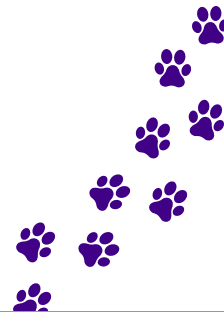


June 2, 2024

Elgin Independent School District



# PAW *Prints*



*Elgin Intermediate Educator Named  
WhataTeacher of the Year: See page 6*



## Class of 2024 Bids Farewell



*The Elgin Independent School District Class of 2024 Commencement ceremonies took place Friday, May 24 at Shoreline Church in Austin. See page 3*

# Superintendent's Message:

Hello Elgin Wildcat Community!

As the school year comes to a close, I wanted to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to each member of our incredible community. Together, we have navigated through challenges and celebrated triumphs, all while fostering a nurturing environment for our students to learn and grow.



Dr. Rueter

Thank you for your unwavering support, dedication, and commitment to excellence throughout this school year. Your contributions, whether big or small, have made a significant impact on the lives of our students and the success of our schools.

As we look ahead to the next school year, I am filled with excitement and optimism for the opportunities that lie ahead. Together, we will continue to strive toward our compelling purpose – providing access to engaging, innovative educational experiences so that every student has choice and opportunity for their future.

However, before we embark on the journey of a new school year, I encourage each of you to take some time to relax, rejuvenate and enjoy the summer months ahead. Focus on your wellness and connection with those you love! I hope you find joy and fulfillment in every moment.

Thank you once again for your unwavering dedication and support. Wishing you all a safe, happy, and memorable summer!

Warm regards,

Jana Rueter  
Superintendent  
Elgin ISD

## 2024-25 School Year to Begin

Aug. 14: First Day of School

### School Hours:

- 7:25 a.m. to 3 p.m. (EES/HRE)
- 7:30 a.m. to 3:05 p.m. (BTW/NES)
- 8:15 a.m. to 3:50 p.m. (EIS)
- 8:25 a.m. to 4 p.m. (EMS)
- 9 a.m. to 4:35 p.m. (EHS)
- 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (PHS)
- 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. (DAEP)

## Review the Class of 2024 Commencement Ceremony

Check out our Class of 2024 Elgin ISD Graduation slideshow! Allow a few seconds for the show to load and then scroll upward to review:

[Commencement Slideshow:](#)



## Join Our Wildcat Family

Harvest Ridge Elementary will become the newest member of the Elgin ISD family when it opens its doors for the 2024-25 school year. We are looking for staff members and faculty to join us on our new campus. Call 512-281-3434.

Elgin ISD

Join Our Family



Elgin ISD  
Harvest Ridge Elementary (opening 2024)

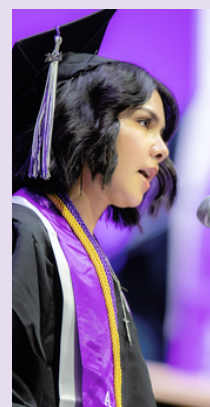
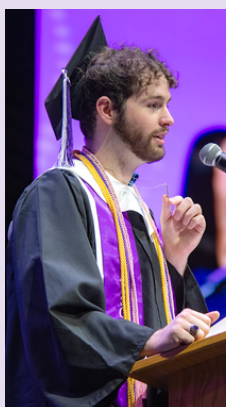
Call 512-281-3434



# Elgin ISD 2024 Commencement

The Elgin Independent School District Class of 2024 Commencement ceremonies took place Friday, May 24 at Shoreline Church in Austin. The Elgin ISD Class of 2024 included more than 450 graduates, including Elgin Early College High School students who also earned associate degrees or Level I certifications from Austin Community College. Salutatorian was Katerina Puente and valedictorian was Brandon Clear.

Please note: Lifetouch captured official Commencement photos of Elgin ISD graduates. To purchase official Commencement photos, please visit [events.lifetouch.com](https://events.lifetouch.com).





## ACC Spring Commencement

Elgin ECHS students took part in the Austin Community College 2024 Spring Commencement ceremony on Friday, May 17 at H-E-B Center in Cedar Park.

Our ECHS students received Level I certifications or associate degrees a week before high school graduation.



## School Board Approves Pay Raises for Staff

The Elgin ISD Board of Trustees unanimously approved the adoption of a 3 percent of midpoint pay raise for all staff for the 2024-25 school year on May 20. The board also approved to increase starting teacher pay to \$55,760 a year.

"We are pleased to announce a well-deserved pay raise for our dedicated Elgin ISD staff, recognizing their invaluable contributions to our students' growth and success," said Dr. Jana Rueter, Elgin ISD Superintendent of Schools. "We are committed to supporting the work of providing every student access to innovative, engaging learning experiences so that they have choice and opportunity for their future."

Elgin ISD contracted with Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) last year to complete a comprehensive pay study of all positions throughout the district. Subsequently, the Elgin ISD Administrative staff has recommended to the Board of Trustees the adoption of a 3 percent of midpoint pay raise, as developed by TASB via the salary study.

The TASB recommendations focused on starting salaries and midpoints that would align the school district with the Central Texas schools market. TASB used both local and statewide data, as well as both public and private sector data, to develop their recommendations.

The 3 percent raise includes a \$1,765 pay increase for all continuing teachers, calculated as a percentage of market median salary. Additionally, all other staff members will receive a 3 percent raise calculated as a percentage of the employee's pay grade midpoint.

The school district also approved 3 percent of midpoint raises for all staff last year.

## High School Senior Awards Night Held on May 9

Elgin High School hosted its annual Senior Awards Night on May 9 at the EHS cafeteria. Honored that night were students entering military service, stu-

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dents who have received local scholarships and the donors who provided them, seniors who have received university and other scholarship opportunities, students receiving certain awards and internships, and students graduating Cum Laude, Magna Cum Laude or Summa Cum Laude.

Local donors provided \$84,520 in funds for scholarships, and altogether, the Class of 2024 has earned more than \$1.7 million in higher education funding.



P-Tech Hosts Signing Day May 20



The Pathways in Technology (P-Tech) Early College High School Signing Day took place May 20 at Elgin High School. The event included special guests from program partners Austin Community College and Athena Manufacturing. Students signing to accept jobs at Athena were: Isaias Galarza Santamaria, Guillermo Hernandez Prieto, John Herndon and Michael Pruett.

Foundation, EHS Honor Top 10 Percent Scholars

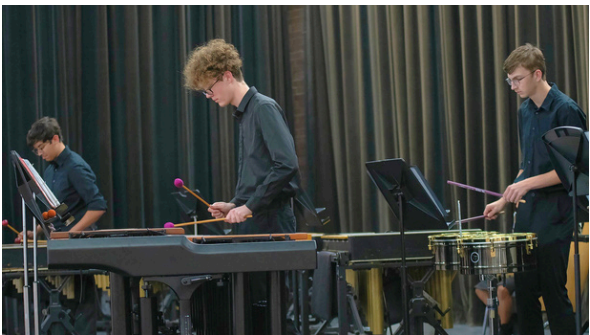
Elgin High School and the Elgin Education Foundation hosted the annual Academic Recognition Banquet on May 7 at the EHS Cafeteria. The event honored the accomplishments of the top 10 percent of academic performers in the class of 2024. Also, honorees recognized educators who have made differences in their academics along the way.



EHS Night of Percussion Held

Elgin High School Percussion hosted its annual Night of Percussion on Thursday, May 2 at EHS. The event included featured selections and solos by Kenneth Joesel, Amni Calero and Jasmine Arreola.

Our thanks to everyone who turned out to support our Percussion program.





## Harvest Ridge Parent/Community Meeting Scheduled For June 13

Elgin ISD hosted a parent/community meeting for Harvest Ridge Elementary on May 14 at Elgin Middle School. Attendees met Harvest Ridge staff members, viewed pictures of the school currently under construction and were provided information about the campus.

A final parent/community meeting takes place June 13 at 9 a.m. at the Elgin Middle School library. The public is invited to attend.



## Our Thanks to Bond Election Voters

Elgin ISD voters have overwhelmingly approved Propositions A and B of the 2024 Bond Election! Thank you to all who participated in this election to help shape the future of our school district community. The future is bright for Elgin ISD!



# THANK YOU!

## Grads Visit Former Campuses

Students graduating from Elgin High School this month visited their elementary campuses during Wildcat Walks on May 20.

Pictured: Current Neidig Elementary students congratulated them as they made the rounds through campus hallways in their caps and gowns.



## EIS Educator Named 2024 WhataTeacher of the Year

Elgin Intermediate School fifth-grade teacher Lydia Taylor has been named WhataTeacher of the Year by Whataburger No. 1199 in Elgin. Whataburger officials on Wednesday presented Mrs. Taylor with store merchandise and a check for \$1,000.

Mrs. Taylor is in her eighth year with Elgin ISD.

We'd like to thank Whataburger for their generous donation and for thinking of our Wildcat educators.





ELGIN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

TEACHERS OF THE YEAR



LYDIA TAYLOR



ASHLEY RAWSON



MARIA GALLEGO GIL



KIMBERLY CLAWSON



TEMPESTT MARTIN



MICHELLE ZWICK



CLASS OF 2024

VALEDICTORIAN



BRANDON CLEAR



SALUTATORIAN



KATERINA PUENTE