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# NORTHEAST NEWS

Jensen Jubilee Festival



Mayor Sylvester Turner and Rep. Armando Walle at the Jubilee

Serving the Neighborhoods of Aldine, Greenspoint, US59 Eastex, Beltway 8 and North Forest for over 45 Years  
VOL. 45, NO. 42/43 TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19&26, 2021 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com

## Jensen Jubilee festivities draw large crowds

The 7th Annual Jensen Jubilee Fall Festival was held last Saturday, Oct. 16 at Shady Lane Park. Hundreds of adults and children joined in the fun on a sunny, pleasant family type day. Jubilee director Pastor David Smith thanked the Platinum Sponsor, UTHealth/UTPhysicians, for their support and donation of Scholarships.



Five Scholarships of \$1000 were presented by the UTPhysicians clinic. MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 6



U.S. Representative Sylvia Garcia takes time to talk with costumed dancers at the Jubilee.



## Hopkins, Watt host former team when Texans head to Arizona

Two former Houston Texans will welcome their former team to the desert on Sunday when DeAndre Hopkins and J.J. Watt and their Arizona Cardinal teammates take on David Culley's team.

These are two teams heading in opposite direction. Arizona, under the direction of head coach Kliff Kingsbury, won its first five games of the season and was the lone undefeated team left in the NFL when it played at Cleveland last Sunday. The Texans rode a four-game losing streak into their Oct. 17 game at Indianapolis after their blow a double-digit lead at home to New England two weeks ago en route to a 25-22 defeat.

Rookie quarterback Davis Mills had his best game of the season throw-

ing for three touchdowns and 312 yards, but penalties and questionable coaching decisions prevented the Texans from picking up their second win of the season.

It's a pretty good bet that Hopkins and Watt will be anything but hospitable hosts to their former teammates.

Hopkins has the most to prove as he was traded to Arizona by former head coach Bill O'Brien in March of 2020 for running back David Johnson and draft choices. It was one of the worst trades in NFL history as the Cardinals acquired a top three receiver to pair with up-and-coming quarterback Kyler Murray. Watt was granted his release from the Tex-

*Continued. See Keeney's Korner, page 4*

## East Aldine holds 3 Family Friendly events in October

East Aldine residents, businesses and friends are invited to participate in three exciting celebrations this month at the expanding East Aldine Town Center at 2800 Aldine Mail Route Road.

The dynamic, free events show the growth, hard work and colorful makeup of East Aldine and the enrichment of the area by the East Aldine Management District.

### OCT. 22 BakerRipley Fall Festival

On Friday, Oct. 22, 2021, from 4-7 p.m., the BakerRipley East Aldine Campus will host its Fall Festival featuring a pumpkin patch, music, games, food and much more fun for kids and adults.

See Page 6 for Additional Information on Dia de Los Muertos and East Aldine Town Center Ribbon Cutting

BakerRipley is the regional non-profit agency that provides a wide range of social services to people in the Houston area.

### OCT. 28 East Aldine opens Town Center

On Thursday, Oct. 28, 2021 at 10 a.m., the management district will celebrate the official opening of Phase 2 of the Town Center, including a multi-functional office building, an amphitheater and audience lawn, play areas and outdoor

water features.

The public is welcome to join community leaders in a ribbon-cutting ceremony and a look at the special features of the building and its surroundings.

Besides the BakerRipley outpost, the original Town Center campus includes a HOPE Clinic center, the Lone Star College East Aldine campus and the Harris County Sheriff's Office 911 call center.

Phase Three of the Town Center will focus on bringing new retail busi-

nesses to the neighborhood.

### OCT. 30 Dia De Los Muertos Festival & Parade

On Saturday, Oct. 30, 2021 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., the District will host a Dia De Los Muertos (Day Of The Dead) Fall Festival featuring live entertainment, face painting, games, food trucks, a kids' dance contest and more.

The festival will be preceded by a 9 a.m. parade, hosted by Harris County Pct. 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia, starting at MacArthur High School, 4400 Aldine Mail Route Road.

-by Anne Marie Kilday

## Garcia unveils final Pct. 2 Parks & Trails Plan



New exercise equipment at Highlands Park is an example of improvements underway at existing Pct. 2 parks.



An "All Inclusive" park at James Driver Park in Aldine is an example of new thinking to accommodate persons with physical or cognitive disabilities.

By Gilbert Hoffman

PCT 2 HARRIS COUNTY - Last Thursday, Oct. 14 Commissioner Adrian Garcia presented the completed Parks and Trails Plan to the community. This plan is not only meant to enhance the physical environment of the various parks and neighborhoods in Precinct 2, but also to weave a cohesive relationship between different neighborhoods through the precinct. The Commissioner has initiated an ambitious project, to study each community and present a Comprehensive Master Plan for enhancing the physical and quality of life aspects of its features. This includes roads, drainage, and other amenities as well as the park system.

The presentation of the Parks and Trails Final

Plan was made through ZOOM, to an audience that totaled almost 100 participants. The presentation was made by Katie Coyne, project manager for the landscape planning firm AsakuraRobinson. It was monitored by Jorge Bustamante, planning manager of Precinct 2.

After over a year of meeting with community stakeholders, the Precinct 2 Parks and Trails Plan is complete. Through a collaborative process involving in-depth community engagement, research, and analysis, the Precinct 2 Parks and Trails Plan outlines how the parks and trails system will best serve the diverse communities in Precinct 2. The Plan will guide the Commissioner and the Precinct 2 team in prioritizing investments, incorporating

best practices for programming and design, and help create and maintain the best parks and trails for the Precinct 2 community.

In his welcoming remarks, Commissioner Garcia called parks "A Place to Celebrate Community." He said Parks and trails in Precinct 2 provide opportunities for communities to safely come together, play, exercise, and connect with nature. Now more than ever, parks are a vital resource for all residents.

Garcia spoke about improvements that have already been made to existing parks, and plans for further development of the whole system. He was especially enthusiastic about the "All Inclusive" park being built at James Driver Park in the Aldine area, where adults and children with physical or

cognitive disabilities will be able to participate in outdoor activities. He said his goal was to make other parks inclusive, as well.

Ms. Coyne presented the Goals & Objectives in the Parks plan. She said that parks should be designed to be (1) Safe; (2) Accessible and Connected; (3) Healthy; (4) Culturally Relevant; (5) Engaging; (6) Environmentally Resilient; and (7) Economically Resilient.

In developing the Plan, AsakuraRobinson used 24 focus groups, 3 walking tours, 2 virtual community events, and 5 weeks of social media, yard signs and other means to engage residents. The Community Survey had over 900 responses, Coyne said. High

*Continued. See Parks & Trails, page 2*

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### BAA CITIZENS CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Next Citizenship Workshops:

-Oct. 16, Champion Forest Baptist Church, 15555 Stuebner Airline Rd.

-Oct. 30, Northwoods Presbyterian Church, 3320 Cypress Creek Pkwy.

-Nov. 6, St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, 501 Tidwell Rd.

-Nov. 13, Prince of Peace Catholic Church, 19222 Tx-249

-Dec. 4, Christ the Good Shepherd Catholic Church, 18511 Klein Church Rd.

Call 281-799-9076 or Text 832-906-4214 for more information.

## Pct. 2 Parks & Trails Plan,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

priorities in the responses included accessibility, parking, clean restrooms, more lighting, more seating, more security, and trail markers. Other suggestions included food trucks, emergency call systems, and interactive programs.

The Parks and Trails Plan was presented in a book of 137 pages, and a Power Point slide show. The plan went into great detail about methodology of the study, evaluation of existing parks, recommendations for their further development, and opportu-

nities for new parks and trails within the precinct. A section of the Plan included Design Guidelines for future developments. Goals were defined as both short term and long term, and both local, neighborhood and precinct-wide.

Commissioner Garcia said that he was currently making an inventory of available vacant land in the precinct, with the possibility of developing more parks and trails. He also indicated that the plan will be used to improve and re-new features of existing parks and trails.

## Aldine ISD to Host In-Person Choice Schools Festival on Saturday, Nov. 6

**YOU HAVE OPTIONS IN ALDINE ISD! EXPLORE YOUR OPPORTUNITIES!**

The district will host its annual fall Choice Schools Festival on Saturday, November 6. The event marks a great opportunity to learn about the options Aldine ISD gives students the opportunity to attend schools (PreK-12) outside their attendance zones and in areas of interest. Students who live outside of Aldine ISD can also enroll too. Families can explore their school options for the 2022-2023 school year and learn about the Choice Schools application process.

### Choice School Festival

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6  
M.O. CAMPBELL EDUCATIONAL CENTER-  
ARENA, 1865 ALDINE BENDER RD.  
9 A.M.-1 P.M.**

Aldine ISD also opened two new schools this school year: Aldine Young Women's Leadership Academy (YWLA) and La Promesa. YWLA, which focuses on STEM programs, opened with sixth and seventh graders and will add a grade level each year to become a Grades 6-12 campus by 2027-2028. La Promesa opened with ninth-graders and will add a grade level each year to become a Grade 9-12 campus by 2025-2026. The school focuses on students living three or fewer years in the U.S. with little to no English proficiency or coming from countries where English is not the language spoken. The school embraces a school culture of biculturalism, biliteracy, and bilingualism. The newcomer school will add two CTE programs in the 2022-2023 school year.

### Is the festival for you?

If you are new to the district or your child is interested in one of the many options offered, yes, the festival is for you.

### What to Expect

In addition to general information about each Choice School's programs and opportunities, school faculty will provide students and families with course selection for the coming academic year. Current students involved in their programs, extracurriculars, and other unique services and opportunities will be on hand to share their experiences.

### Choice Schools

- Aldine Young Women's Leadership Academy
- Anderson Academy for Montessori & Fine Arts (Grades 1-4)
- Avalos Pathways in Technology Early College High (P-TECH) School (9-12)
- Blanson Career and Technology Education (CTE) HS (Grades 9-12)
- Carter Academy for Performing & Visual Arts (Grades 1-5)
- Carver High School for Engineering, Applied Technology and The Arts (9-12)
- Drew Academy for Math, Science, Technology & Fine Arts (Grades 7-8)
- Eisenhower High School (Grades 9-12) — IB@ Middle Years Program & IB@ Diploma Program
- Grantham Academy for Engineering (Grades 6-8)
- Hall Success Academy (Grades 8-12)
- Houston Academy for Math, Science & Fine Arts (Grades 5-6)
- Kujawa Primary School — IB@ Primary Years Program
- Kujawa Elementary School (Grades 1-5) — IB@ Primary Years Program
- La Promesa ... Newcomer and Dual Language Experience
- Reece Academy for Montessori, Direct Instruction & Fine Arts (Grades PreK-K)
- Reed Academy for Engineering (Grades 1-5)
- Shotwell Middle School (Grades 6-8) — IB@ Middle Years Program
- Victory Early College HS (Grades 9-12)
- Dual-Language Program Schools
- De Santiago Primary School (PreK-K) — Dual Language Program
- García-Leza Primary School (PreK-K) — Dual Language Program
- Hinojosa Primary School (PreK-K) — Dual Language Program
- Magrill Primary School (PreK-K) — Dual Language Program
- Vines Primary School (PreK-K) — Dual Language Program

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- When will the applications be available? — The applications will be available starting November 1.
- How many schools can I choose for my child? — Families can choose up to three (3) schools ranking first, second, and third choice options. NOTE: If a family only has ONE school choice option they are interested in, they are advised to make that ONE their ONLY selection.
- What happens if my first choice is unavailable? — If a family's top choice is unavailable, the second choice will be reviewed for seat availability.
- When will the first lottery be held? — December 6-10, 2021

For more information, email [choiceschools@aldineisd.org](mailto:choiceschools@aldineisd.org).

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Me sorprendió lo fácil que fue. Una vez que hice la llamada, el agente se encargó de todo. Fue agradable obtener los altos pagos de mi espalda. — Carlos de California

Me gustó cómo nadie me hizo sentir mal por endeudarme. Erán muy comprensivos. Todo me fue explicado y estoy trabajando hacia un lugar mejor financieramente. — Maria en Florida

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Sabado: 8am to 4:30pm PST

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\* Anyone in a district building or facility must wear a mask and maintain social distancing. AISD is taking every measure necessary for safety without sacrificing learning.

### Why choose Choice Schools? — A Best-Fit School for Your Child

All children are unique. Each learns in different ways, has aspirations for different careers, and is interested in different subjects. The more options there are that better suit a student's interests, the better for the student. The district believes that if all students can attend a high-quality school that matches their interests, they will achieve their academic potential. Families and their children can choose from Aldine's various unique academic programs — preschool through Grade 11 — from throughout the district. Each program provides students the support they need in their areas of interest and offers extracurricular activities.

### Dual Language

The two-way dual-language program, launched in fall 2019 in kindergarten classrooms, is expanding by a grade level each year. Students must start the program in kindergarten at one of five campuses — De Santiago, García-Leza, Hinojosa, Magrill, and Vines. Native English speakers and native Spanish speakers receive general academic instruction in two languages. Students develop bilingual, bi-literate, and bicultural skills and knowledge. Click the links for common questions and answers in English and Spanish and the presentation.

### MAGNET SCHOOLS & INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMS

The district's magnet schools offer a wide range of themes from Montessori, direct instruction, STEAM (science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics). The International Baccalaureate® studies program provides a rigorous, highly recognized curriculum. The IB® Diploma Program is a globally recognized honors curriculum with many colleges and universities awarding credit upon exam results. Aldine ISD students can follow the entire IB® continuum — the Primary Years Program, Middle Years Program, and Diploma Program.

### EARLY COLLEGE, CTE & P-TECH SCHOOLS AND NON-TRADITIONAL CAMPUS

Additionally, each high school Choice School offers opportunities ranging from industry certifications to associate degrees. Meaning students will be earning college credit while in high school as well as completing their degree sooner. Blanson CTE-HS offers 17 different programs, while Avalos P-TECH School and Carver High School have four programs and two programs, respectively, in fields that are in high demand. Carver High School offers two new CTE programs — interior design and Mechatronics. Carver HS is applying for P-TECH (Pathways in Technology Early College High) School status this year.

Hall Success Academy is redefining what is possible for non-traditional students in Grades 8-12. The school gives students an opportunity to take control of their learning. The campus offers a student-centered blended learning experience while maintaining the pace for graduation.

2 New Schools: Young Women's Leadership Academy and La Promesa ... Newcomer and Dual Language Experience

**FALL FESTIVAL**  
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22 | 4-7P.M.  
Free and open to the public!

Pumpkin patch, fall-themed family photoshoots, scavenger hunt, face painting, pie-eating contest, cake walk, snacks & food, music, games, arts & crafts + more! Don't miss out on our annual celebration of the Fall Season!

**BakerRipley East Aldine Campus**  
3000 Aldine Mail Route Rd., Houston, TX 77039  
(346) 570-4463

## HIGH MEADOWS LIBRARY NEWS

**By Jennifer Nandlal Sr Adult Program Specialist**

**GOOD MORNING!**

**FREE CRAFTS**  
The library has a variety of free craft kits available to everyone. Stop by the library and ask for a craft today.

**TRICK OR TREAT AT HIGH MEADOWS**  
From October 25-30, stop by the library in your costume and trick or treat or take a picture at our selfie station.

**OUT IN THE COMMUNITY**  
On October 30, find the library at the Dia de los Muertos Fall Festival from 10am to 4pm. We will be there with the HCPL Curiosity Cruiser handing out freebies including craft kits, free books, and issuing free library cards.

**BECOME A FRIEND OF THE LIBRARY:**  
We need YOU to become a friend of the library. We are currently looking for individuals who would like to help us form a group to be the voice of the community! If you have what it

takes, please contact Jennifer at [jennifer.nandlal@hcpl.net](mailto:jennifer.nandlal@hcpl.net).

For information on any of the above events or programs, please call us at 832-927-5540 or stop by the library.

**HIGH MEADOWS LIBRARY**  
4500 ALDINE MAIL RTE  
HOUSTON, TX 77039

Library Hours:  
Mondays-Thursdays: 10am to 6pm  
Fridays: 1pm to 6pm  
Saturdays: 10am to 5pm  
Sundays: Closed

## SCHOOL NEWS PAGE

## Message from the Superintendent, October 12, 2021

Dear Aldine Community,

As part of Aldine ISD's five-year strategic plan, A New Way Forward, we are committed to "...elevating district pride by strengthening partnerships with families, community leaders, and business partners." To that end, this Saturday, October 16, the Family and Community Engagement (FACE) team will host its first Fall Family Conference. I am looking forward to seeing families in our schools and surrounding community learning about the many opportunities offered in Aldine ISD.

The event will take place from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Benjamin O. Davis High School (12525 Ella Boulevard). Families can expect to learn more about what our district has to offer, including, but not limited to, mental health resources, multilingual resources, and student supports. Each family in attendance will receive an Amazon gift card!

### La Promesa Ribbon-cutting Ceremony

In case you missed it, we held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for La Promesa on October 5. It was one of the most heart-warming events I have taken part in as I listened to students talk about their lives and what the school means to them. La Promesa focuses exclusively on students new to this country, specifically students who have lived three or fewer years in the U.S. and are from non-English speaking countries or have limited English proficiency. Click here to read about the event and see a video featuring La Promesa students and staff.

### Equity Conversations

Our district is conducting an equity audit to identify opportunities to improve equitable systems, policies, and practices that fully support all students, families, and staff. As part of the equity process, our partner, Mass Insight Education & Research, will be engaging families through focus groups and surveys in the coming weeks. In addition, they will be reaching out to a select number of families via phone to help us understand the current state and perceptions of equity in our district. Click here to learn more about the short 5-minute phone interview.

### Hispanic Heritage Month — Now through Friday, October 15

Hispanic Heritage Month is coming to an end this Friday, October 15. Over the last month, we have held celebrations and highlighted the achievements of Hispanics across the country. Even more exciting, we got the opportunity to celebrate individuals right here in our community. In our final week, we are excited to recognize two Board Trustees, Rose Avalos and Conception 'Connie' Esparza. Both are longtime advocates of students and actively involved in the Aldine community. We are fortunate to have strong Latinas like Ms. Avalos and Mrs. Esparza. Their experience, expertise, and leadership make them invaluable assets to Aldine ISD and phenomenal champions for all children.

Be sure to share on social media how you are celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month. Include the hashtags #AISDHM21, #AldineForward, or #AldineAdelante.

Before I close this message, I want to thank the Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents (ALAS) for honoring me with the Champions of Equity Award. I am humbled to have received the inaugural National Champions of Equity Award from ALAS. To be recognized for our dedication in the area of equity in education means so much to me. I was born in poverty, suffered early in life, and am a first-generation college student. I loved reading, and I loved school. They provided a window into what was possible in life and helped me gain the tools and skills to create a future filled with opportunity. Many of my students in Aldine might be living through similar experiences of abuse, poverty or come from less-educated families. Many are challenged by language as they learn English with little assistance from their families with limited or no English proficiency. Ninety percent of our students are economically disadvantaged. That child was me. The pandemic exposed the inequities we all knew existed. Many students in Aldine, the state, and across the nation suffered. Equity is having access to highly effective teachers in a classroom with access to



devices, a classroom with supplies, and a classroom with books. It's about giving our most vulnerable what they need to grow and thrive. All of these essentials help to overcome the inequities of ZIP codes. Education for all is my passion. Again, it is a great honor to be recognized for doing what I love to do: uplifting all students and families.

With Aldine Pride,

Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney  
Superintendent

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### October 19: #PinkOutDay —

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. To raise awareness and make sure people affected by breast cancer know we're here for them, I challenge you to wear all of your pink gear on Tuesday, October 19. That's pink from head to toe: pink shirts, pink skirts, pink dresses, pink shoes, pink sweaters, pink ties, pink blazers — even pink hair bows!

#### October 25:

There is a COVID-19 vaccination event on Monday, October 25, at the M.O. Campbell Educational Center (1865 Aldine Bender Road) from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. This is another vaccination event for staff and students (and their siblings and family; students ages 12 and up). Families should RSVP. RSVP for the Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccines — Custom Care Pharmacy (ccarerx.com)

#### October 30:

Aldine ISD will host the 2021 Technology & Curriculum Conference of Aldine (TCCA) has grown to be one of the largest FREE EdTech conferences. The 2020 virtual TCCA conference drew over 4,400 Tech Educators representing over 22 different countries. TCCA will offer over 150 sessions featuring speakers and presenters. Click here for more details.

### OBSERVATIONS

#### October

October: National Principals Month; Share your Principal Impact Story with us and take a moment to #ThankAnAISDPincipal this month.

October 11-15: National School Lunch Week (School Nutrition Association) — Theme is "Wild About School Lunch"

October 23: National Make a Difference Day

### REMINDERS

Aldine's Family and Community Engagement Department is launching a new program, Family and Community University! The mission of Family and Community University is to provide the necessary knowledge and resources to build confidence and empower families to support students academically, socially, and emotionally. All programming is free, offered virtually and in person, and open to all Aldine families. Learn more and register today.

The state requires high school seniors to apply for financial aid to graduate. The FAFSA application was opened on October 1. The mandate could increase college tuition, as seniors now give up billions of dollars in grants each year.

As COVID-19 continues to be a part of our daily lives, I encourage you to continue to follow the three Ws: Wash your hands, Wear a mask, and Watch your distance. Aldine ISD's top priorities continue to be the safety and academic success of all students. We will post all information related to our operations along with any updates at [www.aldineisd.org/healhalerts](http://www.aldineisd.org/healhalerts).

Please stay connected by visiting the District News page to stay up to date on all the wonderful things happening in our district. You can also connect with us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.



## Student Recovery Extravaganza set for October 23

The event is a way to get students back in school by showing them how much they matter to Aldine ISD and that whatever obstacles they are experiencing can be overcome with help, and that school is vital to help them thrive now and in their future.

Aldine ISD surrounds students with support to remove obstacles that stand in the way of a high school diploma, including building each student's resiliency. Aldine ISD offers safe in-person learning, along with expanded services, activities, and extra-curricular programs. Aldine ISD students have choices and opportunities that prepare them for their future. The District offers a wide range of programs and services to meet the needs of your child.

### Aldine ISD Student Recovery Extravaganza

Saturday, October 23, 2021

Plummer Middle School  
11429 Spears Rd, Houston, TX 77067

1:30-4:30 p.m.

On-Site school counselors and registration available.

#### FREE

Food, Concessions, Snow cones, Popcorn, Pizza/BBQ, School Supplies, Haircuts for Boys, Hair-styling for Girls, and Give-aways while Supplies Last!

#### Guests

MacArthur HS 2020 Graduate David Palacios will share his experience in AISD.

Student motivator Michael Williams will talk about preparing for the future.

Rapper and motivator Smitty Spread Love will rap and talk about staying in school.

#### Is this for you?

If you are a student or have a student considering going back to school or are curious about Aldine ISD, yes, the extravaganza is for you!

#### What Does Aldine ISD Offer?

--Access to high-quality schools and educational experiences.

--80+ schools

--High-quality teachers

--Award-winning primary school (PreK-K) programs

--New Literacy, Math, and Multilingual (ESL/bi-

lingual) programs

--Choices and Opportunities! Early childhood, Early College, Dual Credit, Advanced Academics (e.g., Gifted and Talented), All Girls Schools; Newcomer, International Baccalaureate Programs, Magnet Schools; schools that focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Math; Dual-Language, Montessori, Bilingual, P-TECH, and CTE!

#### Non-traditional school options

--Athletics and other UIL programs (Visual and Performing Arts and Academics)

--Academic counselors and coaches

--Career guidance

--Industry certifications

--Business, college, and community partners

--No one-size-fits-all model

--Alternative or non-traditional education

--Supports to stay on track to graduate

--Transition to life after high school

Families will learn how Aldine ISD gives students the support they need to earn a high school diploma and graduate fully prepared for what comes next. Join Us on October 23!

## District Partners With Houston Health Department and Fulgent Genetics to Offer On-campus COVID-19 Testing

Aldine ISD has partnered with the Houston Health Department (HHD) to offer free on-campus COVID-19 testing to students and staff at many campuses this school year.

The testing program will make it possible to identify COVID-19 cases quickly and early to help stop outbreaks. Regular testing is a safe, effective way to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and help keep schools open for in-person learning.

The target date for the program to start is October 11. The school community will be notified of the date their campus is selected to offer to test. Parents/legal guardians must provide consent to test their students. Staff can also test.

"We know students learn best in the classroom, and safe in-person learning is a priority this school year," said Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner.

Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney lauded the program and urged parents to have their children take part.

"I strongly encourage you to give your child permission to participate in the testing program. This is yet another measure to help keep school doors open and protect our students, teachers, and families," said Goffney.

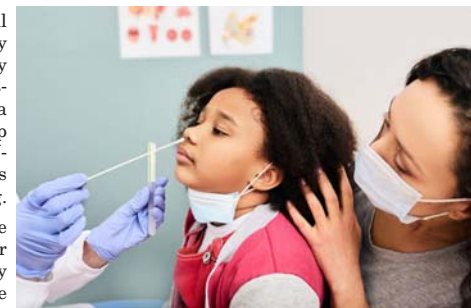
Regular testing is crucial for unvaccinated individuals who do not qualify for the COVID-19 vaccine or those who, for health reasons, cannot receive the vaccines. These individuals are at risk of getting seriously sick from COVID-19. The large group includes children under 12 years of age, families, and staff with young children at home.

According to Dr. David Persse, chief medical officer for the City of Houston, many people with COVID-19, especially children and teens, don't have symptoms, but they can still spread the virus.

"Regular testing of school communities will help us find these cases and put measures in place to slow the spread at both at school and homes," said Persse.

The PCR tests are conducted with a

shallow nose swab that goes only half to three-quarters of an inch into the nose and is rotated three times in each nostril. Students will not be completing self-



swabs. Nurses will not be administering the swabs. HDD has contracted a lab, Fulgent Genetics, who will collect all nasal swabs. They will send trained professional staff to each campus to complete the collection.

Tests are conducted in a certified lab, and results are expected within 24 hours.

#### PROGRAM START DATE & LOCATIONS

The target date for the program to start is October 11. As identified by local health officials, schools within communities with high transmission and low vaccination rates will be prioritized. Testing will be available at all schools on a rotating basis. The school community will be notified of the date their campus is selected to offer to test.

#### PROVIDE CONSENT TO TEST

Parents at participating schools will receive a permission slip that must be signed for their child to participate. If a parent is unsure if their child's school is offering the testing, they should contact the school. Staff members must also provide consent to be tested.

#### VACCINATION AND TESTING SITES ACROSS HOUSTON

The Houston Health Department offers free vaccination and testing sites across the city. Visit [HoustonHealth.org](http://HoustonHealth.org) or call 832-393-4220 to find a nearby site.

#### QUESTIONS ABOUT TESTING PROGRAM IN ALDINE ISD

For questions about the program in Aldine ISD, contact the Health Services Department at (281) 985-6955.

## SPANISH PAGE

## Mensaje del Superintendente, 12 de octubre de 2021

Estimada comunidad de Aldine:

Como parte del plan estratégico de cinco años del Distrito Escolar de Aldine (Aldine ISD), Un nuevo camino hacia adelante, estamos comprometidos a «... elevar el orgullo del distrito mediante el fortalecimiento de asociaciones con familias, líderes comunitarios y socios comerciales». Con ese fin, este sábado 16 de octubre, el Departamento de Relaciones con la Familia y la Comunidad (FACE) organizará su primera Conferencia Familiar de Otoño. La conferencia es un resultado directo de nuestra prioridad estratégica de Participación y Alcance Comunitario. Espero que las familias en nuestras escuelas y la comunidad circundante aprendan sobre las muchas oportunidades que ofrecemos en Aldine ISD.

El evento se llevará a cabo de 9:00 a.m. a 1:00 p.m. en la escuela secundaria Benjamin O. Davis High School (12525 Ella Boulevard). Los padres y cuidadores pueden esperar aprender más sobre lo que nuestro distrito tiene para ofrecer, incluidos, entre otros, recursos de salud mental, recursos multilingües y apoyo estudiantil. ¡Cada familia que asista recibirá una tarjeta de regalo de Amazon! Espero ver a muchos de ustedes allí.

Ceremonia de corte de listón para el nuevo plantel La Promesa

En caso de que se lo hayan perdido, celebramos una ceremonia de inauguración de la escuela La



Promesa el 5 de octubre. Fue uno de los eventos más conmovedores en los que he participado al escuchar a los alumnos hablar sobre sus vidas y lo que significa la escuela para ellos. La Promesa se enfoca exclusivamente en alumnos nuevos a este país, específicamente alumnos que han vivido tres años o menos en los EE. UU. Y son de países que no hablan inglés o tienen un dominio limitado del inglés. Hagan clic aquí para leer sobre el evento y ver un video con los alumnos y el personal de La Promesa.

Mes de la herencia hispana: desde ahora hasta el viernes 15 de octubre

El Mes de la Herencia Hispana llega a su fin este viernes 15 de octubre. A lo largo del mes, hemos realizado celebraciones y hemos destacado los logros de los hispanos en todo el país. Aún más emocionante, tuvimos la oportunidad de celebrar a esas personas aquí mismo en nuestra comunidad. En esta última semana del mes, nos complace reconocer a dos miembros del Consejo Escolar: Rose Avalos y Conception 'Connie' Esparza. Ambas son defensoras de los alumnos

desde hace mucho tiempo y participan activamente en la comunidad de Aldine. Somos muy afortunados de tener latinas fuertes como la Sra. Avalos y la Sra. Esparza quienes comparten su experiencia, pericia y liderazgo. Son campeonas fenomenales para todos los niños.

Asegúrense de compartir en las redes sociales cómo está celebrando el Mes de la Herencia Hispana. Incluir los hashtags #AISDHHM21, #AldineForward o #AldineAdelante.

Antes de cerrar este mensaje, quiero agradecer a Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents (la Asociación de Administradores y Superintendentes Latinos o ALAS) por honrarme con el Premio Campeones de la Equidad. Me siento honrada de recibir el premio inaugural Campeones Nacionales de la Equidad de ALAS. Ser reconocida por nuestra dedicación en el área de la equidad en la educación significa mucho para mí. Nací en la pobreza, sufrí desde muy pequeña y soy universitaria de primera generación. Me encantaba leer y me encantaba la escuela. Proporcionaron una ventana a lo que era posible en la vida y me ayudaron a obtener las herramientas y habilidades para crear un futuro lleno de oportunidades. Muchos de mis alumnos en Aldine podrían estar viviendo experiencias similares de abuso, pobreza o provenir de familias menos educadas. Muchos se ven desafiados por el idioma a

medida que aprenden inglés con poca ayuda de sus familias con un dominio limitado o nulo del inglés. El noventa por ciento de nuestros alumnos están en desventaja económica. Ese niño o esa niña era yo. La pandemia expuso las inequidades que todos sabíamos que existían. Muchos alumnos en Aldine, el estado, y en todo el país sufrieron. La equidad es tener acceso a maestros altamente efectivos en un aula con acceso a dispositivos, un aula con suministros y un aula con libros. Se trata de dar a nuestros más vulnerables lo que necesitan para crecer y prosperar. Todos estos elementos esenciales ayudan a superar las inequidades de los códigos postales. La educación para todos es mi pasión. Una vez más, es un gran honor ser reconocido por hacer lo que me encanta hacer: mejorar a todos los alumnos y familias.

Con orgullo de Aldine,

Dra. LaTonya M. Goffney  
Superintendente

PRÓXIMOS EVENTOS

19 de octubre: #Pink-OutDay — Octubre es el mes de concientización sobre el cáncer de mama. Para crear conciencia y asegurarnos de que las personas afectadas por el cáncer de mama sepan que estamos aquí para ellos, les desafío a que usen todo su equipo color rosa el martes 19 de octubre. Eso es rosa de la cabeza a los pies: camisas rosas, faldas rosas, vestidos rosas, zapatos rosas, suéteres rosas, corbatas

rosas, blazers rosas — ¡incluso moños rosas!

25 de octubre: Hay un evento de vacunación contra el COVID-19 el lunes 25 de octubre en el Centro Educativo M.O. Campbell (1865 Aldine Bender Road) de 10:00 a. m. a 7:00 p. m. Este es otro evento de vacunación para el personal y los alumnos (y sus hermanos y familiares; alumnos de más de 12 años). Las familias deben confirmar asistencia. Confirmar para las vacunas de Pfizer contra el COVID-19 — Farmacia de atención personalizada (ccarerx.com)

OBSERVACIONES  
Octubre

Octubre: Mes de los directores nacionales; Compartan sus historias de impacto de un director escolar con nosotros y tómense un momento para #ThankAnAISDPrincipal este mes.

11-15 de octubre: Semana Nacional del Almuerzo Escolar (Asociación de Nutrición Escolar) — El tema es «Locos por el almuerzo escolar»

23 de octubre: Día Nacional para Marcar la Diferencia

RECORDATORIOS

El Departamento de Relaciones con la Familia y la Comunidad (FACE) de Aldine está lanzando un nuevo programa, Universidad de la familia y la comunidad. La misión de Universidad de la familia y la comunidad es proporcionar el conocimiento y los recursos necesarios para generar confianza y

empoderar a las familias para que apoyen a los alumnos académicamente y fomentar el desarrollo de habilidades socioemocionales. Toda la programación es gratuita, se ofrece de forma virtual y en persona, y está abierta a todas las familias de Aldine. Obtenga más información y regístrese hoy. El estado requiere que los alumnos del último año de la escuela secundaria soliciten ayuda financiera para graduarse. La solicitud de FAFSA se abrió el 1 de octubre. El mandato podría aumentar la matrícula universitaria, ya que los alumnos del último año ahora renuncian a miles de millones de dólares en subvenciones cada año.

Dado que el COVID-19 sigue siendo parte de nuestra vida diaria, le recomiendo que siga las tres prácticas clave: lavarse las manos, usar mascarilla y mantener el distanciamiento. Las principales prioridades de Aldine ISD continúan siendo la seguridad y el éxito académico de todos los alumnos. Publicaremos toda la información relacionada con nuestras operaciones junto con cualquier actualización en [www.aldineisd.org/health-alerts](http://www.aldineisd.org/health-alerts).

Manténganse conectados visitando la página de Noticias del Distrito para mantenerse actualizados sobre las cosas maravillosas que suceden en nuestro distrito escolar. También pueden conectarse con nosotros en Facebook, Twitter e Instagram.

## SPORTS PAGE

## Struggling Texans hit the road for Indy: Cowboys head to Foxborough to take on NE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ans this past January and chose the Cards over a handful of other teams that wanted to sign him as a free agent. Watt has proven he still has something left in the tank and has been the sort of veteran a young and talented Arizona defense has needed to lead the way.

There are not a lot of exciting games on the docket in college or the NFL this weekend. The Cowboys will enjoy their bye week and use the time to heal up and set up for the second half of the season.

On the college schedule, Oklahoma State visits a disappointing Iowa State team that had College Football Playoff hopes entering the season, but those hopes have been dashed with two early-season losses. OSU entered last Saturday's game at Texas 5-0 and are still alive in the Big 12 title hunt.

USC and Notre Dame hook up in their annual rivalry game in South Bend on Saturday night in prime time on NBC.

While the Texans visit Arizona, the feisty Bengals visit Baltimore in a key AFC North contest, while the struggling Chiefs pay a visit to Tennessee. Week 7 concludes on Monday Night Football with the up-and-down Saints play at Seattle, which will be without starting quarterback Russell Wilson who is out with a finger injury he sustained two weeks ago against the Rams.

Before we take a look at those games and a handful of others, let's review last week's record. Another 8-4 week brought the season record to 46-27 (63%).

Now, onto this weekend's game.

## HIGH SCHOOL

**MacArthur vs. Eisenhower:** Wayne Crawford's



Generals take on Eric Jackson's Eagles on Friday evening in Thorne Stadium. Two weeks ago, the Generals fell to DeKaney, while the Eagles fell to Spring. The Eagles are led by quarterback Zacchaeus Henry (565 passing yards, 9 TDs) and wide receiver Ryan Niblett (258 rushing yards, 5 TDs/9 receptions, 181 yards, 3 TDs), while the Generals are led by QB Darius Hicks (331 passing yards, 2 TDs) and running back Kharon Brown (3 rushing TDs). My pick, Eisenhower 34, MacArthur 27

**Davis vs. Nimitz:** Scott Joseph's Falcons take on Richard Slater's Cougars on Thursday evening in Thorne Stadium. Two weeks ago, the Falcons won their second straight District 14-6A game with a 56-0 win over Aldine, while the Cougars dropped a 54-6 decision to Westfield. A win over Nimitz could boost the Falcons' playoff chances. My pick, Davis 33, Nimitz 24

**Aldine vs. Spring:** Hank Semler's Mustangs face a tall task on Saturday evening when they host the high-scoring Spring Lions at Thorne Stadium. Spring is led by quarterback Bishop Daventport (1,256 passing yards, 14 TDs/281 rushing yards, 5 TDs) and fellow QB Clourid Johnson (240 passing yards, 3 TDs in victory over Eisenhower). My pick, Spring 36, Aldine 17

## NCAA

**Oklahoma State at Iowa State:** Mike Gundy's Cowboys have very quietly become a factor in

the Big 12 race. They face a tough road test against an Iowa State team that needs a big win to turn its season around. OSU is led by quarterback Spencer Sanders (781 yards, 5 TDs) and wide receiver Tay Martin (21 receptions, 317 yards, 2 TDs), while ISU is led by veteran quarterback Brock Purdy (1,133 yards, 8 TDs) and running back Bryce Hall (551 yards, 8 TDs). This is the second tough road game for OSU (they played at Texas last Saturday). Look for the Cyclones to make it a miserable day on the road for the Cowboys. My pick, Iowa State 33, Oklahoma State 30

**USC at Notre Dame:** One of the best rivalries in college football take place under the lights at Notre Dame Stadium on Saturday evening in prime time on NBC. USC had high hopes entering the season, but a shaky start cost former head coach Clay Helton his job after a loss to Stanford in Week 2. ND saw its undefeated season come to an end three weeks ago with a home loss to No. 3-ranked Cincinnati. Brian Kelly's team is struggling on offense, but look for QB Jack Coan (1,208 yards, 10 TDs) and running back Kyren Williams (370 yards, 4 TDs) to get things going this week against the Trojans, who are led by quarterback Kedon Slovis (1,519 yards, 9 TDs). My pick, Notre Dame 30, USC 21

## NFL

Denver at Cleveland: Week 7 of the NFL season begins on Thursday night

when the Broncos visit the Browns. Two weeks ago, Denver fell at Pittsburgh, while the Browns dropped a thriller against the Chargers, 47-42. The Broncos have played OK thus far with quarterback Teddy Bridgewater (1,180 yards, 7 TDs) running the offense. The Browns have one of the leagues best running games thanks to Nick Chubb (523 yards, 4 TDs) and Kareem Hunt (295 yards, 5 TDs). Cleveland will need to get QB Baker Mayfield (1,240 yards, 4 TDs) going if they hope to be a serious player in the AFC. My pick, Cleveland 31, Denver 20

**Cincinnati at Baltimore:** The Bengals and Ravens do battle in a key AFC North contest and the Ravens had better not take the young and talented Bengals lightly. Two weeks ago, Cincinnati lost a tough one at home to the Packers (the game of the missed field goal), 25-22, but second-year quarterback Joe Burrow (1269 yards, 11 TDs) and rookie wide receiver Ja'Mar Chase (23 receptions, 456 yards, 5 TDs) continued to wow their fans with big plays in the passing game. While the Bengals were losing at home, the Ravens overcame a double-digit second half deficit on Monday Night Football to escape with a 31-25 overtime victory over the Colts. Baltimore QB Lamar Jackson put on a show with 442 passing yards, four TD passes and another 62 rushing yards. The Ravens are tough to beat at home, which the Bengals will discover come Sunday. My pick, Baltimore 33, Cincinnati 27

**Kansas City at Tennessee:** Folks in Kansas City have to be wondering, 'what's happened to our Chiefs.' The defending AFC champs lost at home to Buffalo two weeks ago, 38-20, and it was no fluke. The Bills beat up the Chiefs on both sides of the ball and this week they

face another tough and physical team in the Titans. KC QB Patrick Mahomes (1,490 yards, 16 TDs) appears to be trying to do too much and now injuries are starting to mount up with stars Tyreek Hill (37 receptions, 516 yards, 4 TDs) with a knee injury and tight end Travis Kelce (30 receptions, 369 yards, 4 TDs) with a neck stinger. The Titans have also dealt with injuries to star wide receivers Julio Jones and A.J. Brown, which means running back Derrick Henry (640 yards, 7 TDs) will be asked to carry an even bigger load to take pressure off of QB Ryan Tannehill (1,251 yards, 6 TDs). KC has issues on defense, so look for Henry to have a monster game at home. My pick, Tennessee 31, Kansas City 30

**Washington at Green Bay:** The Washington Football Team visits Lambeau Field as the Packers play their first home game after three straight on the road. Good luck, WFT. GB QB Aaron Rodgers (1,241 yards, 10 TDs) and wide receiver Davante Adams (42 receptions, 579 yards, 2 TDs) are again making plays down field, while running back Aaron Jones (309 yards, 2 TDs) is handling the ground game. Look for another big offensive output by the Packers as they give their fans something to shout about after a three-week absence. My pick, Green Bay 34, Washington 17

**Chicago at Tampa Bay:** Tom Brady (1,767 yards, 15 TDs) is once again lighting things up on offense, as the Bucs do not appear to have a Super Bowl hangover. Two weeks ago in a 45-17 route of Miami, the ageless Brady threw for more than 400 yards and five touchdowns. He has so many weapons to toss the ball to in wide receivers Mike Evans (29 receptions, 393 yards, 4 TDs), Chris Godwin (29 receptions, 366 yards, 2 TDs)

and Antonio Brown (20 receptions, 325 yards, 5 TDs) that TB can get by with a so-so running game. Look for Brady and Co. to light it up again on Sunday against the Bears. My pick, Tampa Bay 36, Chicago 17

**Houston at Arizona:** This one could also get ugly early as Murray (1,512 yards, 10 TDs/3 rushing TDs) and Hopkins (23 receptions, 312 yards, 4 TDs) attack a suspect Houston defense on Sunday in Phoenix. Hopkins will be itching to put up a monster day against his former team and there's a very good chance that happens. Mills (669 yards, 5 TDs) played his best game of his young career two weeks ago in the loss to New England, but he will face a fast and ball-hawking defense on Sunday. How he handles the intense pressure will be interesting to see. I have a feeling this one is over by halftime. My pick, Arizona 38, Houston 16

**New Orleans at Seattle:** Week 7 concludes with Monday Night Football with the Saints visiting the ailing Seahawks. NO is led by quarterback Jameis Winston (892 yards, 12 TDs) and running back Alvin Kamara (368 rushing yards, 1 TD/15 receptions, 113 yards, 3 TDs), while Seattle will turn to veteran backup Geno Smith (131 yards, 1 TD in relief of the injured Russell Wilson two weeks ago against the Rams) to lead the offense while Wilson recovers from a finger injury. Smith does have two dependable wide receivers to throw to in Tyler Lockett (25 receptions, 390 yards, 3 TDs) and DK Metcalf (25 receptions, 383 yards, 4 TDs). He's had extra time to work with the two, so timing should not be an issue. The Saints are road warriors and pick up another road win on Monday night. My pick, New Orleans 26, Seattle 24

CHURCH PAGE

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey —
1. Is the book of Nehemiah in the Old Testament or New Testament or neither?
2. From 1 Kings 20, how many kings came with Ben-Hadad against King Ahab? 2, 4, 7, 32
3. Which has 1, 2 and 3 books, as in first, second and third? Peter, Thessalonians, John, Corinthians
4. From Judges 20, what tribe had 700 left-handed men? Benjamites, Samaritans, Pharisees, Sadducees

5. What part of David's mighty men could run like gazelles? Revlons, Gadites, Madaites, Henochs
6. Which priest took the first census of the Hebrews? Eleazar, Melchizedek, Ehud, Jabin

ANSWERS: 1) Old; 2) 32; 3) John; 4) Benjamites; 5) Gadites; 6) Eleazar
Hardcore trivia fan? Visit Wilson Casey's subscriber site at www.patreon.com/triviaguy.
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1 JOHN 4:18
Detail from 'The Scream' by Edvard Munch (1895)

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# Jensen Jubilee festivities draw large crowds

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Pastor David Smith presents an award to UT HEALTH, the major sponsor. Accepting is Xochitl Olguin and Marlin Stewart.



UT HEALTH's Xochitl Olguin presents 2 of the 5 scholarships that were awarded.



State Rep. Armando Walle with his 2 sons and many of the costumed dancers at the event.



Officials at the Jubilee included Pastor David Smith, Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia, and Mayor Sylvester Turner.

**EAST ALDINE DISTRICT**

*You're Invited*

NEW DISTRICT OFFICE BUILDING, PARK & AMPHITHEATER

**RIBBON CUTTING Ceremony**

On behalf of the Board of Directors & Elected, County and City Officials please join us for this special event.

**October 28**  
*Thursday @ 10am*  
 2909 East Aldine Amphitheatre Drive