

Austin Independent School District

Office of the Superintendent



February 10, 2017

Dear Austin ISD Community,

At Austin ISD, we are committed to the emotional and physical safety and well-being of all our students, families, teachers and staff. We know our schools are safe, welcoming spaces and we value our diversity. Please know that every day, we strive to ensure we are creating positive learning environments for all of our students.

Below are some of the resources available to support our Austin ISD community:

1. Support for Refugee Students

The [AISD Refugee Support Office](https://www.austinisd.org/immigrant-services) in the Department of School, Family, and Community Education serves as a language and resource hub for refugee and asylee students and their families currently enrolled or seeking to be enrolled in Austin ISD schools. Services also include translation/interpretation for families; school registration support; social and emotional support; and staff and community training.

<https://www.austinisd.org/immigrant-services>

For support or more information, please contact coordinator Maria Arabbo at 512-414-0545 or at maria.arabbo@austinisd.org.

2. Support for Immigrant Students

The [AISD International Welcome Center](https://www.austinisd.org/academics/ell/iwc), operated by the English Language Learners Team, provides information and support about our schools to students new to the United States. Services include student interviews/screening; school registration support; English proficiency testing; and parent/student orientation.

<https://www.austinisd.org/academics/ell/iwc>

For support or more information, contact the IWC at 512-414-6426.

3. Academic Support for Immigrant Students, Including Refugees and Asylees, Who are English Language Learners (ELLs)

For consultation regarding academic support for enrolled immigrant students who are ELLs, please contact Claudia Santamaria, Assistant Director for Elementary Dual Language, at 512-414-6997; or Dr. Aida Alanis, Assistant Director for Secondary English Language Learners, at 512-414-4611. <https://www.austinisd.org/academics/ell>

4. Austin ISD Employee Assistance Programs

<https://www.austinisd.org/eap>

5. Parent Support Specialists on campus

<https://www.austinisd.org/parentsupport/parentsupportspecialists>

6. Communities in Schools resources

<https://www.austinisd.org/schools/learningsupportservices/cis>

Sincerely,

Paul Cruz, Ph.D.
Superintendent