

# Support Quality EDUCATION

Q4 UPDATE FY2014

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 4



## In This Issue

- Page 1 Hurst-Euless-Bedford ISD & Viridian Elementary School
- Page 2 UT Arlington & Mansfield ISD
- Page 3 Arlington ISD, Tarrant County College & AISD Police Academy
- Page 4 Arlington Public Library

## HEB ISD

**Viridian Elementary School** is part of the continued growth in the southern portion of the Hurst-Euless-Bedford Independent School District.

The **Viridian community**, designed for 15,000 residents and 3,000 homes, condos and retail sites, opened in 2010. It is located in north Arlington at the historic Lakes of Bird's Fort site, where a treaty was signed with nine Indian tribes on September 29, 1843, by then Republic of Texas President Sam Houston.



## Viridian Elementary

HEB ISD's 20th elementary school welcomed 540 students on August 25. It is a School of Choice campus with three options:

*Suzuki Strings* - HEB ISD is the only North Texas school district to offer a K-12 strings program. Students have the opportunity to learn the violin, viola, cello and string bass.

*Spanish Immersion* - The third HEB ISD campus with this program beginning in first grade. Core classes are taught in Spanish with English instruction at story time, PE, fine arts and at the library.

*World Languages* - The first of its kind in the district to expose students to Hindi, Mandarin Chinese and Arabic for students in grades 4-6.

Connect with us on social media:



[www.arlingtontx.gov](http://www.arlingtontx.gov) | [www.myarlingtontx.com](http://www.myarlingtontx.com)

# Highlights

## Mansfield ISD

The district is in the early stages of developing a children's education program which will bring more performing arts groups from the North Texas area into the Mansfield ISD Center for the Performing Arts.

On September 19, the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra (FWSO) traveled to Mansfield ISD Center for the Performing Arts.

"Last school year we added the Fort Worth Opera and Texas Ballet Theater to the line-up with Symphony Arlington," said Jeanne Cassidy, Sales and Marketing Coordinator for the center. "The FWSO was the next obvious addition to our developing program of professional arts organizations. I have been working closely with Dr. Chuck Roe, Assistant Fine Arts Director, to select one of the many student programs that the FWSO offers."

As part of the FWSO's Adventures in Music education program, MISD sixth-graders enjoyed the *Musical*

*Math* concert that explored musical components in relationship to math. Seventh- and eighth-grade students heard *Caminos del Inka*, a program that takes the listener on a journey along the Incan Trail in South America through music from ancient to contemporary times.



## UT Arlington

The **Latino STEM Summit** was hosted by UT Arlington on October 31. The university partnered with the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities to host experts in academics and careers in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields.

Hispanics account for the fastest growing population in Texas, and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has emphasized the need to encourage more Hispanic students to earn their college degrees.

"This is a critical time in our nation in terms of promoting higher education, building a STEM-ready workforce and promoting ethnic inclusion and diversity in STEM fields," said Christian Zolniski, associate professor of anthropology and director of the Center for Mexican American Studies at UT Arlington. "This summit answers the call to better prepare students to meet the need for more scientists, engineers and other STEM professionals."

Registration was free and open to sophomores and higher level STEM majors at UT Arlington and colleges across Dallas-Fort Worth.



# Updates

## Arlington ISD 2014 Bond Program

On August 27, Arlington ISD officials and City of Arlington staff co-hosted an information session for the 12 architectural firms selected by the AISD board for Phase 1 and Phase 2 construction projects. The purpose of the meeting was to explain the City's processes for obtaining permits, site plan approvals and other requirements for construction projects.

This stemmed from the June 25 meeting when subject matter experts from AISD and COA discussed the construction projects component of the \$663.1 million **AISD Bond Program**. The two entities formed a partnership to ensure architects involved in the District's projects would be provided information to navigate the City's permitting process in a timely manner.

## Tarrant County College

Over the summer, there were a number of offerings for children from infants to teens at Tarrant County College (TCC). Babies learned to swim. Pre-schoolers played instruments, danced and read. Teens edited their own movies, learned Photoshop and built Web pages. Test prep for college and careers was offered.



## TCC Quick Facts

- Five campuses
- Sixth-largest enrollment in Texas
- 46,917 spring 2014 enrollment
- 26.0 average age of student
- 60 degree programs

Open registration for **TCC's** spring 2015 classes begins November 22. For information, contact TCC at 817-515-4233.

***We are beyond excited to be here. It is a beautiful school, but it's just a building. I am most proud of the teachers, staff and students we have here. That's what makes this place so special.***

Oscar Figueroa, Principal,  
Viridian Elementary School



AISD Police Academy Class 1

## Hometown Recruiting Program

Launched August 2014, this is a collaborative partnership between the University of Texas at Arlington, the Arlington Police Department and Arlington ISD. Twenty-two high school seniors are enrolled and meet approximately 6-9 hours per week. Eligible participants may earn credit toward a criminal justice degree at UT Arlington and participate in early police training. For completing their bachelor's degrees at UT Arlington, students will receive preferred application status and an interview with the Arlington Police Department. The Hometown Recruiting program provides an opportunity to invest in Arlington youth, and the students have the opportunity to begin pursuing their desire to become a police officer.

Be a part of the conversation on social media @CityOfArlington:

**#SupportQualityEducation**

# Book It for Literacy

The fifth-annual 5K/1-mile fun run was September 6. So far, about \$30,000 has been raised to support the Arlington Public Library (APL) literacy programs and to help build awareness. Arlington Reads

provides adult, family and youth literacy services for Arlington residents.

In FY14, APL received more than \$266,000 in grants.



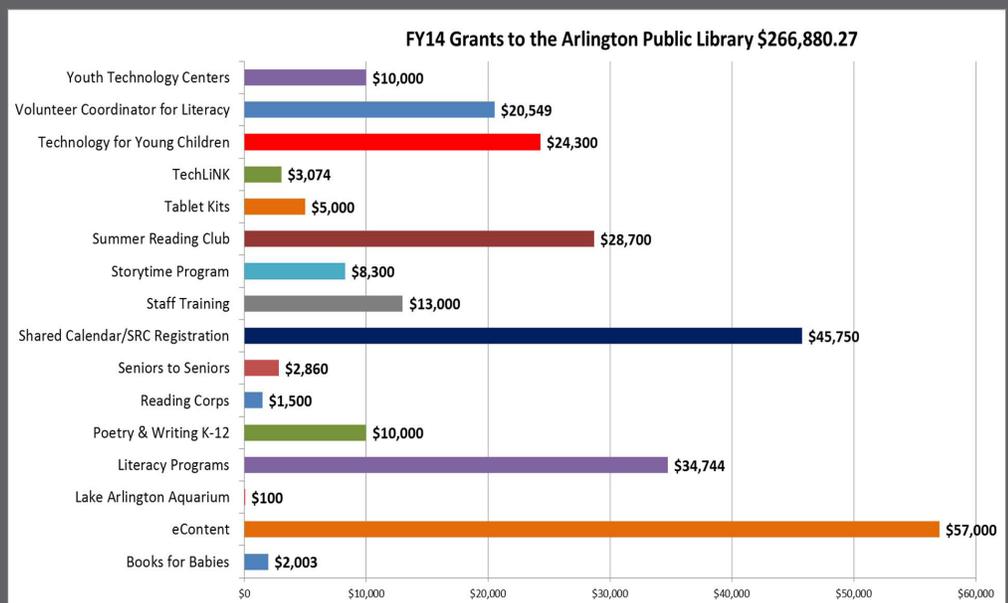
## GO Center 101

College admissions, student loan paperwork, scholarship forms, career exploration, choosing the right school ... yikes! The idea of going to college can be overwhelming on so many levels.

GO Centers, housed in APL's Youth Technology Centers, offer teens and parents an opportunity to speak with mentors who are current college students to help them navigate the process of going to college and career exploration.

Teen Zone, located in the Northeast Branch Library, is the place to be on Wednesdays from 3-5 p.m.

If unable to visit during the scheduled time, go to the website [www.arlingtonlibrary.org](http://www.arlingtonlibrary.org) for the online calendar for other GO Center programs throughout the year. Or, contact Stacy Garcia at [stacy.garcia@arlingtontx.gov](mailto:stacy.garcia@arlingtontx.gov) for more information.



A few examples of programs offered in FY14 are:

- *GO Center 101* - An introductory session to learn about GO Centers and how they can help students accomplish their goal of attending college. SAT/ACT information, college admissions and scholarships were some of the topics covered.

- *Who's Your Audience? Build Your Resume* - Information on resume writing and how to interact with interviewers based on their True Color.
- *How to Pay for College* - Discussed the real costs of college, financial aid and scholarships.