



## A Message from The Superintendent & Warenenglesupt

While we may span 103 square miles, two counties, 13 cities, 45 schools, and serve 40,000 students, CCISD is united with this great community in our mission to ensure our students achieve, contribute and lead with integrity.

Bringing our promise to fruition every day requires exceptional teachers and staff, up-to-date facilities and resources, and a clear vision for the future and what we aspire for all graduates of CCISD.

I am proud that for the fourth year in a row, CCISD has made the list of top places to work in Texas by Forbes. This achievement speaks to a positive work culture of belonging. I am grateful for our more than 5,000 employees who make a difference every day in the lives of students.

I am pleased to share that your school district is continuously looking far ahead to anticipate and innovate for the brightest future possible for tomorrow's graduate. A community group comprised of educators, school board members, administrators, parents, students, and business leaders developed aspirations for CCISD's future. I invite you to visit **ccisd.net/vision2030** to see where CCISD is headed. For the first time in history, CCISD is asking voters to consider approving three cents on its maintenance and operations tax rate as well as school bond proposals. The three propositions on the November 7, 2023 ballot will offset the increasing cost of daily operations, improve school conditions and student safety, and fund instructional technology. Homeowners 65 years and older with a homestead exemption will not see a tax increase. You can read more about the three propositions in this newsletter and I encourage you to visit **ccisd.net**/ **electioncentral**, which includes an informative video, for a deeper dive into this important election for your school district.

I am very excited to share a pivotal shift in CCISD's enrollment policy which will now welcome grandchildren of grandparents who live within the boundaries of Clear Creek ISD to enroll in our school district. There is more information inside this issue to help guide those interested in taking advantage of the opportunity for the 2024-2025 school year.

With Gratitude,

Karen Engle, Ed.D. Clear Creek ISD Superintendent of Schools

# Introducing New Limited Open Enrollment Program for 2024-2025 School Year

Grandparents who live within District boundaries may enroll grandchildren who live outside CCISD attendance zones



Clear Creek ISD announces the launch of a Limited Open Enrollment Out-of-District Transfer program for the 2024-2025 school year. Through this program, CCISD education programs and opportunities will be available to students who reside outside the District's attendance boundaries and who meet select criteria. Enrolled grandchildren will be assigned to the campus within the school zone of the CCISD resident grandparent.

Students who will attend pre-kindergarten through grade 12 in the upcoming school year and meet one of the following criteria are invited to apply to attend a CCISD school:

- Grandchildren of grandparents who live within CCISD's attendance boundaries. Visit ccisd.net/district-map to enter your address in School Zone Finder.
- Students of parents or guardians who work on Federal property but live outside CCISD boundaries. This includes NASA civil
  servant employees, NASA contractor employees and employees supporting programs and operations at Ellington Field Joint
  Reserve Base.

Students who transfer into the District will have the opportunity to join the CCISD family and take advantage of:

- Exemplary education, teachers and curriculum
- Exceptional cocurricular programs such as Robotics
- Comprehensive and competitive Visual and Performing Arts and Athletics programming
- Career and Technical Education programs including engineering, dentistry, culinary arts, welding and more

To participate in the Limited Open Enrollment Out-of-District Transfer program, guardians and grandparents must apply during the application window and provide documentation that they meet the eligibility requirements. Transportation is not provided through the Limited Open Enrollment Out-of-District Transfer program.

### Enroll Your Grandchild in CCISD Today

There is limited space available to ensure for no overcrowding of buildings or classrooms. The deadline to apply for acceptance for the 2024-2025 school year is February 1, 2024.

Visit ccisd.net/enroll, click on the "New to CCISD Family" tab and follow the prescribed four-step process. Contact your zoned campus for questions or support through the enrollment process.

## Senior to Senior Prom Brings Fairy tale to Life

Each year, CCISD graduating seniors host area Gold Card members for the popular and memorable celebration known as the Senior to Senior Prom.

Party goers dance the night away and enjoy a delectable meal served by students, representing CCISD's seven high schools, as their special way of saying thank you for their support along their education journey. The 2023 Prom was no exception as guests enjoyed an evening Once Upon a Time.

Special thanks to our 2023 Senior to Senior Prom Sponsors who make this evening possible.













#### Save the Date!

13th Annual CCISD Senior to Senior Prom February 13, 2024 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Clear View High School 400 South Walnut, Webster

Gold Card members can look for their invitations in the mail in early January.

# Want to become a Gold Card member and unlock exclusive benefits?

Clear Creek ISD offers a complimentary 'Gold Card' to residents aged 60 or older within the district. The Gold Card grants free admission to CCISD home game athletic events and fine arts student performances, though seats may be limited and advance ticket pick-up might be needed. Apply online at **ccisd.net/goldcard** or call 281-284-0020 for more details. Join us and enjoy the perks of being a Gold Card member!

# Voters to Consider Tax Rate Election and School Bond Election on November 7



On August 21, the Clear Creek Independent School District Board of Trustees voted unanimously to include a Voter-Approval Tax Rate Election (VATRE) and a Bond Election on the November 7 ballot. Registered voters residing within the Clear Creek ISD attendance zone will be asked to consider three propositions that would generate additional funding to support educational programs, staff salaries, facility repairs and equipment replacements, and technology.



**Proposition A** Funding for Staff, Safety & Student Programs

- \$17.5 million in day-to-day operations funding annually
- \$0.3 Cent M&O Tax Rate Increase per \$100 valuation

#### **Prop A will fund**

- Student Programs
- Teacher and Staff Salaries
- School Security Officers
- Fuel and Utilities
- Property Insurance



**Proposition B** Funding for School Improvements

- \$265 million in school bond proposal
- \$0.0 Cent I&S Tax Rate Increase per \$100 valuation



#### **Proposition C** Funding for Instructional Technology

- \$37 million in technology bond proposal. Short term bonds.
- \$0.0 Cent I&S Tax Rate Increase per \$100 valuation

#### **Prop B will fund**

- Roofs and HVAC
- Surveillance Cameras
- Cybersecurity System
- Playgrounds
- Classroom Furniture
- Fine Arts and Athletic Equipment

#### **Prop C will fund**

- Student and Teacher Laptops
- Special Education Technology
- Career and Technical Technology
- Classroom Projectors
- Library Technology

#### For more information: ccisd.net/electioncentral

"We look forward to bringing these important items before the voters for consideration. The three propositions have been developed through a comprehensive process involving stakeholders across Clear Creek ISD. It is how we best make decisions regarding the education of our community's children, and I encourage everyone to learn more about these propositions and then vote this November," said Arturo Sanchez, CCISD Board President.

A CCISD Facility Advisory Committee and a CCISD Strategic Budget Team met separately throughout the spring and the summer to analyze the facility and budgetary needs across the district.

The Facility Advisory Committee initially recommended a \$614 million bond program, recognizing it has been six years since a school bond election was held. The Board of Trustees accepted its recommendation and sought public input on the timing of the bond recommendation during a series of community meetings as well as a phone survey.

The Board agreed to bring a \$302 million bond which would address priority repairs, equipment replacements, life and safety systems, and instructional and infrastructure technology. The proposed \$302 million bond would be funded through the current Interest and Sinking Tax Rate of \$0.27.

The CCISD Strategic Budget Team was formed in late May when it became clear the Legislature was not going to increase what is known as the Basic Allotment. This is the per-student funding school districts receive from the State to fund salaries, transportation, school safety, student programs, insurance, and other day-to-day costs. The \$6,160 per-student allocation has not increased since 2019 yet the costs of day-to-day operations have gone up due to inflation. To account for the increased cost of operations, the Legislature would have to increase the allotment by \$1,000. It adjourned in May without any increase.

The CCISD Strategic Budget Team recommended the District seek voter approval for three pennies on the Maintenance and Operations Tax Rate to balance the budget. This is the first time Clear Creek ISD is seeking a Voter-Approval Tax Rate Election (VATRE).

Taxpayers will see a 17-cent tax rate reduction under the Legislature's historic property tax relief bill also on the November ballot. The VATRE is for three of those cents to generate \$17.5 million in additional revenue to pay for the increased cost of education in Clear Creek ISD. Under the current funding system, the State matches up to 80% in state dollars. All those funds stay local and are not subject to recapture or what is commonly referred to as 'Robin Hood'.

Visit **ccisd.net/electioncentral** for more details including a video breaking down the VATRE and Bond propositions.

Election Day is Tuesday, November 7, and early voting begins Monday, October 23.

Clear Creek ISD has the fourth lowest maintenance and operations tax rate in Texas and the third lowest in the Greater Houston region.

Homeowners 65 and Older WILL NOT See a Tax Increase\*

\*With a 65 and older homestead exemption

**Early Voting** October 23 - November 3

**Election Day** Tuesday, November 7

Voters can go to any polling location in the county they reside in during the Early Voting period and on Election Day.

For a full list of polling locations please visit galvestonvotes.org or harrisvotes.com











Grandparents Day 2023













## **Student Success & Gratitude Showcase**

#### Meet Caden Ryskoski and His Greatest Influences

CCISD is fortunate to be home to the best educators in the State. Their impact goes well beyond the classrooms and hallways of our schools and remains a touchstone for students long after they have crossed the graduation stage.

Class of 2023 graduate Caden Ryskoski was recently asked to identify three people who impacted him the most during his time in Clear Creek ISD. Although he shared that there were many fruitful seeds planted by teachers and staff throughout his education journey, he vividly describes the impact of elementary teacher Kim Crider, Intermediate teacher Eric Alexander and High School teacher Danielle Davis in this video series.









Caden and his elementary school teacher, Kim Crider (top), intermediate school teacher, Eric Alexander (middle), and high school teacher, Danielle Davis (bottom).



#### Scan to hear how these teachers had a powerful impact on Caden's trajectory in life.

Congratulations to Caden and his team of teachers who helped lead him to where he is today, a midshipman at the U.S. Naval Academy. Caden was accepted to all three prestigious military academies, the U.S. Naval Academy, Air Force Academy and West Point Military Academy.

# **Grand Learning**

# Engage with our new learning platform, CCISD YOUniversity.

From School Safety Training and School Funding to Parent Academy and Clear to College, the new CCISD YOUniversity learning tool helps guide parents and guardians through CCISD in this self-paced and on-demand platform.

To enroll and watch video sessions of most interest to you, visit **youniversity.ccisd.net.** 



Connect directly with key departments in CCISD:

- Office of Communications, 281-284-0020
- Parent Assistance Center, 281-284-0249
- Athletics, 281-284-2845
- Career and Technical Education, 281-284-2283
- Child Nutrition Services, 281-284-0700
- Special Services, 281-284-0750
- Special Education Parent Resource Center, 281-284-0751
- Technology, 281-284-4357
- Transportation, 281-284-0600
- Visual and Performing Arts, 281-284-2787



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# CLEAR CREEK ISD VATRE R BOND 2023

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Election Day Tuesday, November 7

For more information: ccisd.net/electioncentral