



MANSFIELD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

A Destination District Committed to Excellence.

Dear Mansfield ISD Family,

After much reflection and prayer, I have made the extremely difficult decision to retire in February 2026, following 33½ years of service in public education, 26 of those in our beloved district. As a proud product of the public school system, I began my own career in education with one simple goal: to do everything I could to impact the lives of students and families. It's a calling that has guided me every single day. It has been my joy to serve, to listen, to lead, and to dream alongside this community. I know, however, now it's time for me to focus on being a mom to my 15-year-old daughter, as well as my older girls, and be a support to my parents and family.

Since 2020, I have had the privilege of leading this district through some of the most defining moments in our history. Together, we navigated the unprecedented challenges of a global pandemic while keeping our focus on students first. We also celebrated tremendous district achievements — including the passage of a VATRE in 2021 and a \$588.5 million-dollar bond election in 2024, which secured safe, modern, and innovative schools for our community.

Because of this shared commitment, Mansfield ISD has continued to reach new heights. In 2025, 20 campuses earned “A” ratings — more than double the number from the previous year — and 7 of our 8 high schools also received an A. For the third consecutive year, our Early College High School celebrated a 100% graduation rate, with every student earning an associate degree. At the same time, we strengthened our focus on the whole child by expanding social-emotional learning (SEL) programs and expanding counseling services, ensuring that students are supported not only academically, but also socially and emotionally. We also made tremendous strides in safety and security, launching the Evolv security system and introducing other innovative measures to further protect our students and staff.

While these accomplishments are meaningful, what I will remember most are the people — a community that never fails to rally around us, our incredible teachers and staff, the families who entrust us with their children, and the students whose dreams inspire everything we do. Mansfield ISD is not just a school district; it is a family bound together by love, resilience, and hope for the future.

Mansfield ISD will continue to be an example of excellence. The work will move forward as we launch into the second half of our strategic plan with determination and a renewed excitement in preparing our students to graduate college, career and life ready. I have faith in our incredible School Board and trust they will find the best leader for our district.

Though I will be stepping away in February, my love for this district will never end. Mansfield ISD will always be my home, and I will continue to cheer for the success of our students, staff, and community. From the bottom of my heart, thank you for trusting me with the responsibility of serving you. I am humbled, grateful, and forever proud to be part of the Mansfield ISD story.

With love and gratitude,

Dr. Kimberley Cantu
Superintendent of Schools