tammy Richards
Trustee



Dr. Yoram Solomon
Trustee

District Leadership Team

Sara Bonser, Interim Superintendent

Dan Armstrong, Assistant Superintendent for Technology Services

Dr. Kary Cooper, Assistant Superintendent for District Services

Dr. Beth Brockman, Assistant Superintendent for Employee Services

Dr. Katrina Hasley, Assistant Superintendent for Academic Services

Randy McDowell, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services

Susan Modisette, Assistant Superintendent for Campus Services

Karla Oliver, Assistant Superintendent for Government, Community and Planning Initiatives

Dr. Dash Weerasinghe, Senior Executive Director for Assessment, Research and Program Evaluation

2017 Legislative Priorities

The Plano ISD Board of Trustees and district administrators began early preparations for the 85th Texas legislative session. In October 2015, they reviewed state and local education legislation and discussed ways to engage representatives regarding district initiatives. Later the same year and into the following spring, the board and district hosted two meetings with legislators to begin a continuing dialogue between trustees and legislators.

In January 2017, the board adopted the final Legislative Priorities for the 85th legislative session, which were derived from inclusive conversation among trustees and district administration. During the legislative session, and extending into the special session, Plano ISD trustees and administrators made several trips to the state capital, provided testimony and met with lawmakers to advance the following legislative priorities:

- Transparency in taxation or “Taxparency”
- Property tax relief
- Assessment and accountability
- Support early childhood/pre-k education
- Provide flexibility regarding interest and sinking fund tax rate
- Funding-related priorities
- Termination of Chapter 21 employees upon felony conviction
- Excuse attendance

For more information on the district’s work during the 85th legislative session, including a comprehensive timeline, visit www.pisd.edu/legislative.

Taxparency

Leading up to the 85th legislative session, Plano ISD partnered with other districts in an effort called “Taxparency,” a grass roots collaboration among several Texas school board trustees who feel property owners have the right to know where and how their school taxes are being spent by their local school districts and by the state (www.taxparencytexas.org). In Plano ISD, the average homeowner’s tax bill states that \$4,657 is collected by Plano ISD, yet does not acknowledge that the district receives \$3,634, while the state takes the other \$1,023. “This lack of transparency masks the hidden state tax and eliminates a school board’s ability to decrease operating tax rates since it must generate new funds to satisfy rising annual recapture payments,” said School Board President Missy Bender.

Future Graduate, Class of 2022, Tanav Chachad, Eighth Grade, Rice Middle School Musician

Tanav Chachad's musical growth has flourished during his middle school years. According to Rice Middle School Orchestra Director Barbara Fox, "Tanav started orchestra in sixth grade with no prior experience on the viola. His innate musical talent, as well as his hard work, allowed him to advance quickly. Now as an eighth grader, he has earned his place in the Rice Middle School Chamber Orchestra, which has been named the 2018 Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA) Honor String Orchestra for Middle School. Tanav is an outstanding musician as well as a wonderful young man."



Tanav Chachad

Class of 2016-17 Post-Secondary Readiness and Learning Experiences

Plano ISD students' scores on college entrance exams far exceeded state and national averages in 2017. The incomparable performance of Plano ISD students on these exams gives them a competitive edge for college admission and success. In addition to exceptional college entrance exam scores, a significant number of Plano ISD students are challenging themselves by taking Advanced Placement courses, participating in the International Baccalaureate program and earning college credit through Collin College dual enrollment. These statistics indicate the strong dedication of Plano ISD teachers and counselors to get more students enrolled in honors and advanced courses.

2016-17 ACT Average Composite Scores

English composite scores: Plano ISD is 24.9; State is 19.5; Nation is 20.3
Math composite scores: Plano ISD 25.8; State 20.7; Nation 20.7

Reading composite scores: Plano ISD 25.6; State 21.1; Nation 21.4

Science composite scores: Plano ISD 25.0; State 20.9; Nation 21.0

- 2,057 Plano ISD Seniors took the ACT.
- The percentages of ACT-tested students ready for college-level coursework as compared to ACT-tested students across Texas and the nation are as follows:
 - English composition: PISD-86%, TX-57%, US-61%
 - Algebra: PISD-76%, TX-40%, US-41%
 - Social Science: PISD-72%, TX-45%, US-47%
 - Biology: PISD-67%, TX-35%, US-37%
 - All Four Subjects: PISD-58%, TX-26%, US-27%

2016-17 SAT Average Scores by Subject

Critical reading average scores Plano ISD 602, State 512, Nation 533

Math average scores Plano ISD 615, State 507, Nation 527

Writing average scores Plano ISD 30, State 25, Nation 26

- 2,732 Plano ISD Seniors took the SAT.
- 2,701 (61%) of Plano ISD juniors participated in the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT).

Advanced Placement (AP) Program

Through the Advanced Placement (AP) Program, Plano ISD has opened the door for many students to take AP and honors courses. For many of these students, 2017 was the first time to take an AP test. Plano ISD's AP program is one of the largest in the nation.

- 49% (4,050) of Plano ISD senior high school students took AP tests for college credit in 2017, and 34% (2,633) of high school students took AP tests for college credit.
- 14,348 exams were administered to students in Plano ISD high schools and senior high schools in 2016-17, an increase from 13,243 exams administered the previous year.

- 78% of AP test scores at the senior high schools were 3, 4 or 5, as compared to 46% at the state level and 59% at the national level.

International Baccalaureate (IB) Program

The IB World School at Plano East Senior High School is a rigorous course of study designed to meet the needs of highly motivated secondary students and to promote international understanding. Many students earning the IB diploma are awarded advanced college credit at prestigious universities around the world.

- In 2016-17, Plano ISD had 101 full diploma candidates in the IB program.
- 82 IB diplomas were awarded in 2017.
- IB students took 684 IB exams.

Dual Enrollment through Collin College

Since fall 2005, Plano ISD has offered a dual enrollment program through Collin College. Fall 2017 enrollment was 1,492 students. Students at the three senior high schools, including students enrolled in the Plano ISD Health Sciences Academy, earned college credit through Collin College in the following: health science courses, U.S. history, government, economics, English IV and multivariable calculus. Assessment and Accountability Results

Plano ISD Assessment and Accountability

Plano ISD believes that assessment provides the information necessary to improve student performance and that assessment data should be analyzed for the purpose of setting priorities for instructional decision-making, allocating system resources and setting accountability goals. Plano ISD also believes that assessment data should be reported to students, parents, the community and the mandated state and federal education authorities for the purpose of building partnerships in education.

Texas Education Agency's 2017 State Accountability Ratings

In Plano ISD, 66 of its rated schools "Met Standard" in all applicable indices: student achievement, student progress, closing performance gaps and post-secondary readiness. District and campus scores were well above state targets, with a majority of schools earning distinction designations. The Texas Education Agency's 2017 state accountability ratings represent the fifth consecutive year for an index-based approach to academic accountability. The ratings apply one of two labels to districts and campuses—"Met Standard" or "Improvement Required"—based on the performance on STAAR (State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness) exams, graduation rates and college readiness assessments. Students at 67 campuses are tested in the core subject areas—reading, writing, mathematics, science and social studies. STAAR tests are administered to students in grades 3-8. At the high school level, five end of course (EOC) assessments replace grade specific tests.

2017 Accountability Performance

Index 1: Student Achievement, Target Score = 60, Plano ISD = 85

Index 2: Student Progress, Target Score = 22, Plano ISD = 42

Index 3: Closing Performance Gaps, Target Score = 28, Plano ISD = 43

Index 4: Post-Secondary Readiness, Target Score = 60, Plano ISD = 81

2017 Student and Community Engagement Accountability System (CSEAS)

House Bill 5, passed by the Texas Legislature, requires that each school district evaluate its performance and the performance of each campus and assign ratings of exemplary, recognized, acceptable or unacceptable for overall performance and for each individual evaluation factor.

This report reflects input showcasing areas of excellence and success as well as recognizing areas in need of improvement, allowing schools to set future goals valued in the community. The statute requires each district to evaluate and designate a performance rating for the district and each of its campuses based on criteria set by a local committee (TEC 39.0545). The corresponding chart illustrates Plano ISD's district and school combined ratings for the 2016-17 school year based on the Community and Student Engagement Accountability System (CSEAS). Find details about CSEAS on the district website: www.pisd.edu.

Community Engagement Factors and Ratings District Summary

Fine Arts	Exemplary
Wellness and Physical Education	Exemplary
Community and Parental Involvement	Exemplary
21st Century Workforce Development	Exemplary
Second Language Acquisition	Exemplary
Digital Learning Environment	Exemplary
Dropout Prevention Strategies	Exemplary
Educational Programs for Gifted and Talented Students	Exemplary
Compliant with Statutory Reporting and Policy Requirements	Compliant
Overall is Exemplary	

Future Graduates, Class of 2018, Adhya and Shriya Beesam, Twelfth Grade IB World School at Plano East Senior High School

As the 2016 National Finalist in the Siemens Competition in Math, Science and Technology, Adhya and Shriya Beesam earned the \$100,000 grand prize for their project titled: Linked Neuro-Fuzzy Inference System: A Novel Approach to Schizophrenia Diagnosis. Julie Baker, Plano East AP biology teacher, has high praise for them, "These two young ladies are extremely driven and determined when it comes to their research."



Adhya and Shriya Beesam

Student Achievements

Hundreds of Plano students achieve at the international, national, state and local levels. The next few pages include some of the significant honors earned by Plano ISD students.

Science

Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (Intel ISEF)

ISEF is the world's largest international pre-college science competition. Best in category and first place were awarded to Nicky Wojtania from Plano West. Two second place, three third place and six special awards were also earned by ninth through twelfth grade students.

International GENIUS Olympiad

The International GENIUS Olympiad focuses on global environmental issues. Twelve Plano ISD students achieved finalist standing, and at the final competition gold medals were awarded to Alex Spiride and Andrei Spiride (team award) from Plano East and Eshan Chhabra from Shepton High School (see photo). Seven silver medals were also awarded.



At the International GENIUS Olympiad, Eshan Chhabra from Shepton High School was awarded a gold medal for his research titled NEXTGEN TENG: A New Paradigm for Energy Harvesting.

International Sustainable World Energy, Environmental and Engineering Symposium (ISWEEP)

Gold medals were awarded to Raghu Gorla and Nitya Natesan from Plano East and Jonathan Lu from Shepton High School. Nine silver medals, seven bronze medals and two honorable mention awards were also earned.

Regeneron Science Talent Search

From 300 U.S. high school seniors named scholars in the Regeneron Science Talent Search, four were from Plano ISD: Brian Jason Du, Plano West; Claire Elizabeth Gilmore, Plano West; Krithika Iyer, Plano East; and Nicole Megan Wojtania, Plano West. Krithika Iyer was also named as one of the 40 national finalists for her research titled - Bayesian Knowledge Trace for Mind Theoretic Applications, earning a \$25,000 scholarship award.



Krithika Iyer, Plano East, was named as one of 40 national finalists in the Regeneron Talent Search for her research titled: Bayesian Knowledge Trace for Mind Theoretic Applications.

Siemens Competition in Math, Science and Technology

From more than 1,860 projects submitted nationally, 11 semifinalists and four regional finalists were Plano ISD students. Regional finalists were: Brandon Chen, Plano West; Yesh Doctor, Plano East; Michael Ma, Plano West; and Kshitij Sachan, Plano East.

Texas Junior Academy of Sciences Competition (TJAS)

Forty-three Plano ISD students competed in the TJAS competition earning eight first place and two grand prize awards.

Texas Junior Science and Humanities Symposium (TJSHS)

TJSHS promotes original research and experimentation in the sciences, engineering and mathematics at the high school level. Four students qualified for the national Junior Science and Humanities Symposium.

Texas State Science Fair

Secondary students in 22 categories won 27% of senior and 21% of junior division awards, as well as first grand prize life sciences and best of show, won by Plano East students Kshitij Sachan and Yesh Doctor. Six Plano ISD projects advanced to the International Science and Engineering Fair.



At the Dallas Texas State Science Fair, first grand prize life sciences and best of show was won by Plano East students Kshitij Sachan and Yesh Doctor.

Regional Science Fairs

Elementary Regional Fair students captured 49 awards including two of three grand prizes. At the Dallas Regional Secondary Science Fair, Plano ISD students won three senior division grand prizes and three junior division grand prizes, and 300 additional awards.

Career and Technical Education (CTE)

2016-17 CTE Achievements

2,637 industry certifications were earned by CTE students. There were 210 students in career preparation courses; 486 practicum and internships were completed; and Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSO) students logged more than 10,300 hours in community service projects. Students also competed in state and national competitions. Advancing to state level competition in BPA, DECA, FFA, FCCLA, HOSA and SkillsUSA in 2017 were 166 students; 39 students advanced to national/international level competitions. Plano East, Plano West and Plano Senior High Schools received the FFA National Chapter Award. BPA students received three national awards.



Plano East student Adam Lansing and Plano East Auto Tech teacher Ross Craig with Adam's electric car and state best of show and best overall Skills USA trophies.

National Code Quest Competition

Three students from Plano West took first place in the novice division of the National Code Quest competition, an annual computer programming competition.

Fine Arts (Music, Speech & Debate, Theatre, Visual Arts)

2017 Mark of Excellence

From a total of 278 high school and middle school musical ensemble entries, Plano ISD had ten winners in the 2017 Mark of Excellence competition awarded by the Foundation for Music Education.

Earl D. Irons Program of Distinction

The Plano East Senior High band received the 2017 Earl D. Irons Program of Distinction by Phi Beta Mu, the International Bandmasters Fraternity.



The Plano East band program received the Earl D. Irons Program of Distinction.

Essentially Ellington Jazz Band Competition

Plano West Senior High Jazz Band was selected as one of 15 finalists in the 22nd annual Essentially Ellington Jazz Band Competition, one of the most innovative jazz education events in the world.

Plano Senior High Choirs Selected as State and National Honor Choirs

The Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA) selected the Plano Senior High School A Cappella Women's Chorus as the top Texas treble choir. The American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) selected the Plano Senior High School A Cappella Men's Chorus as the national honor choir.

Best Communities for Music Education Recognition

Plano ISD is recognized as one of the “Best Communities for Music Education” by the National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) Foundation.



The Plano Senior High School A Capella Men's Choir was selected as the National Honor Male Chorus by the ACDA.

National Extemporaneous Speaking Tournament of Champions (TOC)

Plano West Senior High students Uzair Alpial, Cindy Hao, Elizabeth Khalilian, Sandipan Nath and Nikhil Ramaswamy earned top team sweepstakes at the 2017 National Extemporaneous Speaking Tournament of Champions.

UIL State Young Filmmakers Championship

Plano Senior High's Evan Hara won the Young Filmmakers Division 2 Narrative UIL 6A State Championship for his original film “*The Boundary*.”



Evan Hara, Plano Senior High, Young Filmmakers Division 2 UIL State Champion.

National College Board Advanced Placement Art Exhibit

Two artworks were selected for the National College Board Advanced Placement (AP) Studio Art Exhibition. Only 30 pieces out of 60,000 portfolios in the nation are included.



National College Board AP Art Exhibit

Artist: Annette Hui, Plano West

Yellow Bandaid India ink pens, watercolor paint and Photoshop



National College Board AP Art Exhibit

Artist: Caitlin Savage, Plano East

Urban Oasis, Micron pens, white chalk pencil, white gel pen

YoungArts

Four Plano West Senior High students earned YoungArts Awards, joining 693 of the nation's most promising young artists from 42 states.

Visual Arts Scholastic Event (VASE)

In 2017, 80 student artworks were selected for the state VASE. Plano ISD students earned six gold seals and 50 medals at the state competition.

2016-17 Varsity Athletics Achievements

Baseball – Plano advanced to bi-district.

Basketball (Boys) – Plano West district 4th / advanced to area round.

Basketball (Girls) – Plano district champions, Plano West runner up and Plano East 4th / all 3 senior highs advanced to the area round.

Cross Country – Plano girls district champions; Plano West girls 3rd; Plano West boys 2nd; Plano East boys 3rd / advanced to regional: Plano girls, Plano boys & Plano East girls advanced 2 individuals / Plano and Plano East girls each advanced 1 athlete to state.

Football – Plano East district 3rd / advanced to the bi-district round.

Golf – All 3 senior highs advanced individuals to regional / Plano East advanced 1 medalist to girls' state / Plano West boys state runner-ups / Plano West's Parker Coody was state gold medalist.

Soccer (Boys) – District: Plano West 2nd, Plano East 4th / both teams advanced to the bi-district round.

Soccer (Girls) – District: Plano champions, Plano West 3rd / both teams advanced to the bi-district round.

Softball – All 3 senior highs advanced to playoffs / Plano advanced to area round / Plano East advanced to regional semifinals / Plano West advanced to regional final.

Swimming – All 3 senior highs advanced athletes to regional / Plano 2 girls & Plano East 1 girl advanced to state.

Tennis (Individual) – Plano West 6 athletes & Plano 2 athletes advanced to regional / Plano mixed doubles team & Plano West boys doubles team advance to state.

Tennis (Team) – District, regional and state 6A Champions: Plano West.



Plano West Tennis 2016 UIL 6A State Champions.

Track (Boys and Girls) – Numerous athletes from all 3 senior highs advanced to regional / Plano's Charles Brockman took the silver medal in the 300H as well as the bronze medal in the 110H at the state. In girls track, Plano and Plano West advanced athletes to state / Plano's Alexandra Headley took state championship in shot put.

Volleyball – District: Plano 2nd, Plano West 3rd / both teams advanced to the bi-district round.

Wrestling – District: Plano West 2nd, Plano 3rd / senior high advanced numerous athletes to regional / athletes: from Plano 2, Plano East 1, Plano West 1 & Plano ISD Girls 2, advanced to state.

2017 National Merit Semifinalists

One hundred and twenty-one seniors achieved semifinalist standing in the 2017 National Merit Scholarship Program based on their performance on the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test. These academically gifted students were among 16,000 of their peers nationwide who represent less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors. Those who advanced to finalist standing competed for National Merit Scholarships worth more than \$33 million.

Plano East Senior High School

Adewale Adewuyi
Monish Challagondla
Avinash Damania
Quynh-Anh Dang
Quynh-Chi Dang
Vy Dang
Laurent-Marc David
Gauraang Dhamankar
Briana A. Evans
Eric V. Hua
Krithika Iyer
Jashwanth S. Karumuri
Allyson M. King
Jeffrey Liu
Harshal S. Madhavapeddi
Dhruv Nandakumar
Daphne Nguyen
Divya Prabhakaran
Meenakshi Ramakrishnan
Adiva Sahar
Stephen G. Shields
Rishabh Thakkar
Krista N. Thompson
Rohan Tummala
Matthew J. Yu

Plano Senior High School

Hamzah Ahmed
Alexander Chen
Andrew S. Feng
Meghan A. Heffernan

Katherine Hu
Lena B. Khanolkar
Jeffrey R. Kozlowski
Carolyn S. Li
Joy S. Li
Ethan Y. Liu
Amy Z. Lu
Sara McFearin
Shannon E. Nielsen
Emil Shabanov
Ian W. Shei
Rachel X. Shi
Jarod R. Stone
Amal F. Syed
Jocelyn L. Tseng
Daniel Wang
Wendy W. Wang
Ted A. Wu
Jingke Yang
Patrick Yu
Xinran Zang
Annie Zhao
Jonathan J. Zhi

Plano West Senior High School

Syra G. Abraham
Nathan P. Bennett
Ankur S. Bhagwath
Raymond K. Biju
Maxwell G. Bu
Hannah Chen
Phillip J. Chen
Serena T. Cheng
Jacob M. Chmielecki
Ari Cohn
Mindy Dai
Samarth Desai
Kelly Dong
Brian J. Du
Michael Eng
Sarah N. Garber
Kriti Garg
Ira D. Gulati
Brian L. Ho
Yuelin Hu
Peter Huang

Ginny Jeon
Kelvin Jue
Abhinav Kasamsetty
Sana Khan
Emily M. Kim
Daniel S. Kong
Bonho A. Koo
Pooja I. Kumar
ChoongGao Lee
Varsha Menon
Rohan S. Moghe
Yusuf N. Mufti
Tiffany Ouyang
Jake Parker-Howe
Sairahul Pentaparthi
Aayushi Pramanik
Christopher Progler
Jayaram V. Rajagopalan
Sriram S. Rajagopalan
Ankit G. Reddy
Chetan Reddy
Alexis Ren
Amit Sahoo
Noah A. Schochet
Jas Sethi
Danlan Shao
Nancy Shaw
Tamanna R. Sikora
Kushagra K. Singh
Erica R. Su
Jesse Tan
Rachael S. Thompson
Minh-Phong Tran
Emily M. Tsai
Boris Y. Tsang
Amy Y. Wang
Ellen Wang
Thomas B. Wei
Nicole Wojtania
Eddie Wu
Jordyn M. Wyse
Helen W. Xiu
Judy J. Xu
Ally Zhang
Austin Zhang
Tiger C. Zhang
Matthew J. Zhao
Rich W. Zhou

2017 Valedictorians

2 0 1 7 V A L E D I C T O R I A N S



Plano ISD Alumni, Plano ISD Teachers of the Year, Kevin Moore and Cody McGregor

Kevin Moore, Secondary Teacher of the Year and Shepton High School Humanities Teacher, graduated from Plano Senior High School. Every year as a teacher, he commits to celebrate successes, to grow from mistakes and to learn from his students as their futures unfold in Plano ISD.

Cody McGregor, Elementary Teacher of the Year and Schell Elementary ESL Specialist, is a graduate of Plano Senior High School. Her career as an educator began to unfold as a third grader at Weatherford Elementary.



Kevin Moore and Cody McGregor

“We can do this. We’re educators. We were born to make a difference.”— Rita Pierson

Cody McGregor, Schell Elementary, ESL Specialist

When Cody McGregor was still in elementary school, she knew being a teacher was her dream. “Sitting in a small, wooden desk with two crisply sharpened pencils in the 3rd grade classroom of Sherri Corum at Weatherford Elementary, I was enthralled with the fact that you could grow up to become a teacher. I was always the helping type, the little girl who annoyingly asked every adult or teacher if they needed anything. This developed into a passion.”

Her passion for teaching is evident. According to Jeanne Beall, Schell Elementary School principal, Ms. McGregor is by far one of the very best teachers with whom she has worked. “Ms. McGregor’s leadership skills, initiative, enthusiasm and work ethic just scratch the surface of her exceptional qualities. She is a natural leader and works every day learning more, sharing with her colleagues and honing her craft. She is devoted to her students, our staff and the parents.”

Ms. McGregor believes in making sure her students love what they do. “Students want to learn, they have a hunger for “filling their brains,” and the adults around them have the charge to make sure they are given learning opportunities. As a teacher, she says, “My favorite part of the day is listening and observing my students reading. It’s one of my biggest joys to see their eyes move line-to-line, page-to-page and chapter-to-chapter.” She takes pride in instilling a love of literature in her students and helping to build tomorrow’s leaders by enriching their reading skills and knowledge.

Her influence as a teacher is not limited to her students. She is also proud that her own love of teaching reading has inspired other teachers at Schell. With her initiative to show teachers the benefits of guided reading and self-selected reading, more students at Schell have been given the gift of consistent and quality reading time. A gift that will influence every student’s future.

Her eight years of teaching experience, all at Schell Elementary, have taught her that teaching is not just about helping others learn. She said she underestimated “how much of an influence the students would have on me.”

“Being a product of Plano, I always felt such a loyalty to the district that gave me the inspiration to become a leader, an innovator and an educator.”

Cody McGregor holds a Bachelor of Science, *Cum Laude*, in multidisciplinary studies from Texas Tech and is certified in elementary and special education.

Kevin Moore, Shepton High School, Humanities Teacher

Growing up in Plano ISD as an “apartment kid,” Kevin Moore was aware his family was different from other Plano families. Instead of beach vacations, he spent his summers at the Schimelpfenig Public Library looking forward to the start of a new school year. “School was my safe place.”

Beginning his career as an actor, Mr. Moore is now, a 15-year veteran teacher at Shepton High School, helping to provide Shepton students with the safe learning environment he experienced as a Plano student. According to Jeffery Bannon Shepton High School principal, “Mr. Moore is an invaluable asset to our students, parents, staff, community, campus and district. Regardless of what or who he is teaching, Mr. Moore has a heart for kids and believes that all students can succeed.”

Whether helping students simulate a Soviet factory to illustrate the workings of a communist economic system, coaching students on the finer points of cross-examination in debate or giving vows to 50 freshman and sophomore “monks” in humanities, Mr. Moore’s teaching philosophy has remained the same “to provide students with challenging and relevant experiences in a safe environment, and they will meet (or exceed) even the highest expectations.”

Mr. Moore believes that risk-taking is essential and knows risks can bring rewards. Mistakes are inevitable, but they are also an invaluable component of the learning process. Students can be afraid to take risks or engage in thought processes that are outside the norm or beyond expectations. “I work hard to earn the trust of my students — if they believe that I see their success and growth as my top priority, then they will be more likely to reach beyond their comfort zone.”

Every year, he says he commits to taking this journey with his students. “Together we will celebrate successes, grow from mistakes and learn about ourselves and others. I hope my students know, as I have learned from my humble beginnings as an “apartment kid,” that it’s not where you start that matters; it’s where you go from there.”

Kevin Moore has earned a Masters in Education from the University of North Texas in curriculum and instruction with specialization in gifted and talented and a Bachelor of Arts, *Cum Laude*, in political science and theatre.

Excellence in Teaching Awards

At the gala prior to the surprise announcement of the two district Teachers of the Year, the Excellence in Teaching Awards were announced. From this group of ten talented teachers, the district Teachers of the Year were chosen.

2017 EXCELLENCE IN ELEMENTARY TEACHING AWARD WINNERS



TRACY EVANS
MITCHELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



ARETHA LAFAYETTE
HARRINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



MAGGIE LOPEZ
HAUN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



LYNN VARNAU
ANDREWS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2017 EXCELLENCE IN SECONDARY TEACHING AWARD WINNERS



SATIN ABTAHI
HAGGARD MIDDLE SCHOOL



KIM GUNNELS
PLANO ISD ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL



TIFFANY JOHNSTONE
WILSON MIDDLE SCHOOL



GERARDO LUNA
WILLIAMS HIGH SCHOOL

Annual Event Sponsorship Opportunities Include:

- Presenting Sponsor \$25,000
- Doctorate Degree \$10,000 and up
- Master's Degree \$7,500 and up
- Bachelor's Degree \$5,000 and up
- Associate's Degree \$2,500 and up
- Dean's List \$1,000 and up
- All gifts in kind welcome

2017 Gala Honoring Teachers of the Year

Plano ISD sincerely appreciates the businesses, organizations and individuals who contributed financially and with gifts to the 2017 Teacher of the Year Gala. Quality education is one of the major assets of our community, and thanks to our community partners, we were able to generously reward more than 70 top teachers. Annually, more than 1,100 parents, teachers, community members as well as local businesses support the district as we honor and celebrate our outstanding teachers. For information on how to be an event sponsor, make a donation or attend the event, please contact the communications department at 469-752-8150.



2017 Sponsorships

Summer in a Lexus Package: Park Place Lexus Plano provided two “Summer in a Lexus” packages, including the use of luxury vehicles, for the Elementary and Secondary Teachers of the Year.

Doctorate Degree :Gay, McCall, Isaacks & Roberts, P.C.

Associate’s Degree: Lifetouch National School Studios; Plano ISD Education Foundation

Dean’s List: Junior League of Collin County; Gift Bag Sponsor; CUTX Credit Union of Texas; Program Sponsor; GCA Services Group; Photo Booth Sponsor; InTouch Credit Union; Video Sponsor; InTouch Credit Union

Friends: Columbus Realty Partners, Inc.; Engineered Air Balance; WRA Architects

Plano ISD Alumna, Michelle Moses-Meeks, Elementary Assistant Principal

Michelle Moses-Meeks' history in Plano ISD began to unfold as a student at Haggard Middle School. She also attended Clark High School (is a former member of the Clark Cougarette Drill Team) and is a graduate of Plano Senior High. She began her career in Plano ISD as a teacher at Skaggs and Haun Elementary Schools. Currently serving as assistant principal at Aldridge Elementary, Ms. Moses-Meeks has 18 years of experience in Education. Her passion is "inspiring a joy of learning and encouraging everyone to reach for their dreams."



Michelle Moses-Meeks

Staff Achievements

National Art Education Association (NAEA) Outstanding National Junior Art Honor Society Sponsor

NAEA has honored Schimelpfenig Middle School Art Teacher Anne Quaintance-Howard with the 2017 Outstanding National Junior Art Honor Society Sponsor Award. This award seeks to recognize the dedication of an NAEA member who sponsors an outstanding National Art Honor Society Chapter. Dr. Brant Perry, Schimelpfenig principal, says that, “as a classroom teacher, Ms. Quaintance-Howard is able to connect with all children because of her gregarious personality and her knack for making the arts come to life through real life connections.



NAEA Outstanding National Junior Art Honor Society Sponsor Anne Quaintance-Howard, Schimelpfenig Middle School.

National Art Education Association (NAEA) Art Education Technology (AET) Art Education Outstanding Community Award and Lone Star Award from Texas Art Education Association (TAEA)

Laura Grundler, Plano ISD visual arts coordinator, and Matt Grundler, Brinker Elementary art teacher received the NAEA AET Art Education Outstanding Community Award. This annual award honors an individual or team in the field of art education who have made noteworthy contributions to AET and/or the field of art education technology. These two Plano ISD educators are advocates of digital technology in connection to visual arts education. Using digital technology and new media, they have created free resources and online spaces for art educators to meet, connect, collaborate and share. They are founders and moderators of #K12ArtChat and #K12ArtChallenge and contributors to EducationCloset.com, an online hub for arts integration and STEAM. The Grudlers are also recipients the Lone Star Art Advocates Award from TAEA.



Laura Grundler, Plano ISD visual arts coordinator, and Matt Grundler, Brinker Elementary art teacher, were recognized for their awards by the Board of Trustees in December, 2017.

National Speech and Debate Association (NSDA) Educator of the Year National Finalist

The NSDA Educator of the Year award was created to honor an individual who has enhanced the quality of education in the field of speech and debate. From more than 5,000 member coaches and teachers, five educators were selected as finalists. Clark High School and Plano Senior High Speech and Debate Teacher Cheryl Potts was selected as one of the five national finalists. Ms. Potts has served for almost a decade as the Texas Forensic Association Congressional Debate Chair and worked on committees to add congressional debate as a UIL competitive event. The NSDA is the largest interscholastic speech and debate organization serving middle school, high school and collegiate students in the United States.



National Speech and Debate Association Educator of the Year National Finalist Cheryl Potts, Plano Senior High and Clark High School.

Texas Forensics Association (TFA) Hall of Fame

Plano West Speech and Debate Coach Rhonda Smith was inducted into the TFA Hall of Fame at the Texas Speech Communication Association Convention in October 2017. The Hall of Fame honors coaches that not only have success as a coach, but also make significant service contributions to the organization. Ms. Smith serves on the Executive Council for TFA and as a mentor for coaches across the state. Plano West Senior High Principal Kathy King says, “What sets Ms. Smith apart is her relationship with her students; her belief in them; her ability to build them up; her innate drive to help them exceed beyond their personal expectations; and her unique ability to touch their lives forever.”



Board Secretary Nancy Humphrey presents a certificate of achievement to Plano West Speech and Debate Teacher Rhonda Smith at the November 2017 board meeting.

Texas Art Education Association (TAEA) Outstanding Art Educator

Amy Semifero, Academy High School facilitator, has received the 2016-17 Texas Art Education (TAEA) Senior High School Outstanding Art Educator Award. She describes her philosophy of teaching as “passion is purpose.” She said, “I can’t think of a better way to describe my teaching philosophy. On a continual basis, I reflect on my own learning experiences with previous teachers, not just art instructors, to determine why they continue to shine above the rest in my memories. The common denominators are they were passionate about their work and had a genuine concern for each student’s level of success.”

Texas Music Administrators Conference (TMAC) Outstanding Music Administrator

Director of Fine Arts and Special Academic Services Kathy Kuddes, was honored by TMAC as the 2017 Outstanding Music Administrator. This award is presented to an active TMAC member who is deemed to have made a significant contribution to the organization and to music education in Texas. Ms. Kuddes has been a member of the organization since 1997. She was the primary author of the original bylaws of the organization and concluded a four-year term on the board. Ms. Kuddes has more than 30 years of experience in public education including 14 years in the classroom.

Association of Texas Professional Educators (ATPE) Region 10 Elementary Educator of the Year

Joelle Garcia, fifth grade teacher at Beverly Elementary was honored as the ATPE Region 10 Elementary Educator of the Year. Ms. Garcia, who has been teaching for more than 20 years, says, “Teaching is the most amazing profession in the world. Every year as a teacher, I become a better person because of my students.” Ms. Garcia works to “weave resiliency, respect and character” as elements of her teaching.

Texas Art Education Association Outstanding Art Educator Supervision/Administration

Laura Grundler, Plano ISD visual arts coordinator, was honored as the 2017 Texas Art Educators Association (TAEA) Outstanding Art Educator Supervision/Administration Division.

State of Texas Languages Other than English (LOTE) Emerging Leader

LOTE Coordinator Stephany Sipes was selected by the Texas Association of Language Supervisors to represent the state for this summer’s Leadership Initiative for Language Learning (LILL) Institute. Each state selects just one emerging leader for this recognition. Ms. Sipes was recognized following her first year as LOTE coordinator in Plano ISD.

Collin County League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) Educator of the Year

Nominated in recognition of her efforts in the education of bilingual children as well as her many contributions to the City of Plano, Plano ISD and Collin County, Weatherford Elementary Instructional Specialist Erika Manning was honored by Collin County LULAC as the 2017 Educator of the Year. According to Ben Benavides, Weatherford Elementary principal, “Ms. Manning does a great job of challenging students academically and helping them feel a sense of accomplishment, triumph and pride. Ms. Manning consistently plans her lessons creatively in order to accomplish this goal. Her students love, respect and really look forward to their time with her. She makes each one feel like they are the most important person in the world.” Ms. Manning began her teaching career in 2002 in a bilingual kindergarten classroom and has also been honored as the 2016 Region 10 Elementary Teacher of the Year and as the 2016 Plano ISD Elementary Teacher of the Year.



Erika Manning, Weatherford Elementary instructional specialist, was recognized as the Collin County LULAC Educator of the Year in October 2017.

Superintendent’s Service Award Winners Honored at Annual Service and Retirement Banquet

Four Superintendent’s Service Award winners were announced at the 52nd Annual Service and Retirement Banquet in April 2017. These employees were selected from 37 fellow nominees. This award honors support staff who consistently go above and beyond their assigned duties. The winners were Eric Allison, Transportation Services; Kay Pfeifer, Armstrong Middle School; Janaki Ramalingam, Beaty Early Childhood School; and Michael Svatek, Christie Elementary. Also recognized at the banquet were 38 retiring employees and hundreds of employees celebrating milestone anniversaries from 15 through 45 years of service to the district.



Superintendent’s Service Award Winners Michael Svatek, Christie Elementary; Eric Allison, Transportation Services; Kay Pfeifer, Armstrong Middle School; and Janaki Ramalingam, Beaty Early Childhood School pictured at the 2017 Service and Retirement Banquet.

Plano ISD Alumna, Dr. Beth Brockman, Assistant Superintendent for Employee Services

Dr. Beth Brockman is a proud Plano Senior High School graduate. Her career began to unfold as a secondary math teacher and includes experience as a middle school principal, a high school assistant principal, an executive director of professional learning and as an associate superintendent for staff and community relations. Currently, she is serving as assistant superintendent for employee services in Plano ISD. “It’s great to come back home to Plano ISD. My passion is working with people, especially those who have dedicated their lives to working with school children.”



Dr. Beth Brockman

About Our Community

Plano ISD serves the residents of approximately 100 square miles in southwest Collin County. This area includes 66 square miles in the City of Plano, with the balance including northern portions of the cities of Dallas and Richardson as well as parts of the cities of Allen, Carrollton, Garland, Lucas, Murphy, Parker and Wylie.

Plano at a Glance

Plano consists of an educated and diverse population, located 19 miles north of Dallas, Texas. Plano is home to a number of global companies and serves as corporate or regional headquarters for major employers like J.C. Penney, Alliance Data Systems, Yum! China Holdings, Dr Pepper Snapple Group, Rent-A-Center, Cinemark, Intuit, Bank of America Home Loans, Ericsson, McAfee, Frito-Lay, Pizza Hut, U.S., NTT DATA (formerly Dell Services), DXC (formerly Hewlett Packard Enterprise), PepsiCo, FedEx Offices & Print Services and many others.

Total Population 361,450

Median Age 37

Educational Attainment of Citizenry (25 years and older)

Graduate or professional degree 21.1%

Bachelor's degree 35.2%

Associate's degree 6%

*Income**

Median household income \$82,315

Per capita income \$42,294

Median Owner-Occupied Home Value \$292,000

Top Employment Industries

Educational services, health care and social assistance 19.7%

Professional, scientific, management, administrative and waste management services 17.6%

Finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing 12.6%

Retail trade 11.7%

Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services 8.8%

Manufacturing 7.3%

Other services, except public administration 4.3%

Construction 4.5%

Information 4.7%

Transportation, warehousing and utilities 3.3%

Wholesale trade 2.8%

Public administration 1.9%

Agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting and mining 0.7%

** 2016 inflation-adjusted dollars*

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey (ACS) 1-Year Estimates

Plano ISD at a Glance

*Schools***

Grade Level # of Campuses
Preschools 3
Elementary Schools (K-5) 44
Middle Schools (6-8) 13
High Schools (9-10) 6
Senior High Schools (11-12) 3
Academy High School (9-12) 1
Special Programs Centers (K-8 & 9-12) 2
Total Number of Schools 72

Other Programs

Plano Family Literacy School 1
Head Start 1
Total Other Programs 2

Student Enrollment

Elementary (early childhood-5) 24,954
Middle (6-8) 12,328
High (9-10) 8,305
Senior High (11-12) 8,365
Total Number of Students 53,952

Staff†

Teachers 3,960
Librarians 70
Classroom Education Aides 607
Interpreters 16
Campus Paraprofessional Other 342
Campus Principals 72
Assistant Principals 102
Instructional Officers 8
Campus Athletic Directors 3
Counselors 159
Campus Nurses 72
Educational Diagnosticians, Psychologists & Social Workers 199
Superintendent, Assistants, CFO 9
Non-Campus Professionals 256
Non-Campus Paraprofessionals 210
Auxiliary 869
Total Number of Employees 6,954

*** Source: Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) Submissions as of October 2017.*

† Source: Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) Submissions with full-time equivalent employees as of December 2017.

Notes: Full-time instructional employees of the district are employed for 189 contract days. Campus administrators and student services employees are primarily employed for 220 days. Central administrative and non-campus professional staff members are employed for 246 days. Auxiliary staff members are employed on an hourly basis with daily hours worked ranging from 4 hours to 8 hours.

Schools and Community Engagement

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Tribute Program

Celebrating the theme “30 Years Strong,” Plano ISD’s MLK tribute event celebrates the vision of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The January 2016 event showcased student talent through musical/theatre performances, student essays and artwork. Awards were presented to community, staff and students. The 2017 event included tribute video interviews of current Plano Mayor Harry LaRosiliere; Fred Moses and Michelle Moses-Meeks; James Muns (Plano mayor 1992-1996) and Betty Muns; Dr. Doug Otto (retired Plano ISD superintendent); Drew Pearson (former Dallas Cowboys player 1973-1984); Florence Shapiro (Plano mayor 1990-1992); Dollie Thomas and James Thomas (tribute to Hightower Elementary namesakes Dr. John and Dr. Myrtle Hightower).



Dr. Myrtle Hightower, event chairman emeritus (center) and Diversity Leadership Award winners Wilson Middle School Lamplighters.



Student essay reader Dayna Casavaraju, Brinker Elementary.

Diversity Leadership Awards

These annual awards coordinated by the Plano ISD Diversity Advisory Committee recognize students, staff and community members who have shown leadership and commitment in fostering and promoting harmony, respect, acceptance and understanding among the diverse cultures within our community. Four awards were presented in 2017: Individual award — Glenda Rouse, Armstrong Middle School special education department head; Community Impact Award — Theresa Biggs, advanced academics; Community Impact Award — Dr. Victor Nixon, Plano West Senior High School assistant principal; Group Award — Lamplifters, a student group from Wilson Middle School; and Mission Possible Kids at Harrington Elementary won the Service Award.



Glenda Rouse, Armstrong Middle school special education department head receiving her Diversity Leadership award from Autry Daniel, assistant director employee recruitment and retention/Diversity Advisory Committee Staff Liaison.

Gulledge and Huffman Elementary Schools Named National PTA Schools of Excellence

Gulledge and Huffman Elementary Schools are proud to make meaningful positive changes within their communities and have both earned this award for 2017 through 2019. School of Excellence is a National PTA program that supports and celebrates partnerships between PTAs and schools to enrich the educational experience and overall well-being for all students. Gulledge Elementary is a first-time recipient of the distinction. Huffman Elementary also received the honor from 2015 to 2017.



(Front row) Gulledge Elementary Principal Deni Bleggi and Nalini Joshi (Back row) Rachel Kim, Patricia Hempstead, Gulledge assistant principal and Susan Modisette, assistant superintendent for campus services.

Saigling Elementary PTA Meets Membership Milestone

Saigling Elementary School celebrated meeting their PTA membership goal of “A Voice for Every Student” with an all school assembly. Of the 70 PTAs in Plano ISD, Saigling is the only school with a PTA membership for every child enrolled. In fact, only one other PTA in the state of Texas has also accomplished this goal.

Retired Seniors Valued in Plano (RSVP)

The RSVP program was created by Plano ISD for members of the community who are 65 years of age and above. RSVP membership allows free or reduced admission to most Plano ISD sporting events, fine arts programs and invitations to special learning opportunities throughout the year.



Plano West Advanced Floral Design student Amanda Muñoz with RSVP member Virginia Edmiston.

Plano ISD Student Environmentalists Win City Awards

Two Plano ISD middle school environmental groups and two Plano East Senior High students were honored in September 2017 with City of Plano Environmental Community Awards. Honored for their outstanding contributions in environmental activities and programs were: Murphy Middle School Environmental Club, winning the Environmental School Award; and Rice Middle School, winning the Outstanding New Environmental Awareness Group Award. The Community Outreach Individual, youth award, was earned by Daniel and Alexander Atiyeh from Plano East Senior High School/IB World School for their work with the Plano Community Garden.



Murphy Middle School Environmental Club members with their garden project.

Plano ISD Students and Teachers Earn Opportunities to Work with Corporate Partners

Over 100 Plano ISD students were selected by area corporate and nonprofits for summer internships as part of the Plano Mayor’s Summer Internship Program. During this eight-week program, selected rising junior and senior student interns had the opportunity to get real work experience. New to the program this year, 11 Plano ISD teachers were selected as externs to work alongside area business and industry partners.



Chloe Teaff Plano West Senior High and Nikhita Ramanujam Academy High School juniors served as interns to the Plano ISD communications department.

Plano Senior High School DECA Team Organizes “Shark Tank” Style Event with Area Business Leaders.

A Plano Senior High School DECA team – Tanvee Asundi, Vince Buccini, Evan Hara and Mehul Virmani – won at the state competition for an entrepreneurial event hosted on campus. Business leaders, which included Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban, and executives from Texas Instruments, Fossil Group, FedEx Office, The Dallas Stars, Texas Aggregates and Evergreen Packaging, acted as “sharks” during the event modeled after the TV show “Shark Tank” listening to and advising student entrepreneurs. This student event named “Fish Tank” resulted in several real-life business opportunities for students and lessons in product placement next steps.

New District Website and Mobile App

In the planning and redesign stage since Fall of 2015, the new Plano ISD website launched in Spring of 2017 with the mobile app going live in Spring 2018. The new site is more intuitive to the user, is accessible to users with assistive needs and is responsive to mobile devices. Survey data was collected from parents, students, employees and the business community to ensure the new site is user friendly, and the new site was awarded the “2017 School Standard of Excellence” award from Web Marketing Associations’ 21st annual International WebAward Competition.

Superintendent's Student Advisory Committee

The Plano ISD Superintendent's Advisory Committee is comprised of fourteen junior and senior high school students recommended by their principals from each of the senior highs and the Plano ISD Academy High School. These students meet monthly with district leadership to share issues of importance to students and the district. Students members are: Katka Durcanska (Academy High School); Mia Fimiani (Plano); Pankaj Israni (Plano); Andrea Martinez (Plano East); Rishi Malhotra (Plano West); Grace McCreary (Plano West); Opal McElroy (Plano); Sarah Mulatu (Plano West); Mark Mueller (Plano); Darian Payma (Academy High School); Sara Porsa (Plano East); Ruben Salinas (Plano West); Max Smith (Plano East); and Brian Wright (Plano East).



Plano ISD Education Foundation

The Plano ISD Education Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with a mission to help all students in the Plano Independent School District achieve their full potential by providing financial support to educators and academic programs.

Results that Matter

Established in 1993; gifted \$18 million; students impacted 100%

2016-2017

Money raised \$1,239,781; students impacted 53,952; volunteer heroes 215

Programs Supported: AVID, CORE Store, Grants to Educators, STEM, Health Sciences Academy, Plano ISD Employee Crisis Fund, Plano Family Literacy School and fifth grade outdoor science camp

[Facebook.com/PlanoISDEducationFoundation](https://www.facebook.com/PlanoISDEducationFoundation)

[Twitter.com/PISDEF](https://twitter.com/PISDEF)

PLANO ISD EDUCATION FOUNDATION

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\$1,239,781

STUDENTS
IMPACTED



53,952

VOUNTEER
HEROES



215

PROGRAMS SUPPORTED

- AVID
- CORE STORE
- GRANTS TO EDUCATORS
- STEM
- HEALTH SCIENCES ACADEMY
- PLANO ISD EMPLOYEE CRISIS FUND
- PLANO FAMILY LITERACY SCHOOL
- 5TH GRADE OUTDOOR SCIENCE CAMP

CONTRIBUTIONS

- CORPORATIONS = 80%
- INDIVIDUALS = 10%
- EVENTS = 7%
- FOUNDATIONS = 2%
- OTHER = 1%

 facebook.com/PlanoISDEducationFoundation

 twitter.com/PISDEF

2017



FOUNDATION PROGRAMS



AT WORK



Financial Focus

Plano ISD remains highly focused on all financial matters, including the best ways to maintain and upgrade facilities, technology and employee benefits and to finance our schools. The school board and district administrators endeavor to make Plano ISD's compensation and benefits plan competitive with surrounding districts while maintaining efficient use of funds. Trustees adopted the 2017-2018 employee compensation plan, which included a salary increase of 3.0% and other financial benefits for the district's more than 6,900 employees. Plano ISD also invests in employees by ensuring the district provides great opportunities for educators to grow and develop professionally.



Board Secretary Nancy Humphrey presents the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Award to Executive Director for Financial Services Linda Madon at the June 6 board meeting.

Plano ISD Receives Top Rating for 15th Consecutive Year through School FIRST State Financial Rating System

The state's school financial accountability rating system, known as School FIRST (Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas), uses uniform indicators to measure the financial practices of Texas public schools. The system is designed to encourage Texas public schools to better manage financial resources to provide the maximum allocation possible for direct instructional purposes.

For 2016-2017 and subsequent rating years, the FIRST rating system has converted to an alpha letter grade standard.

- A - Superior Achievement Score of 90 - 100
- B - Above Standard Achievement Score of 80 - 90
- C - Standard Achievement Score of 60 - 79
- F - Substandard Achievement Score of <60

With a score of 96, Plano ISD achieved a superior rating for 2016-2017. Linda Madon, Executive Director of Financial Services, said this rating shows that Plano ISD's schools are accountable not only for student learning, but also for achieving those results cost effectively and efficiently. The 2016-2017 School FIRST rating is based on financial data for the 2015-2016 school year.

2016 Financial Success

- 34 consecutive years for a “Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting” by the Government Finance Officers Association of the U.S. and Canada
- Highest stand-alone credit ratings (Aaa/AA+) carried by any ISD in Texas
- Revenues exceeded appropriations and other uses by \$8M \$300 million of bonds (inclusive of bond premiums) sold August 2016

Plano ISD Employee Pay Raise History

2013-14 Surrounding Area Average 3.0, Plano 1.0

2014-15 Surrounding Area Average 2.8, Plano 3.5

2015-16 Surrounding Area Average 2.9, Plano 3.0

2016-17 Surrounding Area Average 3.0, Plano 3.0

2017-18 Surrounding Area Average 2.6, Plano 3.0

2016-17 Financial Data

Assessed Values:

Residential \$ 28,178,305,000	61.37%
Commercial/industrial \$ 20,594,652,000	44.85%
Rural \$ 607,644,000	1.32%
Personal \$ 4,944,571,000	10.77%
Less exemptions \$ -8,408,591,000	-18.19%
TOTAL ASSESSED VALUES \$ 45,916,581,000	100%

General Fund Revenue:

Local funds \$ 529,981,721	87.61%
State funds \$ 54,122,847	8.95%
Federal funds \$ 7,009,659	1.16%
Other resources \$ 13,850,326	2.29%
TOTAL REVENUE \$ 604,964,553	100%

General Fund Expenditures:

Salary and benefits \$ 386,362,318 82.	67%
Other expenses \$ 79,720,205	17.06%
Other uses \$ 1,244,527	0.27%
TOTAL OPERATING COSTS \$ 467,327,050	100%

Total operating fund expenditures	\$ 467,327,050
Recapture payments	\$ 104,685,715
TOTAL OPERATING FUND EXPENDITURES	\$ 572,012,765

Cost per Pupil \$ 10,559

Current Tax Rates Collin County Schools

Farmersville \$1.3200

Plano \$1.4390

Frisco \$1.4600

Allen \$1.5700

Blue Ridge \$1.5715

Princeton \$1.6200

McKinney \$1.6200

Community \$1.6250

Wylie \$1.6400

Celina \$1.6400

Prosper \$1.6700

Melissa \$1.6700

Lovejoy \$1.6700

Anna \$1.6700

2016-17 Expenditures by Function

Instruction 66.5%

District operations 16.4%

Instructional support 12.5%

General administration 2.2%

Co/Extra Curricular 1.6%

Other costs 0.8%

2016-17 Expenditures by Object

Salary and benefits 67.54%

Contracted Services/utilities 28.35%

Supplies and materials 2.59%

Other operating 1.19%

Other costs 0.22%

Capital outlay 0.10%

2016 Bond Projects

The quality of school facilities is a visible and tangible symbol of a community's commitment to education. Outstanding buildings and technology resources not only indicate pride and belief in the importance of education, they also facilitate the learning process. Over the years, Plano ISD has been known for its outstanding and well-maintained facilities. Such a record didn't happen by chance. Rather, it resulted from the community's overwhelming support through bond initiatives in favor of maintaining revitalized schools district wide, while implementing and utilizing the latest technology.

In May 2016, Plano ISD voters passed a \$481 million bond proposal to fund initiatives recommended by a community task force comprised of citizens, business leaders, teachers and parents. Detailed bond information about the 2016 bond election, as well as previous bond initiatives, can be found on the district website at www.pisd.edu/bond.



Construction at Shepton High School, funded by the 2016 Bond, is now in progress and includes approximately 28,000 square feet of addition, renovation to the school's existing footprint and is scheduled for completion in August 2018.

PROJECT

Renovations and Upgrades \$209,970,000

- Shepton High School renovation \$40,000,000; in progress
- High school refurbishments (Jasper High School & Williams High School) \$11,000,000; Jasper HS to start in 2018 / Williams HS TBD
- Robinson Middle School renovation \$34,830,000; start in Spring 2018
- Middle school refurbishments (Bowman Middle School & Wilson Middle School) \$8,000,000; Wilson MS start in 2018 / Bowman MS TBD
- Middle school kitchen upgrades (Bowman Middle School & Wilson Middle School) \$8,940,000; Wilson MS to start in 2018 / Bowman MS TBD
- Elementary school refurbishments (6 campuses) \$12,000,000; Gulledege ES and Haggar ES are complete / Barksdale ES and Miller ES to start in 2018 / Haun ES and Skaggs ES TBD
- Elementary school kitchen upgrades (7 campuses) \$17,510,000; Gulledege and Haggar are complete / Barksdale and Miller to start in 2018 / Haun ES, Skaggs ES, Hughston ES TBD
- Food & Nutritional Services upgrades (16 locations) \$5,400,000; start date TBD
- Food & Nutritional Services equipment replacement \$1,000,000; start date TBD
- Sustainability projects \$2,000,000; start date TBD

- Systems and maintenance \$64,840,000; in progress
- Capital improvement projects \$3,750,000; start date TBD
- Transportation facility enhancements \$700,000; start date TBD

Fine Arts \$94,305,000

- Plano ISD performing arts center \$63,555,000; in design, start in Fall 2018
- Land acquisition for performing arts center \$5,000,000; purchased in Fall 2016
- High school art renovations (Jasper & Vines High Schools) \$6,320,000; Jasper HS start 2018 / Vines HS TBD
- High school theater storage (All high school campuses) \$430,000; Start date TBD
- Sprung dance floors (all high / senior high school campuses) \$840,000; Shepton HS & Plano East SHS complete
- Stage improvements (Jasper High School, McMillen High School, Plano East Senior High School and Williams High School) \$60,000; start date TBD
- Middle school fine arts additions \$18,100,000; start date TBD (Armstrong MS, Frankford MS, Renner MS and Rice MS)

Technology Upgrades \$73,935,000

Replacements: desktops/laptops; classroom devices; 56,100,000; in progress

- Infrastructure; mobile devices; special education;
- Other devices, e.g., digital cameras, scanners, headphones, etc.

New technology: elementary classroom devices; 17,835,000; in progress

- Secondary classroom devices; Prek-12 teachers; K-12 art;
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses;
- Wireless presentation and collaboration;
- Support for other academic programs

Expanding Classroom and Program Capacity \$50,675,000

- New elementary school \$26,125,000; start date TBD
- Land acquisition for new elementary school \$4,000,000; start date TBD
- Elementary capacity expansion \$5,000,000 Barksdale to receive 2 additional classrooms
- Special education transition center \$3,695,000; renovation begins in Spring 2018
- Land acquisition for special education transition center \$1,000,000; complete
- Academic initiatives \$6,515,000; in progress
- Employee childcare #3 \$3,340,000; in progress
- Employee childcare #3 property purchase \$1,000,000; complete

Early Childhood Education \$21,285,000

- Early childhood school #4 (to be located on district's Mapleshade site) \$21,285,000; in design, start in Spring 2018

Safety and Security Upgrades \$12,270,000

- Security camera systems \$5,615,000; in progress
- Alarm and access control systems \$2,600,000; in progress
- Emergency communication equipment \$2,380,000; start date TBD
- Upgrade campus panic alarms \$250,000; start date TBD
- Security upgrades for senior highs \$1,275,000; in design, start in Summer 2018
- Safety upgrades for Clark Stadium \$150,000; start date TBD
-

Buses \$9,720,000

- Replacement of 90 school buses (over a period of 5 years as they reach the end of their 15-year useful life) \$9,720,000; first batch (18) purchased February 2017; next batch (18) to be purchased in Spring 2018.

Athletics \$8,840,000

- New turf \$5,370,000; in progress
- Turf replacement \$1,140,000; in progress
- Clark Stadium scoreboard \$650,000; start in Spring 2018
- Clark east field locker rooms \$1,230,000; start date TBD
- Plano East Senior High locker room renovations \$150,000; start date TBD

Additional Projects Funded through the 2008 Bond Program

Classroom additions to replace portables at Guinn Special Program and Wells Elementary are complete and portables have been removed. The addition at Plano East Senior High to replace portables is under construction with completion scheduled for July 2018.

Past, Present and Futures Unfold in Plano ISD

As former Plano students, Plano ISD board members and proud parents of Plano ISD graduates, Board President Missy Bender and Board Vice President David Stolle have deep roots in the district that they serve. President Bender, a graduate of Plano East Senior High and proud parent of a Plano West graduate, has served on the school board since 2006. David Stolle, a board member since 2011, is a former Davis Elementary student, parent of a Plano West graduate and has two children currently attending Plano high schools.



Vice President David Stolle and son Blake, class of 2014.



President Missy Bender with daughter Madison, class of 2017, and husband Doug.



David Stolle and Missy Bender