

As the 2019-2020 school year begins in Argyle ISD, I envision a very productive and exciting year for students and staff. Each year brings new challenges and new adventures. All children come to school eager to learn, and educators in our district are committed to making sure that the learning environment allows them to continue to be enthusiastic seekers of knowledge. Teachers accept nothing less than the best from all students and hold fast to their dreams of what students can become.

Teachers recognize that every student has unique characteristics and that instruction must be differentiated to meet their needs. Teachers are role models for students, both at school and away from school.

I expect AISD to open with approximately 3500 students this year; the growth is projected to be approximately 15%. In June 2019 the District had 3105 students. Forensic science will be taught at HS this year for the first time.

Voters in AISD passed a \$166,000,000 bond in May 2017. In October 2018 learning spaces for 300 students through the addition of 12 classrooms were added at the current high school. In August 2019 a second elementary school, West Elementary, will open in the Harvest area. Also included in the bond were Phase II of the future high school which is currently the middle school and a third elementary. Renovations at existing campuses, technology, transportation, an administration building, and a transportation center were also included in the bond.

Three years ago AISD opened Argyle Middle School, in Canyon Falls. The middle school will serve almost 900 students in Grades 6-8 this fall. This campus is Phase I of a new high school. AMS is part of a \$45 million dollar bond approved by AISD voters in May 2014. All athletic upgrades including the baseball and softball complex, the tennis courts with lighting, girls' field house, visitors' restrooms, enhanced stadium seating, and indoor activity center were finished by August 2015 and in full utilization in the 2015-2016 year.

The opening of West Elementary in Canyon Falls is a huge step for AISD made possible by you, the voters, through the 2017 bond. The school is designed to accommodate up to 850 students and is designed by Corgan Architects and built by Lee Lewis Construction Company. The school will serve Grades PK-5 this year. The mascot is the same as the other schools, the Argyle Eagle.

Our existing campus configurations will be the same again this year. HT is PK-3; AIS 4-5; MS 6-8; and HS 9-12. West Elementary will open for PK-5 on August 19.

AISD will continue this year with full day Pre-Kindergarten classes for eligible students. Pre-Kindergarten provides an excellent learning opportunity for students. AISD will continue to serve students who qualify as economically disadvantaged, English Language Learners, homeless, or children of military families in Pre-Kindergarten. Additionally parents may pay \$550 per month for a student who does not meet eligibility criteria to attend Pre-Kindergarten if space permits. Pre-kindergarten allows students to develop language skills and other readiness skills and be ready for kindergarten.

Reserved seating for football games will be sold again this year. Reserved seats as well as reserved parking for the four varsity home games will be available to the public in August.

Argyle High School won the Lone Star Cup for the eighth consecutive and tenth time in 2019. Lone Star Cup represents the accumulation of the largest number of UIL points in the state in 4A. Academics, athletics, and fine arts are all included. The presentation will be made in early September at a home game.

I became your superintendent in January of 2009 after serving as interim for 10 months in 2008. My own background of experience includes teacher, counselor, assistant principal, principal, assistant superintendent, and superintendent. I am honored to work in AISD and serve the needs of the students, parents, and staff in the district. Please feel free to contact me at any time.

Telena Wright, Ed. D.

Superintendent, AISD