

# SUPPORTING QUALITY EDUCATION

Q3 Update FY2013



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## IN THIS ISSUE

### Page 1

Class #1 AISD Fire Academy

### Page 2

UT Arlington Campus Safety/Fall 2012 UTA Fast Facts, Fire Academy Graduation

### Page 3

Award-Winning Water Utilities Work-Study Program/Water Internships, Arlington Municipal Airport/Young Eagles Flight Rally

### Page 4

Campus Emergency Communications, Updates

## CLASS #1 AISD FIRE ACADEMY

On June 15, 2013, Class #1 of the Arlington Independent School District Fire Academy graduated. The ceremony was the culmination of a two-year program that began in August 2011 with 23 high school students all of whom passed a rigorous application and interview process. The students signed on for fire-service training while maintaining school attendance and grade requirements. Sixteen students completed the program.



*Pictured left to right: (front row) Amanda Mahell/SHS, Yadera Nieto/SHHS, Blake Cretsinger/MHS, Brent Bousquet/MHS, Josh Berkley/MHS, Tyler Francisco/LHS, Blake Delaney/MHS; (back row) Austin White/AHS, Jayleen Felix/SHS, Jeffrey O'Dell/MHS, Austin Dellasega/AHS, Captain Luke Burgdorf/AHS, Morgan Pratt/AHS, Josh St. John/SHS. Not pictured: Carlos Ogaz/SHHS, Justin Gill/MHS. (AISD HIGH SCHOOL LEGEND: AHS=Arlington; BHS=Bowie; LHS=Lamar; MHS=Martin; SHHS=Sam Houston; SHS=Seguin.)*

Some of the graduates have already passed the state fire exam, and all are eligible to sit for the national registry test for Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). Prior to graduation, students were volunteering at local fire departments, and four of the students are currently in the Arlington Fire Department hiring process.

"The partnership among the Arlington Fire Department, Arlington ISD and Tarrant County College District for the purpose of creating a high school fire academy has proven to be a successful venture," says Dr. Arrick L. Jackson, Divisional Dean of Public Services and Social/Behavioral Sciences at Tarrant

*(continued inside)*

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## FALL 2012 UTA FAST FACTS



The campus operates much like its own city:

- 420 acres with more than 100 buildings
- 2,200 faculty members
- 33,239 students enrolled from every state & 116 countries, resulting in one of the most diverse student groups in the nation of which 20.9% are Hispanic, 14.3% African American, 10.0% Asian & 8.5% international students
- 2<sup>nd</sup> largest school in the UT System & 6<sup>th</sup> largest university in Texas
- 180 degree programs in 12 different schools/colleges
- 330 campus organizations
- 10,000+ students living on or within 5 miles of campus
- \$6.7-million annual police budget for a department of 118 with 38 sworn officers, 56 guards, police communications & emergency management staff

## FIRE ACADEMY GRADUATION



Jun. 15, 2013 – Fire Academy Captain Luke Burgdorf, an Arlington High School graduate, is pictured left to right with Dr. Arrick L. Jackson (Divisional Dean of Public Services and Social/Behavioral Sciences at Tarrant County College), Dr. Marcelo Cavazos (Superintendent of Arlington Independent School District), and Fire Chief Don Crowson (City of Arlington). Burgdorf, who was also a 2013 Richard Greene Scholar, received a full-tuition scholarship from the University of Texas at Arlington. He plans to complete his college education before pursuing a career in fire service. In addition to the graduating class and their family members, attendees at the graduation banquet included representatives from AISD, TCC, the Arlington Fire Department, City Manager's Office and Mayor & Council.

# HIGHLIGHTS

## UT ARLINGTON CAMPUS SAFETY

The police departments for the University of Texas at Arlington and the City of Arlington have developed a mutually beneficial relationship to ensure seamless safety for both the community and campus residents. When APD Deputy Chief Kim Lemaux took over as UTA Police Chief on July 1, that partnership became even stronger.

"I want to build our capacity to make UT Arlington the safest and most secure campus it can be," Lemaux said. "Coming from an organization that deeply values community-based policing and collaboration with other organizations is going to help me immensely."

From holding formal planning sessions and jointly working criminal cases to controlling traffic at the annual Fourth of July parade and College Park events, the two police departments routinely collaborate and reach out to one another through 24/7 phone contact. APD officials also assist when needed with campus emergency operations such as bomb threats.

"The suspects don't know any boundaries," said Arlington Police Lt. Mike Holguin, who works as a liaison with the university. "There have been examples of people committing crimes on campus and then moving out into the City. We operate as one law enforcement entity when it comes to tracking known offenders and keeping an eye on trends."

## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

County College. "One of the goals of TCCD is to support student learning and success by providing flexible learning delivery systems and dynamic curricula. This has been the focus of the TCCD Division of Public Services and its Fire Service Training Center located on the Northwest Campus."

Dr. Marcelo Cavazos, Superintendent of Arlington Independent School District, said, "It is essential that we unite our district and the community in order to offer consistent growth to students in college and career readiness. We are proud of the first graduating class of the rigorous, college-level, hands-on Fire Academy; these 16 young adults are now leaders within their community."



# HIGHLIGHTS

## AWARD-WINNING WATER UTILITIES WORK-STUDY PROGRAM

During the April 6-9 Texas Water Conference, Arlington Water Utilities (AWU) Director Buzz Pishkur accepted the 2013 Workforce Development Award from the Texas Section American Water Works Association/Water Environment Association of Texas. Arlington won the award for its Arlington Independent School District (AISD) partnership to develop a work-study program introducing high school students to the water industry.

In May, six students took the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Class D Water License & Certification exam following completion of the yearlong work-study program. Larry Teague, an Arlington High School student, passed the exam on his first attempt. Three others are scheduled for the retest in the near future.

Teague, who was placed with an internship at the Trinity River Authority (TRA), says, "After graduation, I hope to continue working at TRA while going to college. I know the skills I have learned here will carry on with me through the rest of my life."

In August, Water Utilities will meet with AISD to plan for next year's program.

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## ARLINGTON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT

At three Arlington Independent School District career days during the months of April and May, the Arlington Municipal Airport staff made presentations about aviation careers to students in grades 6-9.

In June, more than 90 area youth ages 8-17 took to the skies at Arlington Municipal Airport, and also learned how to become a pilot and how to read an aeronautical chart. The Young Eagles Flight Rally was part of the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) Chapter 34's Young Eagles Program created to interest young people in aviation.

"Free airplane rides are just part of the flight rally," said Michelle Daniel, Young Eagles coordinator. "We hope to build one-to-one relationships between pilots and young people, giving a new generation a chance to learn more about the possibilities that exist in the world of aviation."

To provide younger children a chance to learn about aviation, the Airport hosted "Storytime" in conjunction with the Arlington Library on June 11.

## WATER INTERNSHIPS



2012-2013 Class – Three of the 10 students in this year's class earned internships within the water industry; two at AWU and one with TRA. Pictured above is AWU Intern Lindsey Hada performing a jar test used to optimize the chemical dosage in the treatment plant. Hada and Kirsti Hunsley, also an AWU intern, spent time rotating through all of the City's water treatment divisions – Water Resource Services, Laboratory Services, and the Pierce-Burch and John F. Kubala treatment plants. The goal was to provide them with a complete picture of water treatment.

The purpose of the work-study program is to introduce high school students to the water industry and generate interest in pursuing college degrees in engineering and science for more advanced careers. Over the next 10 years, the American Water Works Association projects 37% of water utility workers and 31% of wastewater utility workers will retire. The potential shortfall in qualified personnel spurred the City's interest in recruiting young people.

## YOUNG EAGLES FLIGHT RALLY



June 8, 2013 – Smiling youngsters from around the Metroplex enjoyed free plane rides during the Young Eagles Flight Rally at Arlington Municipal Airport. EAA volunteer pilots helped young people discover how planes work and how pilots ensure safety is the prime concern before every flight. Following the flight, each young person received a certificate making them an official Young Eagle, and their name was entered into the "World's Largest Logbook" displayed at the EAA Air Adventure Museum in Oshkosh, WI. Since the program began in 1992, volunteer EAA pilots have flown more than 1.7 million young people in 90+ countries.

# NEXT STEPS

## CAMPUS EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS



In a May 7 report to the City Council, Fire Chief Don Crowson said all other radio systems in the Tarrant County 9-1-1 District are now or are in the process of converting to digital for greater interoperability.

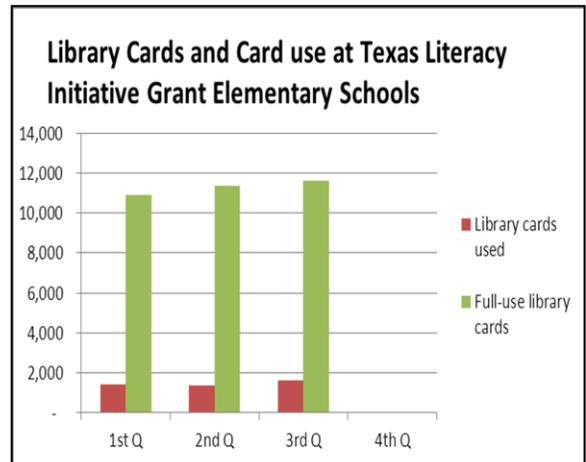
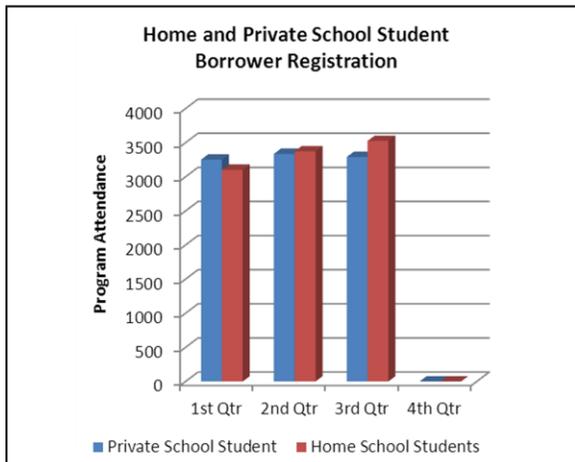
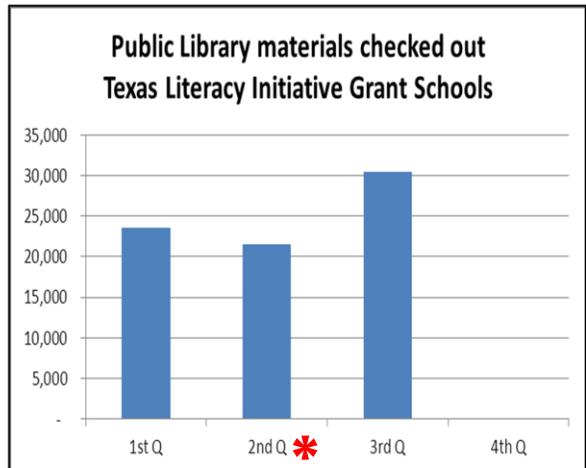
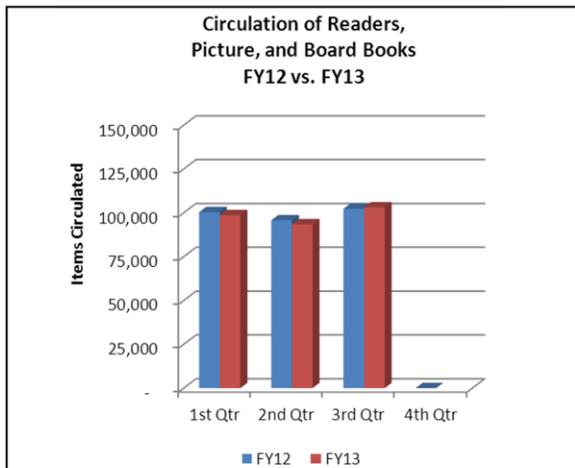
The non-City radio system users include three educational entities – Mansfield Independent School District, UT Arlington Police Department and the Tarrant County College SE Campus.

“In the Arlington Fire Department, we embrace both community and business partnerships and are constantly working to improve the services we provide through innovation and continual process review,” says Crowson. “Providing our educational partners with uninterrupted, reliable and responsive emergency communication

services is an integral part of the safety and wellbeing of all citizens in our community.”

Arlington is working toward that conversion, and an update will be provided to Council in August.

## UPDATES



\* Elementary and junior high schools no longer participating; high school service began 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter.