

INSPIRING FUTURES

SUMMER/FALL 2023



INSPIRING FUTURES



A Message From Our CEO

At Harmony, innovation is a part of our genes (and in the case of some of our schools, part of our name). That's why this issue of Inspiring Futures is filled with stories of programs and people that are leading innovation for our schools and communities.

First, you'll learn about some of our innovative practices in finance that are receiving acclaim throughout the Texas education industry. Earlier this spring, our Finance Department became the first Texas public charter school ever to win the prestigious Award of Financial Excellence from the Texas Association of School Business Officials (TASBO), along with a second Award of Merit for Purchasing Operations. In an in-depth interview with Harmony CFO Ebru Akyldiz, you'll learn more about some of the pioneering practices Harmony employs to make sure all of its financial operations are efficient, effective, and ethical.

Inside, you'll also read about our innovative new augmented reality/virtual reality program (AR/VR) that is allowing our students to explore new spaces in math and science...literally. Paired with other STEM-focused programs – such as drone piloting, robotics, biomedical,

and esports – Harmony is once again proving how an innovative curriculum can help students prepare for the future, while also having a lot of fun.

You'll also read about various student-driven initiatives and staff members who have gone above and to set the standard of excellence as leaders inside the classroom and behind the scenes. You can get lost in a striking poem from an up-and-coming Harmony student whose piece has not only been published but garnered recognition from across the nation. Readers will also hear firsthand from Harmony alum, Michaela Abam, who's catapulted to international fame but credits her Harmony roots.

We hope you enjoy this issue, as we always strive to bring you stories of success, dedication, and Harmony innovation.

Sincerely,

Fatih Ay | CEO
Harmony Public Schools

Harmony Public Schools is a public charter school system providing a high-quality curriculum that places a heavy emphasis on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM). Our engaging, hands-on, project-based approach allows students to design, build, and experiment on projects that provide real- world solutions to prepare students for college success.





Contents

- 2 A Message from CEO Fatih Ay
- 4 A Sit Down with Harmony's Chief of Finance
- 6 Virtual Reality Unlock New Ways To Learn
- 7 Meet the Team Behind Harmony's Student Nutrition
- 8 Harmony Alum Sheds Light on Mental Health
- 9 Harmony Fifth Grader Spreads Her Wings
- 10 Harmony's Commitment to Leadership Development
- 11 Gradulet Provides Flexibility for a Secure Future
- 13 Soccer Star Returns to Her Harmony Roots
- 14 Community Partnership Highlights
- 15 2023 Valedictorian & Salutatorians
- 16 Harmony at a Glance
- 17 Harmony's North Star: Graduate Profile

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Accountability Where It Counts

A Sit Down with Chief of Finance by John Boyd

The role of a Finance Department in any school system is to ensure that the right resources are available for students and teachers when they are needed. Though this critical, behind-the-scenes work may go unseen by the average eye, those who understand what it takes to do the job effectively are taking special notice of the extraordinary work being done each day by Harmony's Department of Finance.

This spring, Harmony became the first charter school ever to win the Award of Excellence in Financial Management from the Texas Association of School Business Officials (TASBO). Harmony also earned its second Award of Merit for Purchasing Operations from TASBO. HPS remains the only charter organization to win that award, as well.

Both awards are given each year to a few Texas school systems that demonstrate professional standards, best practices, and innovations in the area of financial management and reporting.

Harmony also was selected to share its best practices with other national charter school organizations at an event hosted by the Charter School Growth Fund.

Inspiring Futures sat down with Harmony's Chief Financial Officer, Ebru Akyildiz, to learn more about the department's recent awards and the inner workings of Harmony's Finance Department.

First off, congratulations on the two new TASBO awards, including the first Award of Excellence in Financial Management. What does earning those awards mean for your team?

"The Finance Department felt very recognized to be rewarded by this third-party agency. Other than the Texas Education Agency and our external auditors, TASBO has been another entity that has reviewed and approved our successes in finance. We don't deal with campuses and students directly. We see the problems that come up, issues, and the other side of the business. When you don't deal with the students, you don't always feel you're in education and helping students. But when you receive an award like this it helps you to understand that you are part of this successful team."

What are the processes and best practices that go into winning the Award of Excellence in Financial Management?

"Team collaboration is the main thing here whenever we do a task. For example, with this TASBO award, there was a list of over 50 questions, requests and categories. For each of those, we had teams here who took over those requests and diligently worked on them. Some of those were already in our processes. So with teamwork, everyone's involvement, it wasn't hard for us to get it together. Also, we have an external audit every year and (TEA) FIRST ratings every year. Those two checkpoints already help us control those best practices and keep those policies, procedures and practices in place year-round. So we were already there."

Four years ago, Harmony was the first charter school ever to win an Award of Merit for Purchasing Operations from TASBO. Now, Harmony is the first charter school ever to win the Award of Excellence in Financial Management from TASBO. As a charter school, why is it important for Harmony to be those industry leaders in finance?



“We are one of the largest Texas Charter Management Organizations. But we don’t want to just speak about our size. We want to speak about our quality and the accuracy in our processes. That’s why it was important for us to prove this, and then communicate this to our stakeholders, our investors, the TEA, even our external auditor. Our auditor is very involved with TASBO, and she said she wasn’t surprised. She’s seen our records and processes.”

Can you explain all of the different sub-departments and processes that fall under Finance for a school system?

“At the Central Office, we have 30 team members and six separate departments under Finance: payroll, grants, budgets, accounting, capital management, and purchasing. We also have district accountants who report to their districts. We also work with the campus business managers. For the size of our Finance Department, I think Harmony is doing a great job. These are great accomplishments.”

“Our goal is to use funds efficiently so all funds necessary are available for instructional support.”

One thing our CEO, Fatih Ay, always talks about is making sure that our funding is being spent efficiently, effectively, and ethically. Can you walk through how we make sure that happens? Let’s start with “efficiently?”

“Doing things the right way. It’s also one of the goals in the FIRST Rating. It’s also TEA’s goal to make charter schools accountable to use their funds efficiently. There are so many areas where we need to use our resources efficiently. When you use them the right way, you’re not just making the books or records correct, it’s making things more successful for our students. We are a nonprofit organization, and our goal is to use our sources for instructional purposes at a maximum

level. Of course, we also have other areas where we need to invest, such as facilities, building costs, and administrative costs. But our goal is to use the funds efficiently so all funds necessary are available for instructional support.”

What about “effectively?”

“We have a good amount of cash on hand. And in our financial records, we have a good amount of distribution in our sources. So when it is analyzed, it shows that our funds are effectively being used. For example, there is a requirement to keep 90 days of cash in case the state can’t fund our schools. If the state can’t pay for students next month, we still have those reserves to operate.”

And finally, “ethically?”

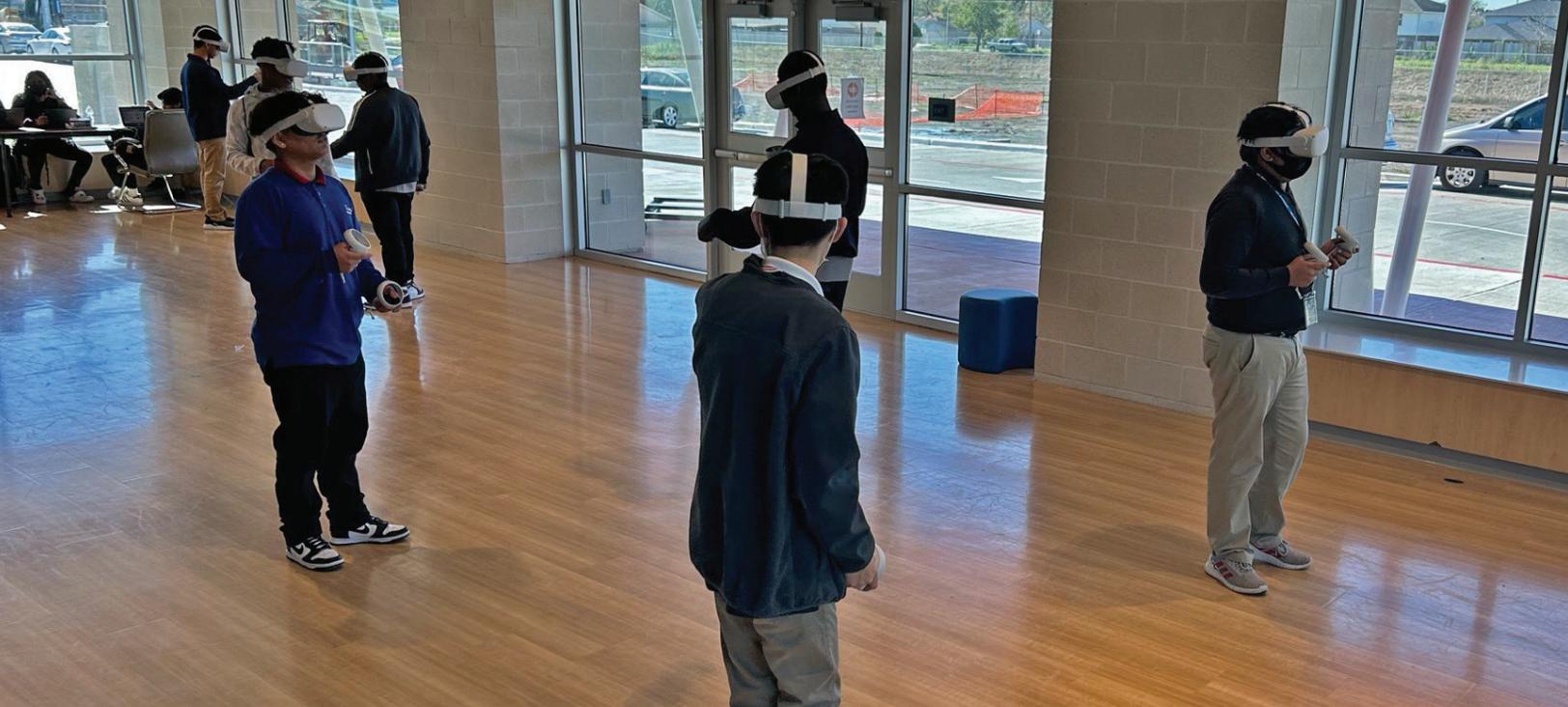
“Our internal controls provide a really good working tool for Harmony. I know sometimes it’s frustrating for our campuses to see what looks like bureaucracy or control points, because they want to take care of things right away. But there are tools in place to make sure we are using our funds appropriately. It’s the same with vendor selection or spending to make sure those are done in the right way. For example, we have thresholds, where anything over \$50,000 in spending needs to go to our board or the vendor must be part of a cooperative. So those types of controls are protecting our fund usage. And of course, we trust our employees, but we also have systems in place to make sure no one can abuse the system or unfairly benefit from it.”

How does all of that trickle down into positive student outcomes?

“All of those contribute to making sure the funds are available to students for instructional purposes at the maximum level. Having nice facilities. All of those things contribute to student improvement. All of those thresholds and control points are about making sure the funds are available for our students.”

Is there anything especially important you want the public to understand about how Harmony conducts its financial operations?

“The control. I am going to Colorado to visit the Charter School Growth Fund because they wanted us to present our procurement practices because that’s the area that can be abused and also may not be done correctly by some. So our practices are setting the example to the other charter entities.”



Stepping Into a New Reality

Virtual Reality Unlocks New Ways to Learn by Candice Keutzer

Gone are the days when virtual reality existed only in video games. Remember Sega's Mega Drive? Kids would wear those strange goggle headsets usually accompanied by an astonished look and an open mouth expression. Now augmented and virtual reality is being used to enhance student engagement right in the classroom. Harmony School of Innovation – Sugar Land is leading the way in its effort to become one of the first Harmony campuses to utilize the technology. The campus was selected for the pilot program that will use the computer-generated simulation for Algebra and Geometry classes.

building a school. They had to calculate a ratio formula inside a virtual classroom and then create a wall that cast a shadow that would protect them from the sun in both the summer and winter seasons.

Besides math, another virtual reality experience looks at ways for students to solve humanitarian issues. One exercise shows that worldwide, sea levels are rising and causing more floods. Students will get to see why this is happening, some of the root causes, and how they can help coastal cities like Miami anticipate and plan for these challenges.

“Virtual reality offers a completely different type of immersion than traditional education.”

“Integrating virtual reality into the classroom increases student engagement,” said Charity Meyers, mathematics teacher, at Harmony School of Innovation – Sugar Land. “Virtual reality offers a completely different type of immersion than traditional education. Students often think of virtual reality as a game, so they view the time spent learning with VR as playtime. The variety of the day helps provide a mental break even as students continue to work on course material. In addition, creative play is an important learning tool for young learners has been proven.”

Students join Miami’s sustainability task force in VR to investigate how glaciers melt as a response to human actions. They will then be able to create a mathematical model to accomplish their mission and estimate when a glacier may cause sea levels to rise enough to pose a flood risk to Miami, helping save the city.

Currently, Harmony School of Innovation – Sugar Land has 30 virtual reality headsets, each with a smartwatch that students can use to ask questions during their VR lessons.

The program the students use is called Prisms. It creates environments for students to connect 3D, 2D, and 1D representations of core Algebra and Geometry concepts. Students become part of the story as it unfolds furthering their deep understanding and retention of the subject. In geometry, the students used math in real-world situations. For example, in one exercise students were tasked with

So, what’s next with Harmony Public Schools Virtual Reality program? Sciences like chemistry, biology, and physics will be added to the curriculum. Also, 3D VR college tours will become an option and give students a full-color panoramic video and animation campus experience. These tours may include hearing the university’s marching band play, seeing the mascot take the field, and singing the school song.



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

*Harmony Makes Student Nutrition
a Top Priority* by *Evelin de la Rosa*



The nutrition program plays a vital part in education at Harmony Public Schools, making sure each student has access to fresh quality meals every day...ensuring A great breakfast and lunch helps students show up for school prepared to learn!

“Since working with the nutrition department, I make sure my staff is properly trained, provide quality food, and advocate for our students,” says Everett Robinson, Head Chef of the Child Nutrition Department at Harmony Public Schools.

The Nutrition Department works diligently to make sure students have access to the freshest and healthiest foods. Chef Robinson says that as adults, one cannot function without a good breakfast or lunch. He believes this goes for children as well. If Harmony cannot provide a healthy meal, then students will not be able to focus in the classroom.

Keeping every student’s culture in mind is also crucial in planning school meals.

“We pair and pick our ingredients with the students’ cultures and backgrounds in mind. We don’t offer certain foods like pork, fish, and any peanut-based products due to allergens that are in them,” says Robinson.

***“It’s my mission for students to receive the
nutrients that they need in order to succeed.”***

With new campuses that opened in the fall of 2022, the kitchens make a great area to work with creating new meals.

Robinson says, “One of these kitchens is great in experimenting with new ingredients. We do this to be sure we don’t make any mistakes in the test kitchen. Once that meal is finalized we will take that creation to the next campus kitchen”.

The child nutrition department continues to work hard in providing the freshest meals by partnering with the best food distributors such as Gordon Foods and Labatt. Both of these distributors help provide Harmony students with the best ingredients.

Robinson says, “For some students, this may be the only hot meal they get during the day. It’s my mission for them to receive the nutrients that they need in order to succeed. It makes me happy to be able to help students become successful in their academics by providing them with great food.”





Creating a Safe Space for All

Harmony Alumn Brings Help and Awareness to Mental Health

by Susan Campbell

Harmony Science Academy-Carrollton alum Kayla Elizabeth McFail shows no signs of slowing down since graduating in May of 2022.

McFail has founded two organizations to help students who are impacted by depression, and to help raise awareness surrounding exploitation matters that affect people of color. In January, the HSA-Carrollton graduate visited her alma mater from Maryland and was presented with a special award from the Texas Education Agency that recognized her philanthropic efforts.

able to access a great amount of medical knowledge that allows me to enter my career path not only successfully, but a foot ahead of the competition.”

After seeing how depression and mental health concerns impacted those close to her, McFail was inspired to start a Dictation for Depression chapter at HSA-Carrollton to support anyone in the community struggling with depression. Through this chapter, she created a safe space for her peers to discuss the impact of depression and has raised awareness with the goal of reducing suicides in her community.

“I was able to access a great amount of medical knowledge that allows me to enter my career path not only successfully, but a foot ahead of the competition.”

A 2022 National Honor Society Scholarship Recipient and Student Hero for State Board of Education (SBOE) District 14, McFail currently attends the University of Maryland and aspires to become a neurosurgeon. She credits Harmony’s pathway program for setting her on the pre-med course.

“I was offered various classes in high school on the biomedical pathway that aided my interest and determination to enter my career path,” said McFail. “By taking these classes, I was

During her time at Harmony, McFail also served as vice president of the Help for Humanity organization, mentor for third grade students, vice president of student council, Girl Scout Ambassador, and volunteer at a senior community center and library. She amassed roughly 1,000 volunteer hours by graduation that she’s taken with her to the next stage in her life.



Taking Flight

Harmony 5th Grader Becomes a Published Poet

by Tracie Seed

Aerilyn McDonald, a 5th grader at Harmony Science Academy – Cedar Park, has accomplished something that many people, including adults, can't claim.

As a part of a national student poetry contest from Creative Communication for Grades K-9, Aerilyn authored and submitted a poem entitled "Broken Wings."

Out of more than 12,000 nationwide entries, her piece "Poetic Power", was chosen to be published in the organization's poetry anthology, which contains roughly 55 percent of the top poetry submissions from across the United States.

***"For my inspiration, I noticed how people get out
of tough situations by persevering"***

Here's one of her pieces entitled, "Broken Wings"

*I try to fly with broken wings, but I can't even flap.
I dream of soaring high during starry nights...
dream of reaching high.
I dream of one day seeing the sky in its full glory.
So, I keep trying.
Every hour of every day, every minute of every hour,
every second of every minute, I keep flapping.
One flap by one, I can soon reach high, then I touch the sky.
I breathe in the air I once only dreamed of.
I made my dreams come true, and so can you.*

When asked about the meaning behind her poem and her thoughts about writing, she stated, "For my inspiration, I noticed how people get out of tough situations by persevering. I enjoy [writing] because with a pencil I am strong. It relieves stress. I have been writing for about two years and plan to continue until I can't move my fingers!"





Dedicated to Development

Harmony Helps Leaders Grow by Terri Perez

Harmony Public Schools is committed to the continued growth of scholars and team members alike. That's why Harmony invests in career development opportunities for all employees. Employees can tap into personal and professional development programs to meet their short- and long-term career goals, with a range of options from asynchronous, self-paced learning to degree and certification assistance.

LinkedIn Learning - All exempt employees can activate their LinkedIn Learning accounts to access over 13,000 pieces of content ranging in topics from soft skills to technical skills. Our partnership with LinkedIn Learning allows employees to gain knowledge and skills in categories they would like to learn more about, set personal goals for progress, and choose from a variety of programs that fit their individual interests and schedule. Click the LinkedIn Learning icon in the My Harmony Portal to access curated content.

New Leader Academies - All new campus administrators (deans, assistant principals, and principals) participate in training and professional development offered through the Central Office Leadership Development department. Programming includes opportunities for collaborative learning throughout the academic year.

Mentoring for New Teachers and Leaders - Novice teachers and leaders (deans, assistant principals, and principals) are assigned a peer mentor for their first year in the role. The peer mentor will assist in onboarding and induction support.

Harmony Employee Education Program (HEEP) - Eligible employees can receive financial support through assistance with tuition and related expenses incurred by employees striving to attain a certification or a graduate degree as described in the HEEP Policies and Procedures manual.

Harmony Aspiring Leaders Academy (HALA) - All eligible employees (Bands VI and higher) can apply to be a part of this cohort-based professional development program that prepares future HPS leaders by focusing on expanding participants' repertoire of leadership skills.

Harmony Principal Residency - Selected candidates will have a one-year, full-time position that will assist with campus-based leadership activities, experiences, and opportunities in preparation for independent principalship.



JOIN OUR GROWING TEAM

With new campuses come new opportunities to be a part of an expanding team. Harmony faculty and staff have the opportunity to develop personally and professionally while making an impact in the lives of students.

Email: Jobs@HarmonyTX.org

Apply Today at [HarmonyTX.org/careers](https://www.harmonytx.org/careers)



Achieving Their Dream

*GraduLet Allows Students to Obtain
College Degrees on Their Schedules*

by Sarah Dugas Richard

“College completion plays a huge factor in students’ long-term success, helping them to earn more and find rewarding opportunities wherever their careers may take them.”

- Harmony CEO Fatih Ay.

When people think of college, they think of brick buildings where students anxiously fill auditoriums together with info from professors for the next 50 minutes. But sometimes, life has a way of navigating its own path, making those who wish to attain a higher education feel like it’s impossible. But that’s not the case with GraduLet. With GraduLet, college is no longer a perceived “unattainable” achievement but now an accessible accomplishment available to everyone, no matter their life journeys, schedules, and other factors.

***“College completion plays a huge factor
in students’ long-term success.”***

Established in 2020, GraduLet teamed up with Harmony Public Schools to provide Harmony-affiliated individuals (alumni, faculty & staff) with affordable tuition and the opportunity to attend reputable universities on their own schedule, their way. Now open to all Texas residents, students have the option to take study on their schedules through flexible online classes, project-based credits, and other benefits provided, the partnership allows students to pair with personal coaches to achieve their educational and professional goals.

With GraduLet, students benefit from:

Education



- Accredited Associate, Bachelor, and Master degrees
- Designed project-based curriculum
- Affordable tuition and financial aid options
- Work and performance guidance

Support



- Personal dedicated coach
- Hot meals
- Free childcare
- Efficient, quiet workspaces
- Free transportation

Dedication



- Self-paced hours students can commit each week
- Collaborative environment
- Work and project completion
- Sense of accomplishment
- Get hired with earned degree
- Acquired job-hunting skills



Watch
Graduate
Video

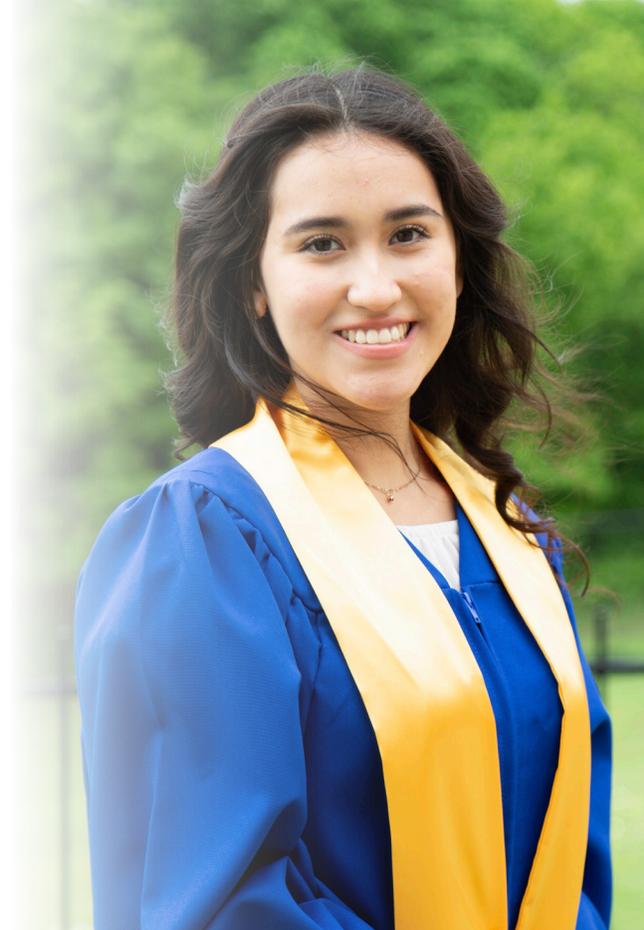
Recently, Harmony and GraduLet graduated 13 students who had the opportunity to make their dreams come true and achieve a goal they assumed was unreachable. The graduation was more than an achievement, but a sense of pride and accomplishment for both graduating students and the program.

“There were times when I thought I will not be able to go any further than a high school graduate,” said Nada Abbasey, a 2023 GraduLet graduate and Harmony employee who now expects to also earn her Master’s of School Counseling degree through GraduLet later in Summer 2023.

“There was the money issue. There were flexibility issues – up until I came across the GraduLet program. And I can honestly say if GraduLet hadn’t happened, I would maybe still be just a high school graduate,” Abbasey said. “So, GraduLet is a wonderful program I recommend to everyone.”

GraduLet is now accepting applications for future terms.

To learn more or apply, visit gradulet.org/enroll.





HOME *is where the* **HARMONY** *is*

International Soccer Star Reflects on Her Experiences at Harmony

by Ajdina Selimovic



Photo Credit: Houston Dash

Former Houston Dash player and Cameroon National Team Soccer star Harmony Michaela Abam returned to her roots this past spring. The Harmony alumn came to visit her alma mater, Harmony Science Academy-Houston where she credited the school for her success and dedication to a sport that catapulted her into the spotlight. Abam, a 2014 graduate, accepted a full scholarship to continue her passion of being an athlete at West Virginia University, but she never forgot where it all started.

Abam reflected on her experiences at Harmony how transitioning from her zoned school to Harmony created new opportunities that granted unique experiences, and how they built a foundation and structure for her years in college as well as life after. “Even to this day when I tell people I learned Turkish in high school, they’re like, ‘What?’” Abam beamed.

Having firsthand experience at Harmony, Michaela was asked on her approach and response to parents considering enrolling their child in a Harmony School, Michaela enthusiastically responded with, “it’s probably one of the best decisions they could make.”

Through the Harmony Alumni Network, the relationship simply doesn’t end once students graduate, but begins a whole new chapter. Harmony alumni receive counseling and support well into their adult lives and careers that allows all Harmony students to flourish years after walking across the stage. Because of this, the Harmony Alumni Network generates positive feedback from former students, years after they graduate and further spreading that positive experience with potential Harmony students and families.

Once students become a member of the Harmony family, they and global network. And that’s what makes Harmony so unique.



Community Partnership *Highlights*



Central Texas

The St. David's Foundation Dental Program partners with local schools and community-based agencies to provide free dental care to underserved children in Central Texas. Thanks to this program, Harmony has provided these life-changing services to over 1,000 students across the district. This year, St. David's will return to help service students at Harmony School of Innovation and Harmony School of Science.

- Victoria Mancha



Houston North

Harmony parents and students have volunteered the Houston Marathon since 2017, cheering on the thousands of runners, assisting spectators, and keeping streets clean and safe. Staci Childs, former teacher, attorney, and State Board of Education member, visited Harmony School of Enrichment Elementary and Harmony School of Advancement High, sharing her passion for education. Harris County Precinct 3 Commissioner Tom Ramsey visited Harmony School of Discovery, speaking with students from the CyberPatriot, HOSA, Drone, and Service Leadership Society programs.

- Isabel Garcia



Houston South

Texas House of Representatives member Ron Reynolds has been a longtime Harmony advocate for School Choice. He values quality education as a foundation for a better future. From speaking to students about how legislation works, to supporting growth and initiatives for high quality education, he is always giving his time and makes an impact by listening and showing up.

- Anh Gilmore



North Texas

City of Carrollton Mayor Babick toured a campus and operated robots, listened to student's policy solutions, explored a student-built pollinator garden and observed data analysis from EKG results in the biomedical pathway. Mayor Babick and the Chiefs of Fire & Police observed the district's drone competition and shared how drones are used in their professions.

- Rebecca Murry



South Texas

Community partners in the South Texas District play an instrumental role in students' lives. During a College and Career event that recently took place at Harmony Science Academy San Antonio, valued partner Burge Engineering and Associates, Inc. was one of the many in attendance where they engaged in meaningful conversations with students to directly impact their futures.

- Tiffany Flores



West Texas

The West Texas District developed amazing partnerships with its local El Paso County Government. Recently they participated in the county commissioner's court as volunteers and received one on one private tours from several members of commissioner's court along with meet and greets with El Paso County Judges and several other key members. They also visited campuses and talked to students, inspiring them to go further in their educational careers.

- Salomon Chavira



Valedictorians & Salutatorians

2023

Deisy Morales-Aviles

Harmony School of Excellence - Austin

Ahmet Asim Aykanat

Harmony Science Academy - Pflugerville

Emine Tunc

Harmony School of Endeavor - Austin

Carlos Acalco

Harmony School of Innovation - Brownsville

Itzel Carolina Flores

Harmony School of Excellence - Laredo

Sarah Janell Acosta

Harmony Science Academy - San Antonio

Luis Enrique Valdes

Harmony Science Academy - El Paso

Erika Alexa Torres

Harmony School of Innovation - El Paso

Minh Nguyen & Yousef Al-Khuffash & Jonimae Panugaling

Harmony School of Discovery - Houston

Unsh D Rawal

Harmony School of Advancement - Houston

Vishnu Nair

Harmony Science Academy - Houston

Aylin Cibik & Aliyah Damani

Harmony School of Innovation - Sugar Land

Shaliha Guarnera & Saeed Khan & Asim Waheed

Harmony School of Innovation - Katy

Saad Mohammed

Harmony Science Academy - Beaumont

Jessica Pierre

Harmony School of Ingenuity - Houston

Ahmed Sufi

Harmony Science Academy - Dallas

Wahab Abdul Mohammed

Harmony School of Innovation - Dallas

Leo Alexander Aimsila

Harmony School of Innovation - Garland

Shivani Patel

Harmony Science Academy - Carrollton

Tolani Ogundiran

Harmony School of Excellence - Dallas

Christopher Ridad

Harmony School of Innovation - Fort Worth

Ojaswee Aryal & Ayah Adla Farra

Harmony Science Academy - Euless

Neha Lalani

Harmony School of Innovation - Waco

Melanie Granados-Rodriguez

Harmony School of Excellence - Austin

Evgeniy V Agaev

Harmony Science Academy - Pflugerville

Andrik Menjivar

Harmony School of Endeavor - Austin

Gabriel Connor Kaye

Harmony School of Innovation - Brownsville

Natalie Amber Martinez

Harmony School of Excellence - Laredo

Lorna Angela Petschelt

Harmony Science Academy - San Antonio

Alexa Marcela Ramos

Harmony Science Academy - El Paso

Kaylah Rose Lee King

Harmony School of Innovation - El Paso

Selmanur Aydin

Harmony School of Advancement - Houston

Ahmad Noemon Koshan

Harmony Science Academy - Houston

Chanjal M Daiju

Harmony School of Innovation - Sugar Land

Irum Waheed

Harmony School of Innovation - Katy

Daphnie Wiltz

Harmony Science Academy - Beaumont

Ingrid Ramos

Harmony School of Ingenuity - Houston

Julian Oliva

Harmony Science Academy - Dallas

Jordy Lopez Rivera

Harmony School of Innovation - Dallas

Natnaele Gulte

Harmony School of Innovation - Garland

Jada Horn

Harmony Science Academy - Carrollton

Jeighvanfel Bartolome

Harmony School of Excellence - Dallas

Erika Feller

Harmony School of Innovation - Fort Worth

Lucas Khang Nguyen

Harmony Science Academy - Euless

Valeria Guerrero

Harmony School of Innovation - Waco

HARMONY AT A GLANCE



More than twenty years ago, Harmony Public Schools opened its first campus in Houston's historic Braeswood neighborhood.

Since then, we've grown into one of the state's most trusted and recognized schools for college preparation, character education and STEM curriculum. Now, with your support, we're expanding to create even more opportunities for children across the Lone Star State.



RECENT AWARDS



Best High Schools in America
(U.S. News & World Report, 2022)



College Success Award
(GreatSchools!, 2021)



National School of Character
(Character.org, 2020-22)



State School of Character
(Character.org, 2020-23)



"A" Rating for
Financial Accountability
(Texas Education Agency, 2022)

HPS STRATEGIC GROWTH PLAN

61 CURRENT LOCATIONS PROPOSED LOCATIONS 23

*Locations are approximate.

STUDENT DATA

40,716

Students
Enrolled
PreK-12



Economically
Disadvantaged



67%

English Language
Learners (ELL)



34%

College
Acceptance Rate



94%

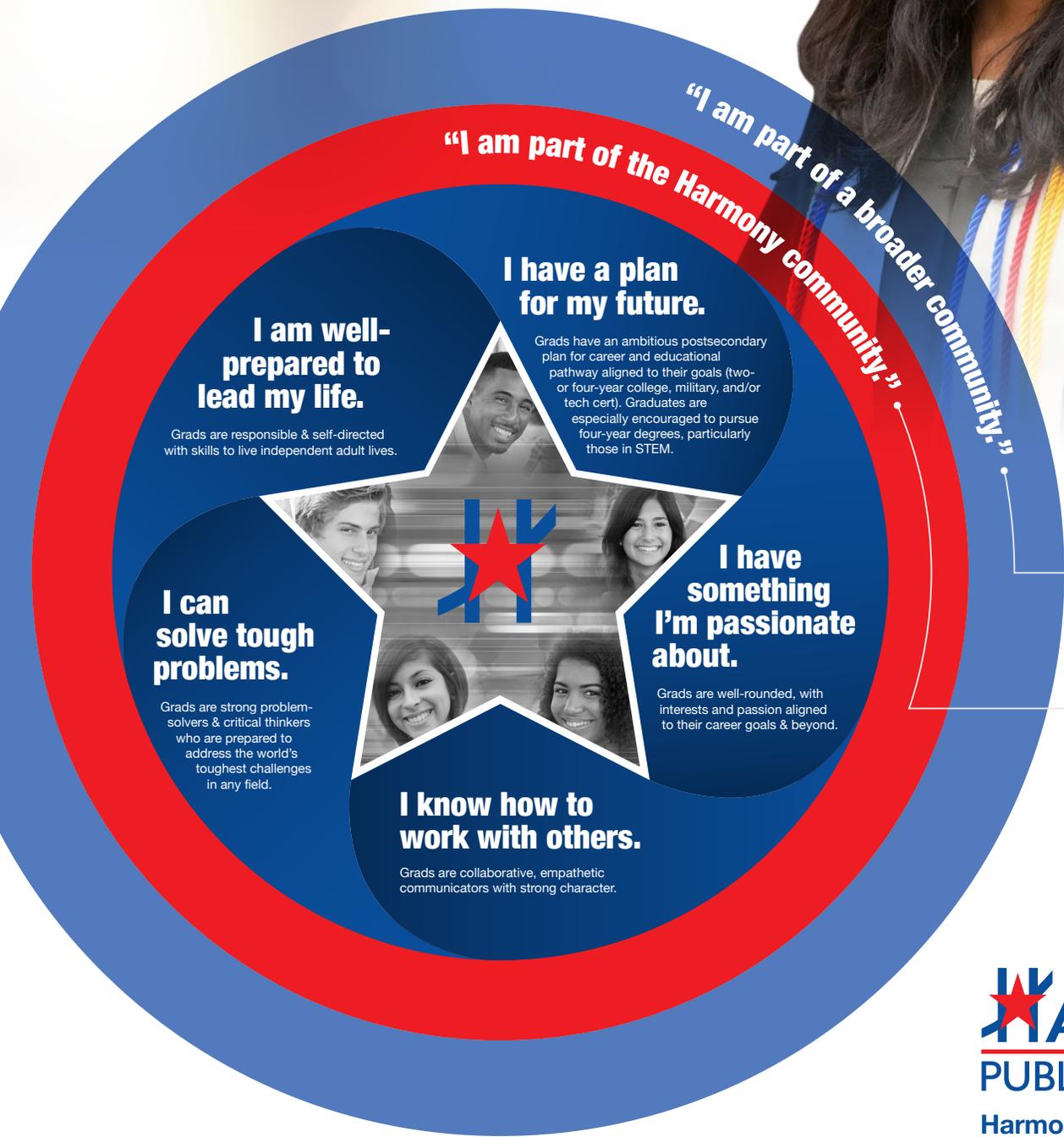
Graduation
Rate



100%

Harmony Public Schools Graduate Profile

Our North Star



I am well-prepared to lead my life.

Grads are responsible & self-directed with skills to live independent adult lives.

I have a plan for my future.

Grads have an ambitious postsecondary plan for career and educational pathway aligned to their goals (two- or four-year college, military, and/or tech cert). Graduates are especially encouraged to pursue four-year degrees, particularly those in STEM.

I can solve tough problems.

Grads are strong problem-solvers & critical thinkers who are prepared to address the world's toughest challenges in any field.

I have something I'm passionate about.

Grads are well-rounded, with interests and passion aligned to their career goals & beyond.

I know how to work with others.

Grads are collaborative, empathetic communicators with strong character.

"I am part of the Harmony community."

"I am part of a broader community."

Grads understand themselves as part of - and are ready to contribute to - **their community, state, country, and world.**

Grads understand themselves as part of - and are ready to contribute to - **the HPS community.**



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