

INSPIRING FUTURES

WINTER/SPRING
2024-2025

REACHING NEW HEIGHTS

*El Paso Rocketry Student
Finds Success In Class
& STEM Club*





INSPIRING FUTURES

Inspiring stories are taking place each day at Harmony Public Schools. In this edition of Inspiring Futures, we're excited to highlight the exceptional achievements of our students, staff, and parents who are building a supportive community rooted in dedication and character.

In this issue, you'll meet Gwen Rodriguez, a standout student at Harmony Science Academy-El Paso, who recently earned the Best Project award at the Vilnius International Project Olympiad. Gwen's ambitious goals and commitment to excellence are inspiring young women in STEM, encouraging them to pursue their dreams and make a meaningful impact.

We also celebrate Batool Hassan, a parent at Harmony Science Academy-Sugar Land and one of only 15 recipients of the 2024 Heroes for Children Award statewide. Her unwavering support for our school community demonstrates the invaluable role Harmony parents play in shaping our students' success.

This issue also highlights recent accomplishments in the classroom. At Harmony Science Academy-Cedar Park, two students achieved a perfect 100 percent on the STAAR math test, joining a small group of students statewide who reached the mastery level. Their achievements showcase the dedication and resilience of Harmony students.

As you explore this issue, we invite you to discover how Harmony is shaping futures through these inspiring stories

and the powerful commitment of our entire community.

This issue also comes at a historic time in Harmony's journey: the beginning of its 25th anniversary celebration. Over the past quarter-century, Harmony has become a leader in STEM education and college readiness, positively impacting the lives of countless students across Texas. With a commitment to innovation, academic excellence, and character development, Harmony has grown from a single campus to a thriving network that prepares students to succeed in college, career and beyond.

To commemorate 25 years of educational excellence, Harmony Public Schools will host a year-long celebration involving each campus and district office. The celebrations will highlight the achievements of Harmony students, alumni, teachers and staff, who have all played an essential role in building this inspiring legacy. From alumni spotlights and faculty honors to community showcases, the 25th anniversary celebrations will honor the past while looking forward to a promising future. We look forward to sharing more about this exciting year of celebration with you in the near future, as Harmony continues to inspire futures for generations to come.

We want to hear *your* Harmony story. [Share memories, photos, videos and more of your story with Harmony at \[HarmonyTX.org/MyHarmonyStory\]\(https://HarmonyTX.org/MyHarmonyStory\).](#)

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.





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Rodriguez (right) and classmates work on the design for their rocketry club project at HSA-El Paso.

Ready for Takeoff

The Rise of El Paso's Rocketry Prodigy by Dani Marquez

Harmony Science Academy - El Paso student Gwen Rodriguez's passion for STEM has reached new heights. In a remarkable string of accomplishments, Gwen earned the Gold Medal for America and the prestigious Best Project award at the Vilnius International Project Olympiad (VILIPO) in Lithuania. Competing against students from around the world, Gwen impressed the judges with her extensive study on the Upper Rio Grande Basin, tackling the critical issue of climate change. This victory was just one of her many accomplishments. Gwen was also a key member of Harmony's rocketry team, which competed at the 22nd annual American Rocketry Challenge in Virginia placing 8th against the top 100 rocketry teams nationwide.

Behind Gwen's success lies a story of discipline, sacrifice and support. Balancing her AP, dual credit and honors classes, along with extracurricular activities and leadership in the rocketry club has required Gwen to make tough choices. "If I'm being completely honest, I've had to give up a lot of my free time throughout the school year," Gwen said. "Spending time with friends is more of a privilege that comes from managing my time effectively and getting things done within a certain time frame."

application of physics; it's also a major influence on how she views teamwork and the importance of women in STEM. "Rocketry has encouraged me to inspire and empower young women, which is now a big part of who I am."

Gwen's journey has taught her valuable life lessons in teamwork, time management, and leadership. "Rocketry has changed the way I view the world, especially as a young woman pursuing STEM. I'm now passionate about empowering other young women to explore careers and activities in STEM."

Her support system plays a crucial role in her success. Gwen's family, especially her parents, are her biggest supporters. "They drive me to competitions, stay up late with me, and help me with everything I need to succeed. I feel so privileged to have them as my rocks," Gwen said. Her faith and the support of her teachers, siblings and close friends also keep her grounded during stressful times. Gwen has set even higher goals for herself. She knows the road ahead will require more work and sacrifice, but she's determined to push her limits. "It's like climbing a mountain," she said. "I'm not even halfway done yet, but the view is worth every step."

"Rocketry has encouraged me to inspire and empower young women."

Despite her demanding schedule, Gwen's passion for STEM keeps her motivated. She doesn't see her activities as obligations but as opportunities. "Not every student gets to see a rocket they built fly on the weekends!" she said excitedly. For Gwen, rocketry is more than just a hands-on

Gwen's journey is an inspiring example of what can be achieved with passion and determination. As she continues to excel in both academics and extracurriculars, she stands as a role model for young women pursuing STEM and proof of the power of hard work and resilience.



Learning and Leading

Dallas Senior Lands Two Prominent Roles by Susan Campbell

In today's rapidly evolving world, effective leadership is more important than ever. Cultivating leaders of tomorrow is at the heart of Harmony's mission, and Harmony Science Academy-Dallas senior Victor Soberanis is leading the way.

This year alone, Soberanis clinched two major leadership honors. First, he was one of only 10 students accepted into the 2024-25 National Alliance for Public Charter Schools' Rising Leaders Initiative. As a participant, Soberanis will train for one year in civic participation, education advocacy, leadership development, and public speaking.

In this role, Soberanis will act as the Area 3 Secretary, and will work closely with his team to plan and execute leadership conferences that uphold the values of the Texas chapter of HOSA. Soberanis says he will do what he can to ensure everything runs smoothly within the region.

"I'm looking forward to seeing the conferences we have spent months working towards come to fruition," he said. "Ultimately, we want to create positive and long-lasting memories for our members that encourage the growth of Texas HOSA."

"I hope to inspire and mentor other Harmony students to follow in my footsteps."

"I've had the privilege of leading in various academic spaces and have even advocated for educational platforms on Washington D.C.'s Capitol Hill, so I knew I could bring something meaningful to the table," said Soberanis. "What truly solidified my interest, though, was the opportunity to enhance my skill set while working alongside other driven students nationwide. It's exciting to think of the connections I'll build with my fellow Rising Leaders and the change we can inspire."

Soberanis was also chosen as a regional officer for the HOSA-Future Health Professionals, a first for any Harmony student. HOSA is a global student-led organization whose mission is to empower future health professionals to become leaders in the global health community, through education, collaboration and experience.

"Being the first student from Harmony to achieve this position is an incredible honor," said Soberanis. "Now that I've paved the way, I hope to inspire and mentor other Harmony students to follow in my footsteps."

Soberanis' mentor, HSA-Dallas High teacher George Sherfick, says Soberanis consistently takes the initiative to seek out opportunities, demonstrating a proactive attitude that is rare among his peers.

"His eagerness to embrace what's next and his drive to excel have been key factors in his accomplishments," said Sherfick.

As part of the Class of 2025, Soberanis is looking ahead to his college and career goals. He is pursuing a career in clinical healthcare, and credits Harmony's Biomedical Pathway for shaping his interest in human sciences.

"It's a field that thrives on collaboration, communication and strong leadership, and I'm excited to continue growing and applying what I've learned," he said.

Clearly, Soberanis is a rising star ready to tackle the challenges of the future.



Leaving a Legacy

Brothers' Mark On Harmony Still Felt Today by Alejandra Dultmeier

Harmony Public Schools has always been a catalyst for personal growth, academic achievement and lifelong success. The story of Sergio and Diego Mendoza serves as a prime example of how the values and opportunities provided at Harmony help shape remarkable futures.

The Mendozas journey began at Harmony's first campus in Houston, a stepping stone for many first-generation American students. Coming from a family that deeply valued education, they saw Harmony as more than just a school—it was a community where their dreams could take flight.

For Sergio, who attended Harmony in its early days, the lack of athletic opportunities was not an obstacle, but a call to action. Realizing the need for more activities that resonated with students, he took the initiative to create Harmony's first-ever soccer team.

"Starting the soccer team wasn't just about playing," Sergio recalled, "It was about building a sense of community and making something that everyone could be a part of."

HSA in 2015, ready to carve out his own space in the world of engineering. Like Sergio, Diego chose the University of Houston, where he pursued a degree in electrical engineering.

"Harmony taught us that if we wanted something, we had to work for it," Diego said. "The support I got from my teachers gave me the confidence to take on big challenges."

His hard work and dedication soon paid off, leading him to positions at prestigious companies like Raytheon and Oceaneering. His accomplishments are a testament to the strong academic foundation he built in his time at Harmony.

What makes the Mendozas' story even more remarkable is their continued connection to the Harmony community. Despite their busy professional lives, both Sergio and Diego remain actively involved, participating in alumni soccer events and keeping in touch with their former teachers. "We love the sense of community at Harmony," Sergio said. "It's a place where people support each other, and that's something we still want to be a part of."

"Harmony taught us that if we wanted something, we had to work for it."

This team became more than just an outlet for sports—it represented the unity, dedication and tenacity of Harmony's students, particularly for those who found camaraderie and connection through the game.

Sergio's leadership extended beyond the soccer field. Graduating from Harmony Science Academy-Houston (HSA) in 2011, Sergio's passion for technology led him to a degree in computer science at the University of Houston. Since then, his career has taken him to impressive heights, including roles at major tech companies like Cisco and Alteryx, where he has demonstrated the same forward-thinking attitude he showed at Harmony.

Meanwhile, Diego, inspired by his older brother's initiative, followed a similar path of excellence. He graduated from

For both brothers, Harmony was more than a school; it was a place where they learned to take initiative, face challenges and lead with integrity. Sergio and Diego represent the power of education to transform lives, especially for students from immigrant communities. Their stories showcase how the supportive environment at Harmony nurtures students to dream bigger, push boundaries, and, most importantly, give back to the communities that helped them succeed.

The Mendoza brothers' journey is a reminder that the impact of Harmony doesn't end with graduation. The lessons learned and the friendships made continue to influence students as they venture into the world, paving the way for future generations. Sergio and Diego's inspiring paths are proof that with the right support and determination, there's no limit to what Harmony students can achieve.



Adding Up Achievements

Two Cedar Park Students Post Perfect Scores In Math by Tracie Seed

While some may think that math isn't for everyone, two elementary math whizzes at Harmony Science Academy-Cedar Park would say otherwise.

This summer, students Viaan Gubbala (right), a current fourth grader, and Darsh Singh (left), a current fifth grader, achieved an accomplishment which many cannot claim: a 100 percent math score on the STAAR test.

gaps caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

While achieving a 100 percent score in math remains a challenge for many, students must score between 25 and 35 percent to pass the STAAR mathematics portion. In the spring 2024 STAAR assessment, only 15 percent of third and 20 percent of fourth graders reached the masters level, a decrease from 24 and 27 percent in 2019.

"Numbers are helpful in real life, so naturally, I want to excel at them."

"When I scored 100 on my math, I really felt happy. I felt proud to have accomplished such a feat, and now I also feel more confident about facing a challenge," Darsh said. "My biggest learning, though, was that with practice, I can do even better. I'm excited to keep learning and improving."

Gubbala, a young mathematician who loves decimals, enjoys solving equations because he can memorize how the problem can be solved and even the answers.

"Viaan has proven that determination and a love for learning can truly pay off," said his teacher Nicole Miller. "His enthusiasm for problem-solving and commitment to excellence are inspiring, making him a standout student and a role model for young learners everywhere. Keep an eye on this math whiz—he's just getting started!"

To put Singh's and Gubbala's accomplishments in perspective, consider the recent data released by the Texas Education Agency (TEA). In June, the TEA reported a decline in math performance, attributing this decrease to learning

"The numbers are helpful in real life, so naturally, I want to excel at them," Singh explained, expressing his gratitude to his teacher. "My fourth-grade math teacher, Mrs. Joy, played a significant role in teaching me. I applied lots of knowledge that I gained from my past years of studying. I am very happy I got a top score."

As a school that prioritizes excellence in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, Harmony takes immense pride in celebrating such achievements. Viaan and Darsh serve as inspirations to their peers and a shining example of the success that comes from a commitment to academic excellence.

"I am thrilled to recognize Darsh and Viaan for their outstanding achievements on our STEM-focused campus," said Principal Ayse Tun. "They have demonstrated exceptional dedication and skill by earning a perfect score, and this remarkable accomplishment is a testament to their hard work, perseverance and passion for learning."



Adapting with Excellence

Career Change Leads to Awards for Cedar Park Teacher by Tracie Seed

In the wake of COVID-19, as companies shuttered and industries shifted, Samantha Berryhill found herself at a crossroads, facing the daunting task of professional reinvention. Berryhill embraced the challenge, transitioning from a successful sales and management career to become an award-winning educator at Harmony Science Academy-Cedar Park.

Inspired by her best friend Mary Walker’s fulfilling teaching experience at HSA-CP, Berryhill earned her teaching certificate, and, as fate would have it, just as Berryhill completed her certification, an English Language Arts (ELA) position opened at the very school where her friend of more than 30 years taught.

Berryhill’s academic philosophy centers on encouraging critical thinking and debate, accepting restoration as a form of inclusion, and fostering social-emotional intelligence. She believes in celebrating students for taking risks, even when they fail, and motivating them to push themselves academically.

One unique aspect of Berryhill’s teaching approach involves her rescue dog Piper from Austin’s Blue Dog Rescue. She creatively incorporates Piper into her lessons, using the dog in plot scenarios and prediction exercises. Berryhill and her team also organized a meet-and-greet with Piper at a local dog park. This event evolved into an annual fundraiser benefiting local animal welfare organizations.

“While being recognized as Teacher of the Year is an exciting accomplishment for my personal career, it is also a testament to the special culture I have been lucky enough to thrive in.”

“My intention was to find joy working in education,” Berryhill said. “I didn’t expect to work at the same school as Mary!”

Three years later, Berryhill’s dedication and innovative teaching methods earned her the title of Harmony Public Schools-Central Texas Elementary Teacher of the Year, which paved the way for an even more extraordinary achievement: winning Harmony Public Schools’ statewide Elementary Teacher of the Year award for 2023-2024.

In her acceptance speech, Berryhill said, “While being recognized as Teacher of the Year is an exciting accomplishment for my personal career, it is also a testament to the special culture I have been lucky enough to thrive in. Harmony Public Schools are special in the education world because they focus on supporting the staff that work for them. This support allows teachers to shine, utilizing their individualized strengths to encourage exceptional growth from each student that passes through their doors.”

“I didn’t understand the impact this event would have on our classrooms,” Berryhill said. “Students, parents and fourth-grade teachers all benefited from connecting outside the classroom and sharing in a community bond.”

Area Superintendent Mustafa Altindag has been impressed by Berryhill’s contributions to the school and the community.

“Ms. Berryhill is a shining example of a Harmony educator,” Altindag said. “Her dedication to her students and passion for teaching inspire her colleagues and scholars. She embodies the values and mission of Harmony, consistently going above and beyond to ensure her students succeed.”

Berryhill’s journey from sales professional to award-winning teacher is more than just a career change story. It exemplifies the power of reinvention, the importance of supportive educational environments, and the profound impact a dedicated educator can have on students’ lives.



Dedication Rewarded

Houston Teacher Wins Secondary Teacher of the Year by Candice Keutzer

Have you ever tried to grow flowers in a garden? There are many steps involved, prepare the soil, plant the seed and water the plant. You have to tend to it every day making sure it has everything it needs to blossom. As you pour in the love and caring you get to watch the seed grow before your eyes. This is exactly what Quaniesha Limbrick, Science and BioMedical Science teacher at Harmony School of Ingenuity-Houston, has done for the past 11 years.

for all students,” said Limbrick. “The students today are our future and they should know that anything is possible”

The lessons don’t just stop in the classroom, Limbrick is also a mother of three beautiful children: Four-year-old Kennedy and one-year-old twins Khaleel and Cassidy. That motherly instinct has transpired into a caring nature she has for not just her pupils, but her fellow staff members.

“I strive daily to create a safe, fun, and inclusive learning environment for all students. The students today are our future, and they should know that anything is possible.”

Limbrick was named Secondary Teacher of the Year from more than 2,600 educators at more than 60 campuses across the state. For the last two years, she has served as the Career and Technical Education department head. Throughout her tenure, she has taught Biology, AP Biology, 8th grade science and Project Lead The Way Biomedical Sciences. Limbrick has also sponsored the Health Occupations Students of America Competition Club, High School Advance Research Club and the Recycling Club. She has also coached the school’s basketball team and is the Director of Harmony Ingenuity Biomedical Science Academy.

“Beyond her professional achievements, Ms. Limbrick is also widely respected and admired by her colleagues for her collaborative spirit, generosity and willingness to go above and beyond to support both students and fellow educators. She consistently demonstrates integrity, professionalism and a genuine concern for the well-being of others,” said Ali Sarioglu, Harmony School of Discovery principal, who was Limbrick’s principal at Ingenuity in 2023-24.

Limbrick’s passion for teaching came from the understanding and drive to be part of the remarkable role teachers play in positively impacting their students’ lives. Teaching has been very rewarding for Limbrick and seeing her students’ accomplishments is what fuels her passion for teaching.

“It is truly an honor to be named Teacher of the Year. Something that was so unexpected but fulfilling to receive. I am merely myself in this profession seeking no recognition but to encourage, mentor, motivate, advocate for and guide our scholars to be their best at everything they do and work through all obstacles despite the difficulties as there will be some,” said Limbrick. “It is very rewarding to hear and see the many great accomplishments they achieve after secondary school and the mature adults they become. I would like to thank HPS for this award as this has been a truly gratifying experience.”

“I am an advocate for my students as I encourage, mentor, motivate and guide them to be the best they can be. I strive daily to create a safe, fun, and inclusive learning environment



Middle School to **MED SCHOOL**

Program Gives Students Early Healthcare Experience by Megan Garrison

Pursuing a medical career can seem daunting, but for students in South Texas, Harmony's Middle School to Medical School (M2M) program offers a vital head start. In collaboration with Texas Tech University Health Science Center, the M2M program provides early exposure and hands-on experience with medical disciplines and the opportunity to earn high school credits. It allows middle school students to explore medical careers while building essential skills and knowledge.

One standout student, Yadira Gonzalez, a freshman at Harmony Science Academy-San Antonio, is now following the biomedical science pathway after going through the M2M program. Inspired by her sibling's medical experiences, her passion for healthcare blossomed through this initiative. "I knew I wanted to pursue a career in medicine, and this program has given me the tools to explore that dream," Yadira said.

During her seventh and eighth-grade year, Yadira participated in hands-on activities such as practicing blood draws and learning basic suturing techniques. "Every student interested in a medical career should take this chance to see if it's the right fit," she said.

Partnerships with The College of HealthCare Professions, Complete Care ER, and the U.S. Army Medical Center provide students unique access to medical professionals. "Meeting the College of Health Care Professions personnel on campus was incredible. Having that exposure early on makes all the difference," Yadira said.

"I knew I wanted to pursue a career in medicine, and this program has given me the tools to explore that dream."

This year, the M2M program will be available at six Harmony campuses in the South Texas District, allowing even more students to benefit from its resources. South Texas District Superintendent Selcuk Bakir emphasizes the program's importance, saying, "As the name suggests, the program is intended to inspire students to explore jobs within the medical field. The earlier you get them, the more inspired they are going to be, and the more goal-oriented they will become in accomplishing those goals."

The M2M program provides not just academic growth, but also personal development. Students learn teamwork, communication and critical thinking skills essential in any medical career.

As the M2M program continues to grow, its impact on the South Texas community is undeniable. By providing middle school students with a robust foundation and practical experience in health sciences, the program equips them with the skills and confidence to succeed in medical fields. Harmony looks forward to seeing what students will achieve through this opportunity.





It Runs in the **FAMILY**

Harmony's Mother and Daughter Trio

by Ajdina Selimovic

In the heart of Harmony's vibrant community, where educational excellence and family values converge, one story stands out for its blend of personal commitment and professional achievement. Talitha Alexander's journey with Harmony began in 2005, and over the years, her evolving roles have woven a rich tapestry of dedication and influence. Alexander has been a cornerstone of the Harmony community, evolving from a physical education teacher to her current role as Chief Corporate Engagement Officer. Noting that she also spent time in the role of Dean of Students and Principal, Talitha was able to build impactful relationships with students, staff and faculty that have fostered her success in her current role.

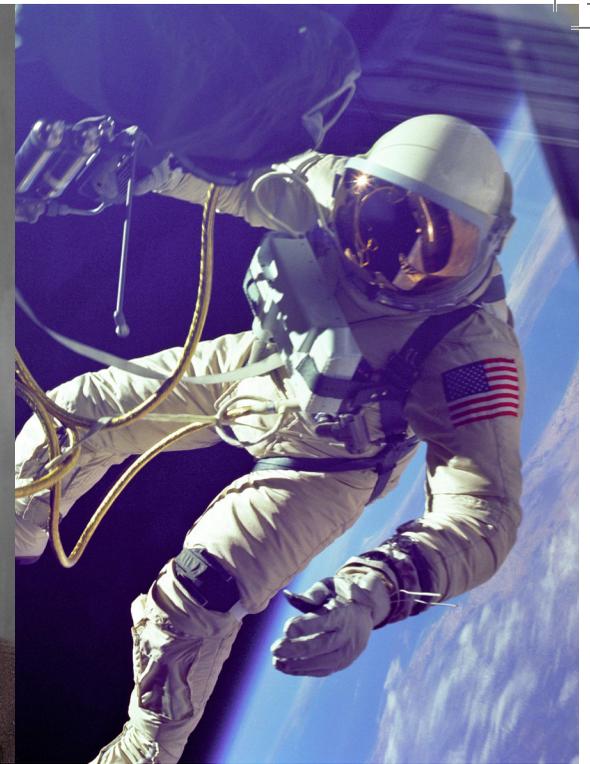
The dedication of this veteran educator extends beyond her professional role. Her daughters, Bria and Averi Alexander, have been students at Harmony since kindergarten. Bria is now a high school senior preparing for college, while Averi is a sophomore gearing up for the pivotal year of high school. Their entire educational experience has been intertwined with their mother's career. This unique dynamic has created a blend of personal and professional rewards for both mother and daughters.

Bria's journey from kindergarten to high school has been a testament to Harmony's commitment to educational excellence. For Talitha, working in the same environment where her daughter is a student has been a blend of emotions. "It's a bittersweet experience," she said. "It's important for everyone to understand that I am a parent first. With that, I know that Harmony's values and mission align closely with my own, so I'm confident my girls are getting a great education."

Talitha believes her presence at Harmony has positively influenced Bria and Averi's experience. "My biggest source of motivation and pride in my professional achievements stems from knowing that I am setting a positive example for my daughters, demonstrating the importance of hard work, perseverance and the impact of pursuing her passions." Talitha said with a smile. "Bria and Averi see me as a role model, witnessing how I've progressed through various roles at Harmony. It's inspiring to see her take part in the advanced and honors course offerings within the school and how her dedication and commitment to excellence have laid the foundation for a successful future." The shared experiences and close-knit atmosphere of Harmony have only strengthened their bond.

As Bria embarks on her next adventure and Averi prepares for her junior year in high school, Talitha remains proud of both her daughter's achievements and her own contributions to the school community. Talitha's ability to balance her personal and professional life with such grace and dedication serves as a powerful example of how passion and compassion can harmoniously coexist, leaving an indelible mark on Harmony's legacy.





Launching Her Dreams

Eules Senior Reaches for the Stars in NASA Program by Susan Campbell

Curiosity is a powerful catalyst for discovery, driving Harmony students to explore the unknown and seek out new experiences that can transform their lives.

For Harmony Science Academy-Eules senior Kyagera Nampewo, her curiosity could very well drive her to the stars—literally.

Nampewo is one of two HSA-Eules seniors who recently participated in NASA’s High School Aerospace Scholars program. In this virtual program, students collaboratively work with a team to plan an Artemis-themed mission to the Moon and Mars, engaging with mentors, as well as NASA engineers and scientists, who guide and facilitate research, design challenges and review preliminary design presentations.

Nampewo says her Virtual Moonshot Experience allowed her to work with individuals across the state to develop the mission to Mars.

“We were tasked with development, and I was the integration manager for my team, which meant I was tasked with organizing and finalizing the final project,” she said.

When she was just five years old, Nampewo visited the NASA Johnson Space Center for the first time and realized then that she wanted to be an aerospace engineer.

Not long afterward, she started as a first grader with Harmony, and has had stars in her eyes ever since.

As she has advanced in her schooling, Nampewo credits several Harmony initiatives and programs that have helped keep her passion for aeronautics and engineering alive.

“I actually started to lose a passion for it at the beginning of high school and wanted to pursue architecture instead,” said Nampewo. “But re-engaging myself in my Project Lead The Way classes at school has helped fuel my passion for engineering along with keeping up with the aerospace and aeronautics world outside of school.”

Nampewo says her favorite part of working through a NASA program was being able to get insight on the various job opportunities NASA has to offer, which is her ultimate goal.

“My dream is to send astronauts to another planet we haven’t been to,” she said. “I eventually want to become a NASA project manager in the aerospace and aeronautical field and maybe even develop new spacesuit designs for future space missions.”

As Nampewo continues to reach for the stars, her journey underscores a vital truth: With passion, determination and curiosity, the cosmos is not just a destination, but a realm of possibilities waiting to be explored.

“My dream is to send astronauts to another planet we haven’t been to.”



Hassan (front row, fourth from the left) accepts her award along with her fellow honorees.

A Real Harmony Hero

Katy Parent Earns Prestigious Award for Her Community Efforts

by Candice Keutzer

Heroes come in all different shapes and sizes. There's a hero at Harmony Science Academy-Sugar Land, but she's not a teacher or a staff member. She's a parent with a passion for service.

Batool Hassan, the proud mother of a third grader, has been named a recipient of the 2024 Heroes for Children Award. She is one of only 15 award winners statewide who will receive this recognition.

Hassan was honored by State Board of Education (SBOE) District 6. She is honored for her outstanding services and valuable support to the school community, the staff, and most notably, the students.

Hassan is the president of the Harmony Science Academy-Sugar Land (HSA-SL) Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO). She also keeps busy volunteering at charity events, spearheading donation drives and lending a helping hand to those facing adversity.

Hassan consistently demonstrates her unwavering dedication to making a positive impact.

"Despite the demands of her busy schedule, Mrs. Hassan approaches each day with grace and determination, embodying the values of integrity, empathy, and resilience," said Kajal Nagrani, HSA-Sugar Land engagement coordinator.

Whether she's coordinating logistics for a multinational corporation or coordinating volunteer efforts for a worthy cause, Hassan's unwavering commitment to excellence shines through in everything she does.

"As a mom, the Heroes for Children Award is deeply meaningful," Hassan said. "It represents my dedication to ensuring every child feels supported, loved and given the opportunity to thrive, just as I wish for my own."

Hassan and the other 14 award recipients were honored during the SBOE general meeting on Sept.13 in Austin.

"[This award] represents my dedication to ensuring every child feels supported, loved, and given the opportunity to thrive, just as I wish for my own."

HARMONY AT A GLANCE



Twenty-five 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. See how we'll be expanding even further within the next few years to create even more opportunities for students across Texas.



HPS STRATEGIC GROWTH PLAN

CURRENT HARMONY CAMPUS **NEW CAMPUS or EXPANSION**

*Locations are approximate.

RECENT AWARDS



x 23

Best High Schools in America
(U.S. News & World Report, 2024)



x 21

National School of Character
(Character.org, 2020-24)



x 40

State School of Character
(Character.org, 2020-24)



x 7

"A" Rating for
Financial Accountability
(Texas Education Agency, 2024)

STUDENT DATA

44,732
Students Enrolled PreK-12



SPED SERVICE RATE

10.5% **11.3%**
Harmony TX Avg.

Economically Disadvantaged



67%

English Language Learners (ELL)



34%

College Acceptance Rate



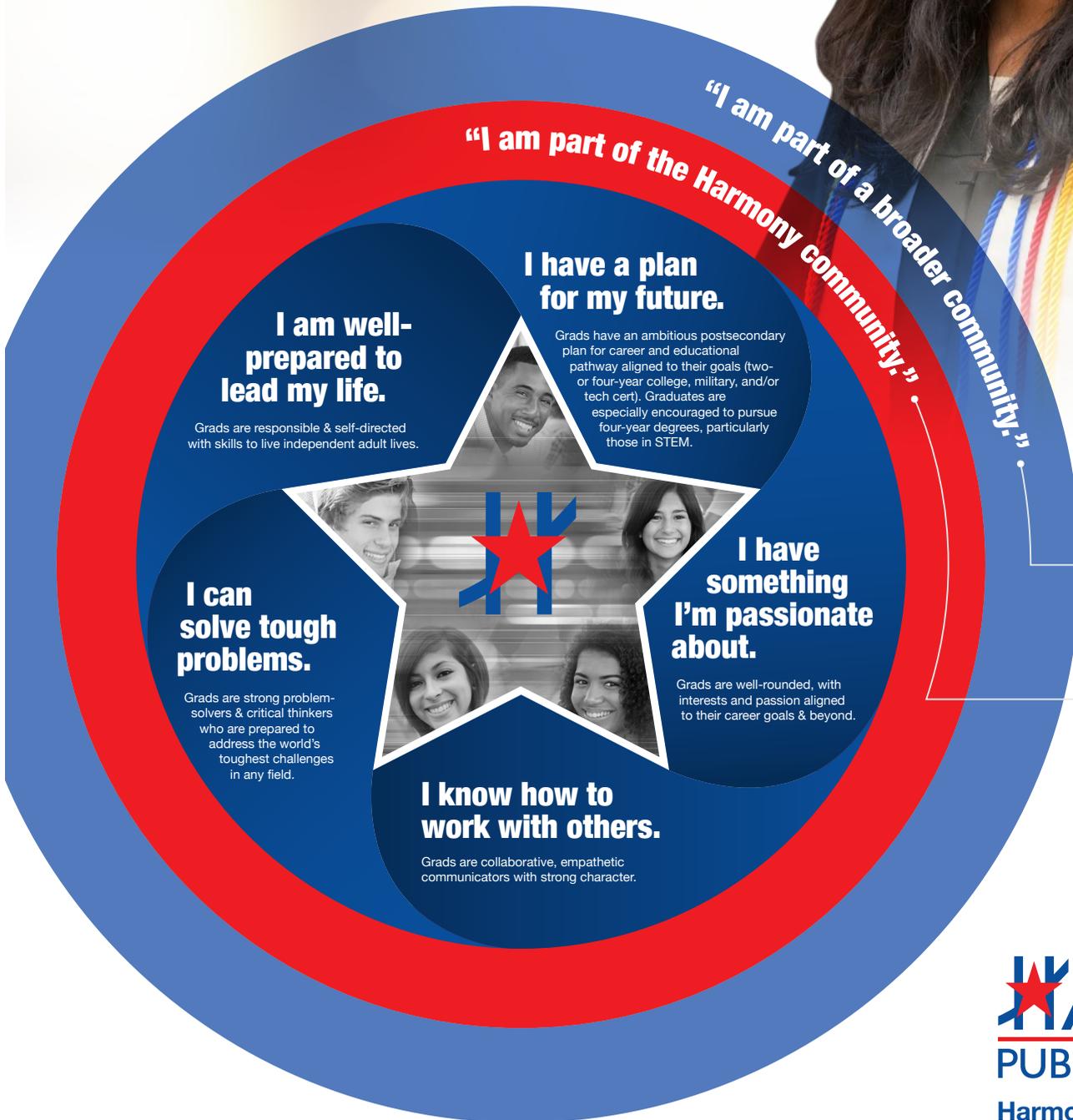
94%

Graduation Rate



100%

| Harmony Public Schools
Graduate Profile
 | Our North Star



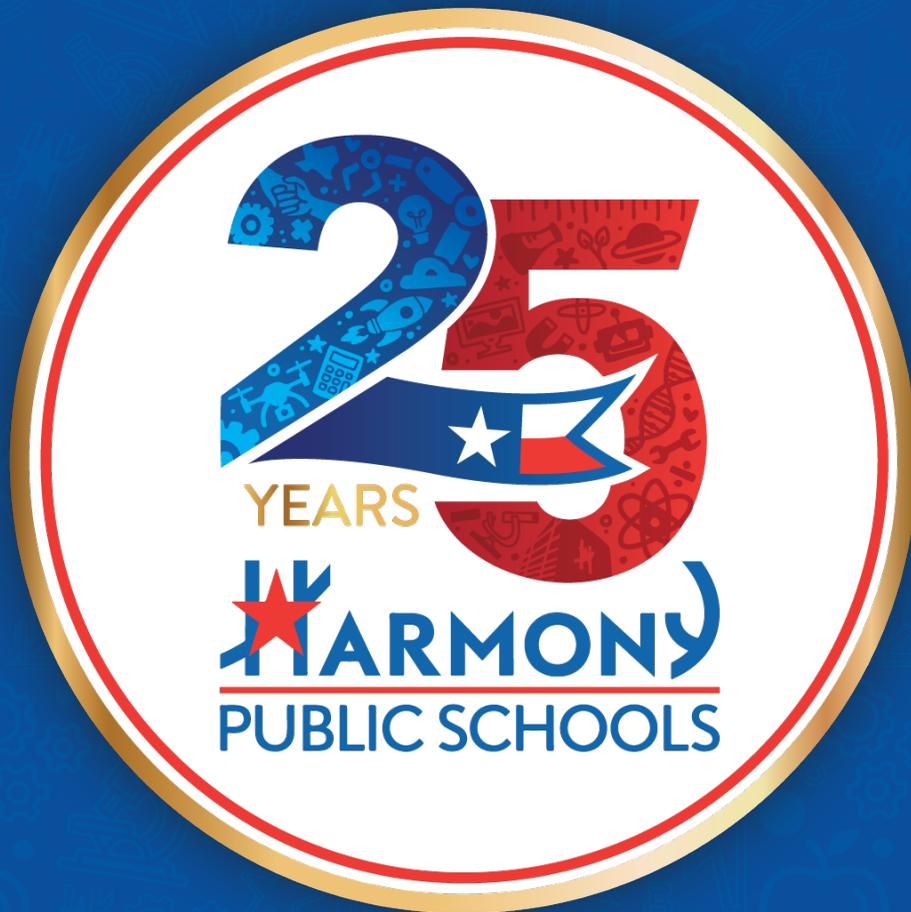
"I am part of the Harmony community."

"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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