



Bays' Broadcast

From Superintendent Sherri L. Bays, Ed.D.

*"If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself."
– Henry Ford*

At a Glance...

2017-18 Year End Enrollment: 3,937

Current Student Enrollment

FISD: 4,006
FHS: 1,247
FMS: 917
FNE: 860
FSE: 982

Average Daily Attendance

FISD: 92.25
FHS: 95.81
FMS: 94.95
FNE: 93.57
FSE: 92.65

Days of Instruction Completed: 83

Remaining: 93

2017-2018

Accountability Rating
"Met Standard"

Total Number of Employees

697

2018 Tax Rate

\$1.040	M & O
\$0.405	I & S
\$1.445	Total

January 8, 2019

Happy New Year FISD and welcome back. If I wasn't able to make it by your campus or department yesterday, I hope to see you today. Like so many of you, I thoroughly enjoyed my time with family and friends over the break, but I was ready to get back into a routine and quite honestly, I am excited about what the New Year will bring!

FISD is making innovative and collaborative efforts to ensure our FISD students are truly "Prepared for a Prosperous Life". Working with over 100 stakeholders, starting in May 2018 and finishing up in December 2018, we have completed the first stage of our FISD Strategic Plan, a document that will ensure our students have the skills and attributes they need to be successful in a rapidly changing global economy. We are working to make sure our staff has the skills needed to ensure our students are Future Ready through professional development, professional learning communities and blended learning – 49 staff members have signed up to participate in the professional development on Blended Learning with UTeach at the University of Texas!! In our pursuit of continuous improvement, through Grand Rounding we are learning more about your needs and those of our students, and are working to ensure those are met. We are also seeking out partnerships that benefit our students and staff. There is a lot to be excited about!

Also, with the New Year comes the 86th Regular Legislative Session that begins today in Austin. One of the topics I will be following closely and advocating for is an increase in the state's overall investment in quality education programs. In our school funding system, as local school taxes increase, state funding decreases, leaving per student funding flat. Over time this has saved the state billions of dollars---additional funding not being reinvested in public schools. By 2019, the state's share of funding will be only 38 percent and without reinvestment, it will continue to decline. Raise Your Hand Texas recently released this 2 minute video on what is currently wrong with the Texas Public School Finance System. This information is consistent with what I have shared with you in the past, but is presented in a different format. The more you hear it, the better you will be able to explain it if you are asked. https://youtu.be/t711gOV_3Rc . I encourage you to share this video with family and friends to help them to better understand the financial crisis Texas Public Schools are in.

As we get back into our regular routines this week, just remember there is a child who hasn't been in an encouraging atmosphere since they left your class, bus, lunchroom, library or office before Christmas break and they can't wait to see you tomorrow!

Looking forward to a great 2019 year!

SLB