



# AISD FUTURE: 2017 BOND NEWSLETTER

MAY 2018

VOLUME 1 | ISSUE NO. 2

As the end of the school year approaches, Austin ISD is proud to celebrate the many accomplishments of our schools, staff and students. Student success is our ultimate goal and our driving force as we continue to create the best learning environments possible for all students.

Today the district celebrates the 2018 graduating class of Advancement Via Individual Determination campuses, including Akins, Anderson, Austin and McCallum high schools, as well as Crockett, Eastside Memorial, Lanier, LBJ, Reagan and Travis early college high schools. AVID provides support that educators and students need to encourage college and career readiness and success.

More than 220 AISD seniors earned recognition for outstanding academic performance from the U.S. Presidential Scholars, National Merit Finalists, National Merit Semifinalists, National Merit Commended Scholars and College Board National Hispanic Scholars programs.

Last week, AISD co-hosted its annual Salute awards ceremony with Austin Partners in Education, recognizing some of the district's outstanding team members for their continued dedication to student excellence and achievement in our schools.

- **Teachers of the Year:** Larry Perez, Jordan Elementary School; and Laurie Beaman, Lanier Early College High School
- **Principal of the Year:** Kenisha Coburn, Kealing Middle School
- **Assistant Principal of the Year:** Brandi Gratten, Gus Garcia Young Men's Leadership Academy
- **Classified Staff of the Year:** Administrative Assistant Ixtlani Palomo, Andrews Elementary School
- **Librarian of the Year:** Minda Anderson, Becker Elementary School
- **Counselor of the Year:** Mary Wynn, Bertha Sadler Means Young Women's Leadership Academy
- **PTAs of the Year:** Williams Elementary School, and Murchison and Covington middle schools
- **Austin Partners in Education Hall of Fame award winner:** K.C. Kearney, founding member of APIE

These achievements are only a glimpse of the incredible work going on at AISD. We're excited to see how this good work continues to grow through investments from the 2017 Bond Program. As always, thank you for supporting our students as we create 21st-century learning spaces and reinvent the urban school experience!

# BOND UPDATES

## NEWS FROM ACROSS THE DISTRICT

In the six months since the 2017 Bond passed, the district has:

- Kicked off 10 modernization projects for campuses (on schedule);
- Brought 14 project teams on board (under contract or in procurement);
- Held more than 100 Campus Architectural Team and campus Planning Team meetings (ongoing); and,
- Prepared for implementation of its Program Management Information System (anticipated in July).

To stay on schedule, work on the 2017 Bond Program will continue while students are on summer break. Summer bond milestones include the first phase of construction at Govalle Elementary School as the site is prepared for construction of the new facility. Additionally, the Lucy Read campus will be prepared as a swing space to receive Doss Elementary School students in the fall, when current Lucy Read students will return to their home school campuses.

The district continues to work closely with the City of Austin to ensure progress. On May 10, Austin City Council unanimously passed a resolution to support the timely implementation of the district's bond program. The resolution included guidance on a collaborative approach to the review and approval process for projects and site plans.

You can view a detailed schedule for all bond projects in three ways:

- By fiscal year: [Construction schedule by fiscal year](#), as a PDF
- By calendar year: [Detailed project schedule](#), outlined as a Gantt chart
- By project: [Summary schedule with key milestones for each modernization project](#)

Community meetings for the 2017 Bond Program continue to take place throughout the district. Recent meetings include the pre-design and campus master plan meeting hosted by the Ann Richards School for Young Women Leaders on April 30, the Govalle and Menchaca elementary schools' schematic design meetings on May 3 and 15, and the "Destination Eastside" event held May 10 to discuss the future programming and facility for Eastside Memorial ECHS and International High School.

We'll continue to host community meetings throughout the summer. To find the most up-to-date list of upcoming bond events and key dates, visit [AustinISD2017Bond.org/Events](https://austinisd2017bond.org/events).

# MEET YOUR BOND TEAM

## AUSTIN ISD BOND LEADERSHIP

In upcoming AISD Future newsletters, we plan to highlight team members from across the district who are responsible for bringing the 2017 Bond to life. They are the experts you'll be hearing from most often at community meetings and events related to the bond.

### **CHANEEL DANIELS** | *Assistant Director of Bond and Project Administration*



Chaneel has 25 years of experience in the construction industry and holds a Master of Architecture degree from Georgia Tech. Her role is focused on all bond-related initiatives within the Construction Management & Facilities Department. Chaneel is committed to ensuring the district maintains public accountability for its bond-related commitments on all active bond programs, including the most recently approved 2017 Bond as well as the 2008 and 2013 bonds.

Chaneel also coordinates with AISD's Historically Underutilized Business program to employ an array of contractors and service providers, including minority- and female-owned firms, for all bond-related work. Chaneel oversees bond controls, reports and facilities information. She also leads the Community Bond Oversight Committee, which ensures all projects remain in alignment with the voter-approved bond program.

### **ZACK PEARCE** | *Director of Project Management*



Zack brings nearly two decades of experience as a project manager to the district's Construction Management & Facilities Department. Prior to joining AISD, Zack was project controls manager for Sunland Group Inc., where he provided program management services on numerous multimillion dollar projects for public sector projects including light rail, aviation, building and heavy civil projects.

For the 2017 Bond Program, Zack is charged with leading all modernization project teams through the planning, design and construction process. Under his coordination, the department is dedicated to ensuring every facility aligns with the district's educational specifications while using bond dollars in the most cost effective manner.

### **PAUL TURNER** | *Executive Director of Facilities, retiring summer 2018*



Paul Turner has served as executive director of Facilities at AISD for the past 14 years and will officially retire this summer. He has been instrumental in the development and success of not only the 2017 Bond, but also the bond programs from 2002, 2004, 2008 and 2013.

He's had an incredible journey with the district, beginning as an administrative intern in 1973 and going on to fulfill a variety of principal, planning and operations roles in his 45 years with AISD. While we're sad to see him go, we welcome him into a very well-deserved new chapter of his life. We can't thank him enough for his legacy with AISD and the incredible work he has done in the past five decades. We wish him all the best!



# PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

T.A. Brown will be one of the first modernization projects completed as part of the 2017 Bond program. The site was vacated immediately after significant structural issues that posed a safety risk to staff and students were discovered by engineers in late 2016. The newly constructed school, located on the original site, is scheduled to open in January 2020.

T.A. Brown will be designed as a green school rooted in science, technology, engineering, the arts, mathematics and outdoor learning. The facility will focus on sustainability, health and well-being, transparency and a connection to the community.

Brown staff and students currently share the Barrington Elementary School campus, where they continue to operate as two separate schools. The temporary move has proven successful for students, faculty and staff thanks to the collaboration and resiliency of the community. Families and staff have all been tremendous in adjusting to the accommodations while continuing to prioritize safety and instruction.

This is a perfect example of how that transition will work for other modernization projects requiring students to move to an interim swing space during construction.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Recapture, or “Robin Hood” is a Texas law that requires AISD to send more than half a billion dollars to the state this fiscal year out of its operating budget. This amount continues to grow yearly. Bond dollars are not eligible for recapture, meaning bond funds are a dollar-for-dollar investment in Austin.

Bond funds can only be spent on capital projects, such as construction of new buildings, facility renovations and other improvements. This is an important distinction as AISD continues to hold tough budget conversations with the community. Bond dollars are not part of the district’s operating budget, so schools must continue to find a balance as they allocate resources and make difficult programming decisions moving into the 2018–19 school year.

## GET INVOLVED

**WE WANT STUDENTS, FAMILIES,  
STAFF AND THE GREATER AUSTIN  
COMMUNITY TO BE INFORMED AND  
PARTICIPATE THROUGHOUT THE  
BOND IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS.**

Learn about districtwide and campus-specific community meetings and sign up for email notifications by visiting [AISDfuture.com](http://AISDfuture.com).

