



Northwest Independent School District
ANNUAL REPORT

2020 - 2021



Northwest Independent School District **AT A GLANCE**

Northwest ISD — one of the fastest-growing school districts in Texas — has a vision of empowering learners and leaders to positively impact the world. Northwest ISD encompasses 234 square miles in the northwest area of the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex, spanning three counties (Tarrant, Denton, and Wise) and 14 municipalities.

STRATEGIC GOALS



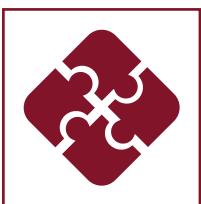
Goal 1:

Students will achieve success through meaningful learning experiences, innovative pathways, and personalized opportunities.



Goal 2:

Northwest ISD will recruit, value, and retain an exceptional staff to create a rewarding learning environment.



Goal 3:

Northwest ISD will create and foster an environment where all stakeholders are engaged in the transformational work of the NISD family.

COMPREHENSIVE
3 HIGH
SCHOOLS

1 EARLY
COLLEGE
HIGH SCHOOL

6 MIDDLE
SCHOOLS

20 ELEMENTARY
SCHOOLS

1 SPECIAL
PROGRAMS
CENTER

Board of Trustees

Anne Davis-Simpson, Ph.D.

President

Elected 2013

R. Stephen Sprowls

Vice President

Elected 2017

Lillian Rauch, Ph.D.

Secretary

Elected 2014

Judy Copp

Elected 2012

DeAnne Hatfield

Elected 2019

Jennifer Murphy

Elected 2020

Mark Schluter

Elected 2006



SERVING with Excellence

During a school year unlike any other, the leadership and support of the Northwest ISD Board of Trustees provided a solid foundation amid many unknowns. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, the heart and purpose of the school district continued as the board led with perseverance.

The school board navigated new challenges while maintaining NISD's culture of learning through clear expectations. Board members promote excellence for students by setting goals, reviewing policies and procedures, and serving the best interests of NISD students and staff, which became even more important during the unprecedented pandemic.

Each school board member is elected to an at-large position for a three-year term of office, on a 2-2-3 rotating basis. Seats are usually filled during the May election; however with the postponed May 2020 election, trustee elections were held during November 2020 and May 2021. For more information, visit www.nisdtx.org/elections.



Superintendent of Schools

Ryder Warren, Ed.D.

Serving since 2016

MEANINGFUL Experiences & Personalized Opportunities

Northwest ISD wants all students to graduate from high school ready for college or a career with necessary life skills. Programs have been established to provide a clear, aligned curriculum and professional development that focuses on high student success and preparation for students to achieve all they can in life.



Career & Technical Education

NISD students can choose to study their future from eight academies and 19 pathways. This year, more than 3,507 career- or technical-oriented certifications were earned by students for a total of 15,000 certifications since 2016. Approximately 300 students participated in internships in 12 program areas with 62 various local businesses. More than 9,100 students complete 12,500 hours of career and technical education courses each day.

Fine Arts

Northwest ISD was named a District of Distinction by the Texas Art Education Association, an honor given to Texas school districts that advocate for and integrate visual arts curriculum in their schools. The Class of 2021 was offered more than \$2.3 million in college fine arts scholarships. Some of the year's highlights include:



- **BNHS** competition cheer team won the State UIL 6A Division II Cheer Championship.
- Debate students from **BNHS** and **NHS** earned top honors at regional tournaments and qualified for state and national tournaments.
- NISD Middle School Musical performed "Shrek Jr." to sold-out audiences and live streamed the show for at-home audiences.
- **BNHS**, **NHS**, and **EHS** musicals earned a combined six awards at the Betty Buckley Awards, including the district's first-ever Best Musical award for Eaton's performance of "Matilda."
- **BNHS** won Best Lighting Design and **NHS** earned a special recognition for Outstanding Performance at the Dallas Summer Musicals High School Musical Theatre Awards.
- Eight high school art students advanced to the State VASE contest, and an **EHS** student won first place in the Congressional Art Competition.
- A combined 12 students from **BNHS**, **NHS** and **EHS** were selected to a TMEA all-state ensemble.
- **Medlin Middle School** Band was named a Class AA Commended Winner from the Foundation for Music Education.
- The Dazzlers, Sapphires, and Sidekicks drill teams each performed in regional and national competitions, earning top marks including Grand Championships.



NORTHWEST READS PROMOTES CHILDHOOD LITERACY

Elementary schools across our district again held the annual Northwest Reads program, which invites community members to share their love of reading with young students.

This year, more than 700 community members read books to children virtually because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Visitors were brought in over video chat and led reading sessions at each of Northwest ISD's 20 elementary schools.

Childhood literacy continues to remain a focal point in our district, and we hope every student loves to read, across all ages and grade levels!



ATHLETICS

During the 2020-2021 school year, 74 student-athletes signed letters of intent to take part in collegiate athletics. Some of the year's athletic postseason highlights include:

FOOTBALL

- NHS 5A Bi-District Qualifiers
- BNHS 6A Bi-District Qualifiers
- EHS 6A Regional Quarterfinalist

VOLLEYBALL

- BNHS 6A Regional Semifinalist
- EHS 6A Regional Finalist

CROSS COUNTRY

- NHS 1 Boys 5A Regional Qualifier
- EHS 2 Boys 6A Regional Qualifiers

BOYS BASKETBALL

- BNHS 6A Regional Semifinalist
- EHS 6A Area Finalist

GIRLS BASKETBALL

- NHS 5A Bi-District Qualifiers

TEAM TENNIS

- BNHS 6A Area Finalist

POWERLIFTING

- NHS 1 Boys State Qualifier
- EHS 1 Boys State Qualifier and 1 Girls State Qualifier

WRESTLING

- NHS 5 Girls 5A State Qualifiers / 1 Silver Medalist and 5 Boys 5A State Qualifiers
- BNHS 1 Girls 6A State Qualifier and 4 Boys 6A State Qualifiers
- EHS 1 Girls 6A State Alternate

SWIM & DIVE

- BNHS 4 Girls 6A State Qualifiers
- NHS 1 Girls 5A State Qualifier
- EHS 2 Boys 6A State Qualifiers

TRACK & FIELD

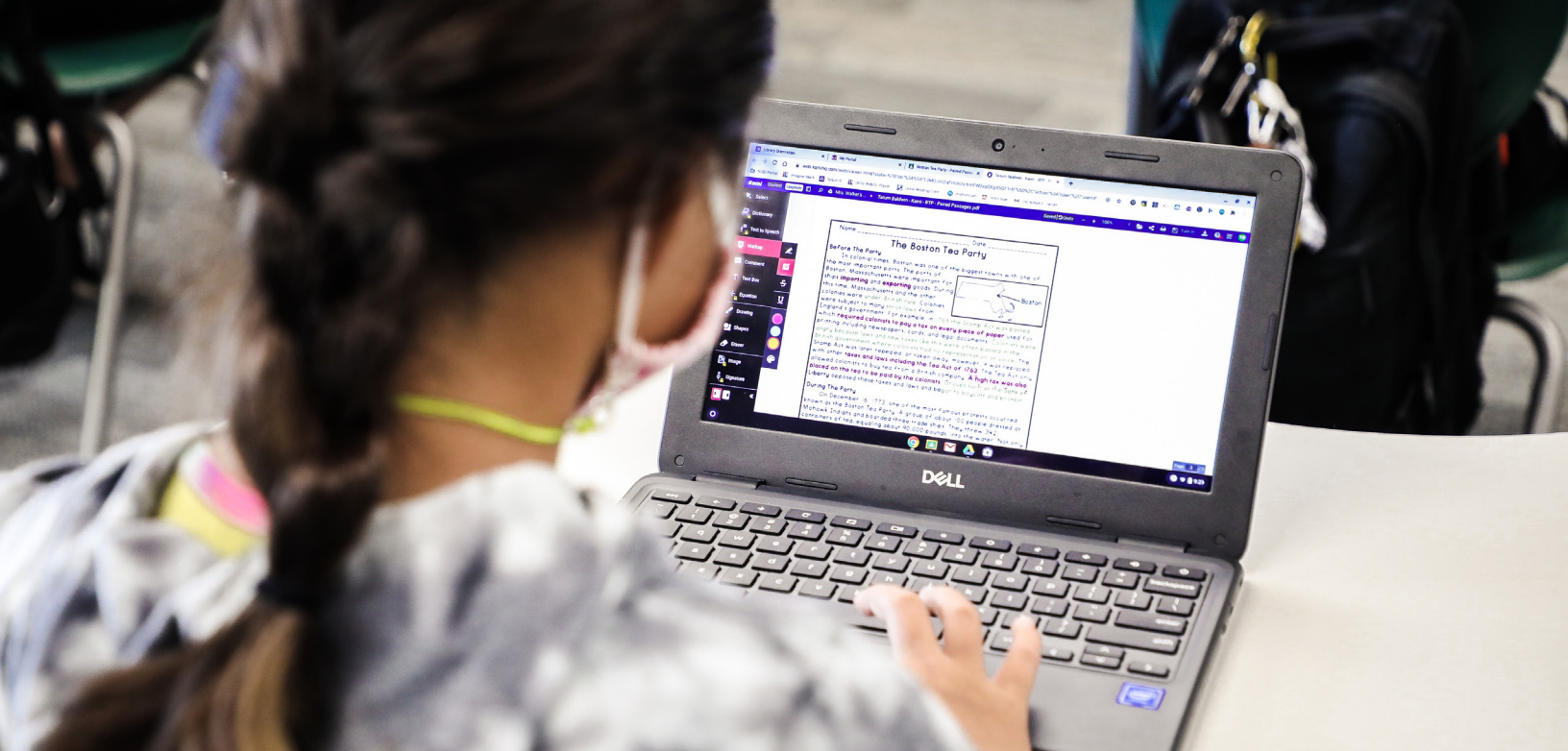
- BNHS 4 Boys 6A State Qualifiers / Boys Silver Medalist 110 Hurdles / 1 Girls 6A State Qualifier
- NHS 1 Girls 5A State Qualifier / Bronze Medalist High Jump

GOLF

- NHS Girls 5A State Qualifying Team
- BNHS Girls 6A Regional Qualifying Team / 1 Boys 6A Regional Qualifier

TENNIS

- EHS 1 Boys 6A Regional Qualifier



TECHNOLOGY

We believe all NISD students and educators deserve reliable access to tools and resources that elevate robust learning experiences. Our technology team has designed and maintains two state-of-the-art data centers to ensure our network is safe, secure and resilient as it supports student learning and protects sensitive data.

Northwest ISD uses Chromebooks as the district's primary learning device and provides a device to every student in grades K-12. During Remote Learning, Pre-K students were offered a 1:1 device experience as well. With the implementation of the 1:1 experience in the 2020-2021 school year, NISD was able to achieve the following:



> 20,000

CHROMEBOOKS

deployed and upgraded in
August 2020



**NEW SYSTEMS
AND SOFTWARE**

were developed or implemented
to allow teachers and staff to

WORK REMOTELY



INTERNET ACCESS

was provided for families through mobile
hotspots and external campus WiFi stations



Students were provided

**TECHNICAL
SUPPORT**

through a **HelpDesk website** and
call hotline available outside of school hours



HISTORY OF THE CITY OF HASLET, TEXAS

The 16th Day of January, 1961 The Town of Haslet was incorporated and became the "City of Haslet."

The Naming of Haslet, Texas

Charles L. Maloney, 96, a native of Ireland and resident of the Haslet community since 1902, died in 1958. Mr. Maloney came to the Blue Mound area in 1892 with his brother-in-law, H.C. Harley, of Fort Worth. They brought a barren tract of land 15 miles north of Fort Worth, the present site of Haslet. Mr. Maloney began raising short horn Durham cattle. He had one of the first herds in this county.

The Santa Fe Railroad representative came to the Maloney ranch seeking right-of-way for the railroad. Mr. Maloney told them to let the wheels of progress roll across someone else's property. Later, Mrs. Maloney said it would be nice to be able to ride the train in to Fort Worth. Mr. Maloney stabled up his horses and rode down to the railroad. He told the workmen they could go through. One man asked what he had said. "He has let us go through," Joel C. Hammond, the railroad contractor for the rail, Colorado & Santa Fe, was from Haslet, Michigan. "We'll name this stop Haslet," he said. The workers in the area and the railroad works gave credit of the name to Mr. Maloney, but let the railroad come through, the year 1906.

The History of Haslet Elementary School

About 1872, there were two or three families who lived in the vicinity of Haslet, but there were not enough children in the community to form a school. It was not until seven years later that a school building was erected.

The year 1879 was an election year, and the people in the community took advantage of the occasion by having them donate money to the community for the purpose of building a schoolhouse. By the end of the political campaign, Mr. C. F. Mitchell and probably one other person who had been interested in a school to raise funds to erect a building, had secured about \$150, which was immediately spent in erecting a building.

The school was called the Blue Mound school, which later became known as Haslet. Miss Lucy Carter was the first teacher in this building. A year or two prior to this, Miss Lucy Carter taught a school in the home of one of the citizens of the community. About seven years later the building was placed on wheels and moved above one-half mile northward to the present site of the Haslet School building.

Leading the Way

1

BICYCLE

A human-powered or water-powered propulsion single-track vehicle having two wheels attached to a frame, one behind the other. American invention; awareness of American and the advantages of energy efficient transportation led to the American bike boom of the 1970s.

2

CR

DISTRICT GROWTH

Now at more than 26,000 students, Northwest ISD continues to add about 1,200 new students to its total enrollment population each year. With such a growth rate, NISD ranks among the top in the state for enrollment increases, and the district will continue to grow for many years with ample land available for further development.



Haslet Elementary School

Opened: August 2020

Haslet Elementary School moved from its previous location to a brand new campus featuring the district's most recent elementary design. As with all new NISD campuses, it focuses on student collaboration with shared learning areas. The campus is located in the new LaTara master-planned community.



Northwest Aquatic Center

Opened: January 2021

For the first time in Northwest ISD history, swimmers representing the district now train in a home facility. The Aquatic Center features a 50-meter competition pool and 25-meter practice pool as well as an athletic training center and sports medicine facility. The facility will feature uses for all age levels.

Berkshire Elementary School

Opened: August 2021

Construction continued on Northwest ISD's 20th elementary campus during the 2020-2021 school year, as Berkshire Elementary School will open in its namesake master-planned community. As with the new Haslet campus, it will use NISD's newest elementary design with a focus on collaborative learning experiences.



BOND PACKAGE TO ADDRESS **MORE GROWTH**

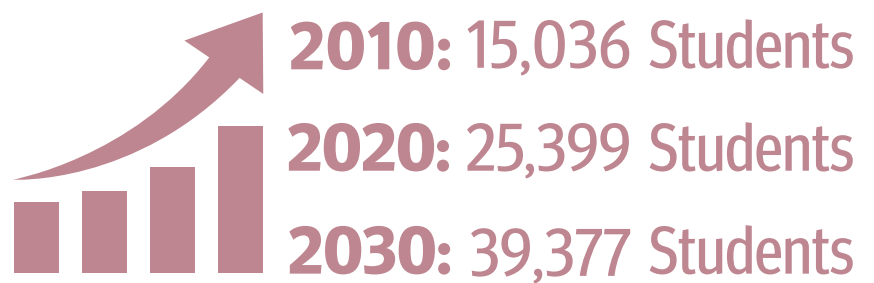


Thanks to NISD voters, more classroom space will soon address the district's rapid growth following the successful passage of the 2021 bond package.

With the new bond, NISD will add learning space at both new and existing schools, with several projects designed to address equity across the district. Major new projects passed in the bond package include:

- Technology Upgrades
- Pre-K Classrooms at 11 Schools
- Middle School #7
- Two New Elementary Schools
- Seven Hills Replacement School
- Hatfield Replacement School
- Pike Middle School Replacement School
- Northwest High School Additions and Renovations

The new facilities are possible with no change to the district tax rate, as growth across NISD will provide increased funding.



FINANCIAL REPORTING

NISD pledges to remain transparent with dollars and financial forecasting, as well as investing resources that provide students, parents, and community members optimal education services.

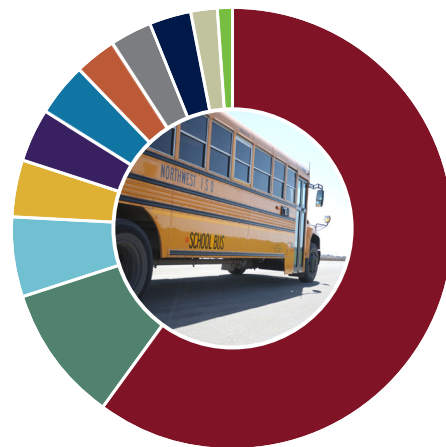
NISD has been recognized across the state and nation, through both ASBO and GFOA, for excellence in financial reporting for the past 19 years.

NISD has also received the Association of School Business Officials Meritorious Budget Award for the past 20 years. This award promotes and recognizes sound fiscal management and budgetary policies.



FUNDING COMES FROM:

Local Sources \$213.9M		89%
State Sources \$23.4M		10%
Federal Sources \$3.5M		1%



FUNDING GOES TO:

Teachers/Aides/Supplies		60%
Facilities/Maintenance		10%
Campus Administration		6%
Transportation		4%
Curriculum & Instruction		4%
Guidance & Counseling		4%
Technology		3%
Co-/Extra-Curricular		3%
District-Level Support Staff		3%
Health Services		2%
Library		1%

100%



We Value Our Staff!

Northwest ISD is known as a leader for its personalized learning opportunities, which creates a rewarding environment for educators. Additionally, NISD operates several programs to recognize the great work of teachers and staff, such as the annual Inspire Celebration and the GEM (or "Going the Extra Mile") Award.

At Northwest ISD, we value every staff member. When a teacher or employee submits an absence due to illness or personal matters, respected "guest educators" step in to cover classes. NISD refers to our substitute teachers as guest educators to show value in the work they do on a daily basis and to emphasize their qualifications.

Crystal Clear **COMMUNICATION**

Communicating in a timely, accurate manner with families and community members remains a hallmark of Northwest ISD, and a global event made that action even more vital in the 2020-2021 school year.

Through a variety of communication platforms, Northwest ISD families were informed every step of the way as decisions were made with changing state guidance as the school year continued.

Emails were sent to the district's nearly 30,000 stakeholders at regular intervals, and more than 950,000 text messages – the desired form of communication among 83% of NISD families – were sent during the school year.

In regards to the COVID-19 pandemic, the district website, www.nisdtx.org, provided regularly updated information with a dashboard for families to track updates. Additionally, tiered notification letters were sent to families as cases were confirmed.

83%

Parents prefer communication by
TEXT MESSAGES

950,000

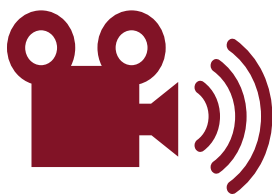
TEXT MESSAGES
sent by NISD during the
2020-2021 school year



**NORTHWEST
NEWS**

emailed weekly
to more than

30,000
STAKEHOLDERS



**CONVOCATION
LIVESTREAMED**

to more than

3,000
STAFF MEMBERS



MEETING STUDENT NEEDS

Through Partnerships

The Northwest ISD Partners in Education program creates school-support opportunities for parents, businesses and the community by offering a wide variety of options amenable to every schedule, talent and expertise. PIE brings volunteers into Northwest ISD classrooms at each campus and all grade levels.



iNvest2Serve brought in community members, local businesses and faith-based organizations to deliver more than **26,000 snack packs** and more than **2,500 books** directly to NISD families over the course of **21 weeks**. The program also provided bulk food, clothing, school supplies and hygiene products to families, along with a Summer Santa Box filled with fun family activities.

During the 2020-2021 school year, PIE raised approximately **\$280,385** that went directly to students and the campuses to support their needs.

Our annual **Angel Tree** fulfilled holiday wishes for nearly **1,300 angels** through anonymous donations by community members and businesses.

Our **Back-to-School** Fair grew to provide backpacks and school supplies for **1,800 students** in a drive-thru event. Families also received a swag bag containing coupons for haircuts and free meals, snacks, headphones, and resource information for clothing, food and immunizations, along with other fun items and toys.

NEF Supports Schools, Students

The Northwest ISD Education Foundation (NEF) provides financial support to NISD students and teachers to enhance excellence in the classroom. During the 2020-2021 school year, NEF awarded \$106,487 in teaching grants across all 30 campuses and distributed 40 scholarships to graduating seniors totaling \$55,700.

To further support campus needs, the NEF Resource Store, a free store providing school supplies to teachers, opened in November 2020 and fulfilled more than 160 orders in the first five months. Additionally, NEF partnered with NISD to launch a monthly food pantry and supported district literacy efforts by providing more than 3,000 books to elementary students in summer school.



NEF prides itself on providing support to make meaningful differences in the lives of students! For more information about the foundation, visit www.nisdtx.org/nef.



Combating COVID-19

As with school districts across the world, NISD fought the challenges of COVID-19 but continued to educate children all year long. While the pandemic created difficulties, NISD students and staff overcame all obstacles on the path to another successful school year.

Some of the major actions taken to protect students, staff and the community from the spread of COVID-19 included:

- Implemented districtwide safety protocols to provide a clear and set standard for a response to COVID-19 infections, close contacts, infection data reporting and campus notifications.
- A Return to Learn website and regular series of emails kept families informed of actions the district took to keep students, staff and families safe.
- Simultaneously provided transparency and safety through virtual school board meetings streamed live at the height of the pandemic.
- Created social distancing procedures and sanitization practices to provide limited mobility for the airborne disease to spread.
- Provided a virtual learning options for families who wished to remain vigilant in the fight against COVID-19 by limiting their children's exposure to others.



Northwest Independent School District

PO Box 77070 • Fort Worth • Texas 76177
817-215-0000 • www.nisdtx.org