



2017

2018



Northwest ISD  
Annual Report

# NISD

## At-A-Glance

Northwest ISD serves families in 14 different communities, spanning 234 square miles and parts of three counties (Denton, Tarrant and Wise). NISD operates three comprehensive high schools, an accelerated high school, six middle schools, 18 elementary schools, a special programs center and a community-based youth residential program.

## Core Beliefs

Kids come first.

Continuous learning is essential to prepare for college and career opportunities.

Each student's success is the shared responsibility of students, families, schools, and communities.

Learning is influenced by environment.

## Vision

Northwest ISD empowers learners and leaders to positively impact the world.

## Mission

Northwest ISD, in collaboration with students, families, communities, and global partners, will engage in a culture of learning that prepares all students to confidently navigate their future.

## Strategic Goals

- 1 Students will achieve success through meaningful learning experiences, innovative pathways, and personalized opportunities.
- 2 Northwest ISD will recruit, value, and retain an exceptional staff to create a rewarding learning environment.
- 3 Northwest ISD will create and foster an environment where all stakeholders are engaged in the transformational work of the NISD family.



## Board Approves Four-Year Strategic Framework

Northwest ISD will embark on updated core beliefs, vision, mission and strategic goals after months of receiving community and staff input. At the Strategic Summit, more than 100 participants, including students, were chosen to represent the voice for values and desires for students' education. The feedback was supportive of the current direction of the district, with an emphasis on developing the "whole child," while emphasizing the importance of personalized learning opportunities.

# Guiding Our Future

The support and guidance from the Northwest ISD Board of Trustees has provided for and set the future-ready path for NISD students. Board members set clear expectations and promote excellence for students by setting goals, reviewing policies and procedures and serving the best interests of NISD students and staff. School board members are elected to a three-year term of office, on a 2-2-3 rotating basis. Seats are filled during the May election and members are elected at-large. For more information, go to [www.nisdx.org/elections](http://www.nisdx.org/elections).

**Northwest** Teamwork  
Independent School District Pride  
Excellence



Ron Hastings; R. Stephen Spowls; Lillian Rauch, Ph.D. (Secretary); Judy Copp (President); Anne Davis-Simpson, Ph.D. (Vice-President); Mark Schluter; Josh Wright; Ryder Warren, Ed.D. (Superintendent)

## Dedication to Dollars

NISD pledges to remain transparent with dollars and financial forecasting, as well as investing resources that provide students, parents and community members optimal educational services.

### Your Education Dollar:

- Bus Rides to School: \$0.05
- Curriculum & Instruction: \$0.04
- Cleaning/Utilities/Maintenance: \$0.11
- Co-curricular/Extracurricular: \$0.04
- District-Level Support Staff: \$0.03
- Technology: \$0.03
- Health Services: \$0.01
- Guidance & Counseling: \$0.03
- Library: \$0.01
- Principal/Campus Admin: \$0.05
- Teachers/Aides/Supplies: \$0.60



Did you know NISD has been recognized across the state and nation for excellence in financial reporting and purchasing operations?



15  
years

Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA).

# Personalized, Meaningful Opportunities



It is Northwest ISD's goal that students will achieve success through meaningful learning experiences, innovative pathways, and personalized learning opportunities. NISD's commitment to continuous learning throughout the K-12 experience and beyond is essential to prepare students for college and career opportunities.

## Anytime, Anywhere Learning

Northwest ISD students use ePortfolios as a way to show rigorous academics and multidimensional interpretations of learning. Students are using their ePortfolio to reflect on work, share with a safe audience, apply for college, and showcase themselves in a way that goes beyond numeric grades. In January 2018, Northwest ISD began incorporating ePortfolio links on the report card, taking the next step toward integrating them into the learning and assessment process.



## Hard Work Pays Off

Many students possess a desire to go to college and the willingness to work hard, but do not truly have the opportunity to be college ready. These are often the students who will be the first in their families to attend college. AVID Secondary equips teachers and schools with what they need to help these students succeed on a path to college and career success. The AVID Elective course meets daily, and students learn study skills, organization skills, questioning strategies and other academic strategies such as socratic seminars, philosophical chairs, Cornell note taking, public speaking and close reading strategies. As students advance in the program, they will have assistance with college applications, SAT/ACT preparations, financial aid applications, applying for scholarships and submitting college applications. More than 600 students benefit from AVID in Northwest ISD.

Building a strong root system is essential to the career tree. We encourage students to use their portfolio to document their professional skills and what they have done each day to get themselves one step closer to their career goals.



**NORTHWEST ISD**  
**Career & Technical**  
**Education**

**8**

**Career Academies**

**19**

**Pathways**

**Many replicated at all**  
**three comprehensive**  
**high schools**

**200+**

**Student Internships**

**2,603**

**Middle School Students**  
**in three courses**

**5,500**

**High School Students**

***Aspire.***  
***Advance.***  
***Achieve.***

# NISD Opens New Schools, Prepares for Growth



**By 2027-28, NISD is projected to enroll 37,220. Current enrollment is 23,081.**

In August 2018, NISD opened the district's 18th elementary school, Lizzie Curtis, and the district's sixth middle school, Leo Adams. Adams is located in north Fort Worth, near Eaton High School and Schluter Elementary School. Curtis, also located in Fort Worth, is south of Bonds Ranch Road in the Hawthorne Meadows subdivision. There are more than 75 future or active housing developments in Northwest ISD, and much of the growth can be seen in the southern portion of the district near Haslet and the northern portion near Northlake.

Our community passed a \$399 million bond election in May 2017 providing for an additional 7,000 student seats, safety and security updates, technology upgrades and more. Construction is taking place at Lance Thompson Elementary School, the district's 19th elementary school, located in the Harvest neighborhood off FM 407 in Northlake. The campus features the district's new prototype design with collaboration spaces and a Makerspace area incorporated into the learning commons/library and will open in August 2019. To learn about how the 2017 bond is impacting your child's campus, go to [www.nisdtxbond.org](http://www.nisdtxbond.org).

## NISD Saves Millions in Energy Dollars

NISD has been named an "Outstanding Sustainable K-12 School" in Texas for exemplary achievement contributing to clean air through energy efficiency and education-based renewable energy projects. The district continues to retrofit all outside lighting to LED technology – yielding an annual savings of \$118,591. NISD is focused on reducing the usage of electricity and water. In the past 10 years, NISD has saved more than \$5.5 million through our energy management program.



## We Value Our Staff!

NISD is known as a leading model across the nation for its personalized learning opportunities designed to create an environment that is rewarding for educators. This year, the district held its first job fair with more than 180 in attendance. As a fast-growth school district, NISD greets more than 1,200 new students each year and roughly 400 new teachers.

NISD provides an on-site Employee Health and Wellness Center staffed with a physician and certified clinical medical assistants for staff and their dependents.

# It Takes a Village

Northwest ISD believes the shared responsibility of students, families, schools and communities is critical to the success of each child. Establishing an environment where the community is engaged and informed leads to increased support and improvement in student learning.

NISD launched a marketing and advertising program as a way to generate revenue to the school district, as well as assist local business partners with a way to promote their companies through avenues such as the district's stadium, newsletters, website and more. In the first year, the district made more than \$121,000. Advertise with us at [www.nisdtx.org/advertisewithnisd](http://www.nisdtx.org/advertisewithnisd).



The Northwest ISD Education Foundation exists to provide financial support to empower NISD educators, engage the community and encourage future-ready students. Both the NISD Board of Trustees and the NEF Board of Directors signed a memorandum of understanding to establish a partnership between the two entities. Private donations to the foundation benefit students and teachers in NISD by supporting activities not funded through tax dollars such as innovative teaching grants and student

scholarships. Learn how you can make a difference at [www.nisdtx.org/nef](http://www.nisdtx.org/nef).



# New This Year

In Northwest ISD, we have changed the name "substitute teacher" to "guest educator" to show value to the work they do with our students on a daily basis.



Follow us @NorthwestISD\_HR

# NORTHWEST NAVIGATOR

WINTER 2017-18



# Did You KNOW?

NISD launched its first virtual and printed magazine Northwest Navigator? Check it out at [www.nisdtx.org/magazine](http://www.nisdtx.org/magazine).



This year, more than 10,000 viewers watched Facebook Live for Q and A with Dr. Warren. Reaching our community in a way that is most useful to them is important in our information-sharing society.

# Points of Pride

[www.nisdtx.org/pointsofpride](http://www.nisdtx.org/pointsofpride)



A total of 58 student-athletes from Northwest ISD high schools signed letters of intent to continue their academic and athletic careers at the collegiate level.

Northwest ISD students earned 2,459 industry certifications in 2018 to use in their potential careers, a significant increase over the 1,824 certifications earned in 2017.



Northwest ISD was named to the Best Communities for Music Education list by the National Association of Music Merchants Foundation for the ninth consecutive year.



Graduating Northwest ISD students earned a total of \$31.9 million in scholarships during the 2017-18 school year to continue their learning at the collegiate level.

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