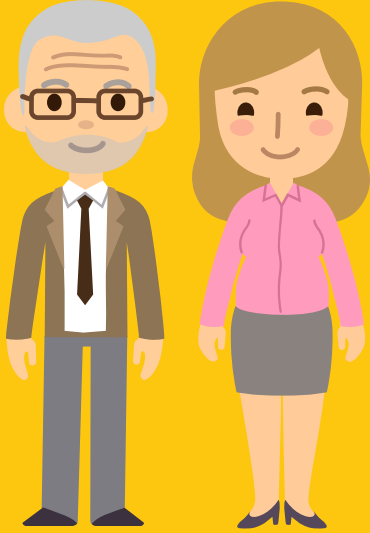


Indian Insider



Santa Fe ISD is excited to have our students back, both in person and virtually. Although it has been an unusual start to the 2020-2021 school year, we have so many great things going on in the district. We would like to share with you "what went well" over the past month since school started!

September 18, 2020



The **Human Resources Department** has employed more than 686 teachers and staff for the 2020-2021 school year. These staff members returned to work with renewed enthusiasm, determination and a shared purpose of creating the best possible educational experience for all students.

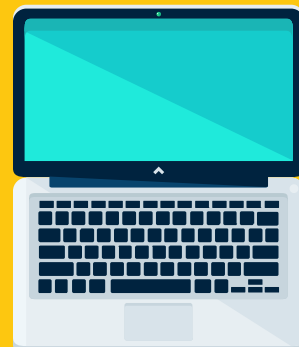
The **Public Relations Department** launched a text messaging feature in order to communicate with our SFISD stakeholders. In coordination with campus nurses, we have also created a COVID-19 dashboard on the SFISD website to keep families informed of the current COVID-19 information in Santa Fe ISD. We have created informative video messages for parents and staff members and issued the 2020 Connecting the Future Back to School Guide.



Our **Transportation Department** has been safely driving our students to school each morning and transporting them back home in the afternoon. It takes more than 36 bus drivers to drive 2,700 miles every day, and they are committed to getting students to and from their campuses safely. Drivers have made several positive parent phone contacts, which sets a great tone for the remainder of the year. Numerous procedures have been put in place to protect the health of staff and students: such as employees wearing face masks, bus cleaning after every route, windows down for increased airflow, touch-less hand sanitizers on every bus, and reduced number of allowable riders. Routes that have increased to more than 46 students have been reorganized to create better spacing. All department employees have been trained in sanitizing procedures.

The **Technology Department** has worked diligently to make sure all students and staff have what they need in order to be successful.

- Laptops have been distributed to 3,100 students.
- Over 300 new laptops were distributed to classroom teachers.
- All students, grades PK-12, are utilizing our Learning Management System, Canvas.
- Teachers are using TEAMS meeting platform daily to communicate with their virtual learners.
- The technology help line assists, on average, over 250 callers per week.
- Students and Parents now have a direct link on their campus homepage to submit help desk requests.
- External webcams and wireless headsets were ordered for classroom teachers to better facilitate virtual learning.



Our Community, Our Legacy, Our Future

Students entered clean, disinfected buildings across our five campuses, thanks to our **Maintenance and Operations Department** staff members who continue to provide custodial and maintenance services to more than 1,031,979 square feet of building space to ensure a safe and healthy learning and work environment for students and staff.



Our **YUM! Nutrition Services Department** served 17,184 breakfast and 22,969 lunches in the first month of school through a combination of home delivered and café served meals. Between March 16 and Aug. 13 Nutrition Services provided over 1,400 homes with 200,000 meals through home delivery to ensure our students were fed nourishing meals while participating in virtual learning. Santa Fe High School had new serving lines installed to serve our HS students more delicious meal options in a more inviting space. The café's were prepared for students to return to in person learning by installing acrylic barriers in the serving lines, denoting social distancing and by café staff wearing the correct PPE. We are excited to be able to offer breakfast and lunch **FREE** to all students (including our virtual learners) through December 31, 2020. Join us in the cafeterias for nutritious and delicious meals! We are excited to have our students back and to feed them hot meals!

Our **Santa Fe ISD Police Department** covers our entire District and our schools to ensure student safety on and off campus. Our police department includes 11 police officers, 9 part-time officers and 7 campus security assistants, assigned to campuses to build relationships with students and keep them safe. They are also instrumental in securing the interior and perimeter of our schools during the school day including real-time video monitoring. They work diligently to ensure the smooth and safe flow of traffic at all of our campuses.



The Instructional Excellence Teams in the **Curriculum and Instruction Department** have been supporting teachers in virtual planning sessions since before school started. SFISD staff continues to participate in professional learning in the new virtual and face-to-face learning frameworks, including Canvas and TEAMS. Teachers filled their instructional toolboxes with new ideas and strategies for virtual learning and face-to-face instruction. As the first week of instruction launched, most students participated in virtual environments. The C&I department personnel coordinated with local daycares to support SFISD students in learning labs at daycare facilities. Paraprofessionals in SFISD also worked together throughout the district to support Learning Labs for students while social distancing. Students and teachers are on track for success! It is going to be a great year in Santa Fe ISD.

Our Community, Our Legacy, Our Future



Campus Highlights



Barnett Elementary



Teachers and staff at William F. Barnett Elementary were extremely excited to welcome back their Barnett Braves for the 2020-2021 school year. Teachers and students successfully adapted to new ways of learning utilizing more technology than ever before! Students learned to navigate their learning management system, ways to utilize hands on materials virtually, and were introduced to a virtual reward system that allows parent to know their child's performance throughout the day! Barnett has 81% of their students learning in person and 19% learning virtually. Students also learned the many safety procedures and protocols that are in place at Barnett Elementary to promote a healthy experience as well. From signage to distance markers to hand sanitizing stations, students are aware of how to protect themselves and each other! Also, Barnett Elementary implemented the House System as a way to continue to build a community within the building. The Barnett BEST House was introduced and students were able to join their color teams. Barnett Staff and Families look forward to all the new and innovative strategies that will be in place this year. Go Team Barnett!!



Kubacak Elementary



Wow! Kubacak has had an amazing start to the school year! It was so great to have all of the energy, created by our in person and virtual learning students, filling our campus once again. Kubacak has 85% of their students learning in person and 15% learning virtually. A huge thank you to parents. You did such a great job with drop-off and pick-up. Thank you for all of the encouraging comments for our teachers and staff over the last several weeks. The comments mean more than you know. Over the last several days we have had our Color Reveal and our first set of House Rallies for our revamped House System. We have been so impressed with how well all of our students are handling our new COVID-19 safety measures. We want you to know we are committed to excellence in everything we do. We are excited to partner with you to see our students grow in academics as we prepare them to impact our community in a positive way.



Wollam Elementary



RJ Wollam has had a great first few weeks of school. Teachers have been engaging students virtually since the first day of school. We opened up a learning lab for about 100 students beginning on August 17th. Wollam has 83% of their students learning in person and 17% learning virtually. We had an attendance challenge the first week of school where students were able to vote on-line for their prize. They chose to see Mrs. Pourchot and Mrs. Davidson race on tricycles... what a sight! RJW also began holding announcements on Facebook live daily. The week before students returned for face to face instruction we spent five days focusing on our core values of being kind, courageous, collaborative, respectful and accountable on Facebook live. Students and staff showed their support by dressing out in the house color for that day. We wanted students to understand the importance of who we are at RJ Wollam, as well as to show we are better together! Once students were able to return face to face, we had a digital color reveal for our kindergarten and new students to RJW. Virtual learners were also able to participate with the color reveal during live sessions. We are very proud of the hard work, resiliency and tenacity our teachers and students have shown this school year. #iloveRJW!

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Campus Highlights



Santa Fe Junior High



Just as our theme this year indicates, we are “EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS” at Santa Fe Junior High. Our students have done a phenomenal job of reducing the time spent at metal detectors and reducing the time spent getting through the lunch lines! We are wearing our masks and socially distancing! Santa Fe Junior High has 73% of students learning in person and 27% learning virtually. With these procedures mastered, we are refocusing on individual academic growth in each content area to assure we earn that “A” accountability rating! We are focused on making sure the culture of our campus is conducive to healthy social and emotional learning. Students will be recognized each month for exhibiting a 7 Mindsets character trait; the first one is “Everything is Possible”. Our staff has decked out their classroom in “themes” this year to create an inviting learning environment for our students. It’s a great time to be an SFJH Indian!



Santa Fe High School



Santa Fe High School started the year off with virtual learning. While some students may have had to work through technical difficulties, most were able to log in with no trouble. Teachers and students were so happy to see each other and get the school year started. On September 8, 2020, Santa Fe High School began in-person learning. SFHS has 66% of students learning in person and 34% learning virtually. Teachers are simultaneously teaching virtually, while also hosting students in the classroom. Students have been very good about following the COVID-19 safety protocols and have expressed that they are happy to be in school. Student Council has begun selling parking lot spots and we will have a Senior Sunrise to welcome the year with our seniors. Our goal, is to follow all safety protocols as well as provide our students with a great high school experience.

The **Santa Fe Texas Education Foundation** has a lot of great things happening!

- Did you know you can place personal messages to your child on the SFHS Indian Stadium Scoreboard for only \$25?! You can wish them a happy birthday, send them good luck for the game, congratulate them on getting into college - and more! Plus, you can include a photo to appear on the board several times during an event.
- The Foundation worked in collaboration with the District’s Social Worker to obtain school supplies for our students in need.
- The SFTXEF provided meals and “Swag Bags” for our teachers and staff at the start of the school year.
- Our employee giving campaign, the GivingTree Program, launched at the start of the school year and resulted in the highest participation yet! Our teachers and staff are investing in their students, their classrooms, and their community!

Upcoming fundraisers to fund grants for our classrooms!

- The Great Pumpkin Race VIRTUAL Fun Run – October 1-31
- Kendra Scott Give Back event online and in person October 10-11
- Jason’s Deli fundraiser October 15, 4-9pm, at the League City location.



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