

# Support Quality EDUCATION

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## AISD Fire Academy

Texas Commissioner of Education Michael L. Williams had this to say at the fall 2011 launch of the Arlington ISD Fire Academy: "The magic of the Monday after the Saturday your youngster graduates and can actually get a job serving his community as a fire fighter here in Arlington is absolutely fabulous."



The award-winning program is part of the school district's Career and Technical Education (CTE) program.



## TML Award

Texas Municipal League awarded a 2014 Municipal Excellence Award in Public Safety to the Arlington Fire Academy program.

This is a partnership between AISD, Tarrant County College and the City's Fire Department.

Open to AISD students entering 11th grade, the application process begins in January for the

next fall. Career and Technical Education Specialist Tim Thompson (682.867.7400, [tthomps3@aisd.net](mailto:tthomps3@aisd.net)) or campus counselors can provide more information on the CTE program.

Pictured above is Class 3 of the AISD Fire Academy with Superintendent Dr. Marcelo Cavazos and Sam Houston High School Principal Fernando Benavides during a back-to-school tweet-along.

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## MISD Career and Technical Academy

Mansfield ISD's **Ben Barber CTA/** Frontier High School provides an innovative platform that empowers students to achieve success through the use of emerging technologies and 21st century skills. The iStart accelerated dual-credit program allows students to earn up to 48 college credit hours.

In partnership with the **Tarrant County College Southeast** campus, programs of study are:

- Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources
- Architecture & Construction
- Arts, A/V Technology & Communications
- Education & Training/Human Services
- Health Science
- Hospitality & Tourism
- Information Technology
- Languages other than English
- Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security (LPSCS)
- Manufacturing
- Marketing, Finance & Business Manager
- Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM)

# Highlights

## AISD Career and Technical Education

**Arlington ISD** hosted a **CTE** Course Fair and Parent Information night on January 21, 2015, to explain earning college credit in high school and how to select classes to prepare for a career. AISD offers 17 courses for students through the workforce dual-credit program, where students earn both high school and college credit.

Dual credit differs from Advanced Placement because these college courses are not modified for high school students.

One of those courses is the two-year Dual-Credit Culinary Arts program in conjunction with Tarrant County College. The two-year class meets at Seguin High School and the TCC Southeast campus Monday through Thursday. Students completing the program earn 18 college hours at TCC and two industry certifications.

TCC Chef Instructor Sean Jett said, "We're not training people to be

line cooks. We're teaching people to be kitchen managers. This is a leg into the business."

Bowie High School senior Magali Herrera (*pictured below, front left*) says she's known since sixth grade she wanted to be a chef. "I do want to further my career and definitely get my associates in it and hopefully open my own restaurant at some point."

AISD-TCC workforce dual-credit courses of study: Accounting Assistant I; AISD Fire Academy; Architectural CAD Operator; Automotive Engine Analysis; Automotive Metal Repair; Business; CISCO Support; Computer-Aided Drafting & Design Building Technology; Computer Graphics with Photo Retouch Emphasis; Computer Maintenance; Culinary Arts I; Game and Simulation Programming; Health Information Technology; HVAC Technician I; Video Production; and, Welding Basic.

AISD-UTA workforce dual-credit course of study: Criminal Justice.



# Updates

## HEB Viridian Elementary

As a **School of Choice**, Viridian Elementary offers Spanish Immersion, Suzuki Strings and World Languages.

## Suzuki Strings

In Suzuki Strings, students can learn violin, viola, cello and string bass. They performed at the December 18, 2014, Viridian PTA meeting.



## Mandarin Chinese

Viridian is the first in HEB ISD to offer Hindi, Mandarin Chinese and Arabic for students in grades 4-6. In October 2014, they finished their first brush-pen-and-ink calligraphy work in Mandarin Chinese. Pictured above are characters for Love, Peace, Luck, Happiness, Hello and Beautiful (also pictured right).

美麗



*When you think about it in terms of a degree that's accomplished for \$10,000 – a degree, not a semester – it is staggering.*

MISD Director of Guidance & Counseling Holly McCanlies, about the MISD CTA Dual-Credit iStart program with Tarrant County College Southeast campus.

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

*#SupportQualityEducation*



UT Arlington President Vistasp Karbhari (pictured left) and Mansfield ISD Superintendent Jim Vaszauskas sign an agreement for the Bound for Success early college admissions initiative.

## UT ARLINGTON BOUND FOR SUCCESS

Fall 2014, UT Arlington expanded its **Bound for Success** early-admissions initiative to include the Mansfield school district. The pilot program began fall 2013 with the Arlington school district and aims to increase the number of high school students who earn a college degree.

The collaborative partnership provides high-achieving students deferred, unconditional admission provided they graduate with a recognized college preparatory diploma and satisfy the Texas Success Initiatives requirements.

Mansfield ISD qualifying juniors in the top 20% of the class can choose dual-credit courses through the district's STEM or LPSCS sequence.

# Senior to Senior

The **Arlington Public Library** has created a meaningful opportunity for students to build relationships with caring adults who enhance their well-being through the sharing of experiences, perspectives and storytelling from one generation to another.

This is an intergenerational program that provides high school students with an opportunity to learn about history from those who lived it.

Over fifty Greenfield Senior Living residents spent an enjoyable hour with Sam Houston High School National Honor Society students, while students from Pantego Christian Academy teamed with

Texas Masonic Retirement Home residents.

Using BiFolkal kits checked out from the Library, they engaged in shared conversations, played games, sang songs and told stories recalling life in the 1950s. One resident shared memories of

seeing Sputnik and buying his first Elvis record.

In a survey, both groups said one of the things they enjoyed most about the program was interacting with the other generation.

A series of nine programs continue through spring 2015. Future topics will include *Remembering Automobiles* and *Remembering the Home Front (WWII)*.



*The Senior to Senior project is made possible by a Texas Reads grant from the Texas State Library and Archives Commission.*

## CAP Career Advancement Program

The Library's College & Careers team launched a new three-part series called CAP – Career Advancement Program.

The new program focuses on three core areas to assist members of our community access educational programs to help fulfill career goals—Investigate, Research and Prepare. Small group sessions were well attended totaling 48 participants this quarter.

Students were given resources for discovering personal educational development, career possibilities, useful tools for job searching and professional resume tips.

The series received positive feedback from students expressing how this program aided them in acquiring beneficial tools and information to move them toward their personal goals and possibly future employment.

One student who attended the Research and Prepare sessions was so thankful for the course that she registered for the Investigate session. She planned to bring her daughter with her so they could both gain the knowledge the series offers.



### How has the CAP series helped our students?



*This project is made possible by a grant from the U.S Institute of Museum and Library Services (Texas State Library and Archives Commission).*