

# Mendez Community Update

May 6, 2025



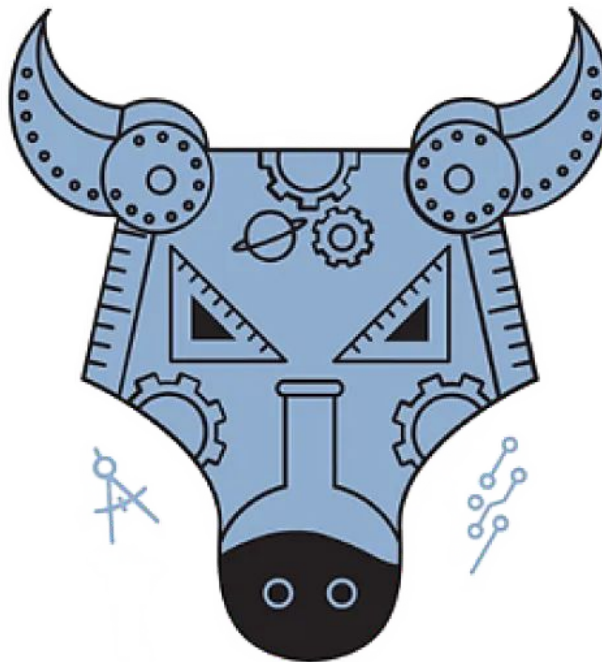
***STRONG*** Schools  
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# Agenda



- Welcome & Introductions
- Austin ISD Overview
- Sharing Space
- 2022 Bond Improvements
- Campus Partners
- Q&A





**Jeremiah Willis**  
Principal, Mendez  
Middle School



**J. Hodges**  
Principal, Alternative  
Learning Center



**Joy Diaz**  
Austin ISD Assistant  
Director of Community  
Engagement



**Jeremy Striffler**  
Austin ISD Director of  
Real Estate



**Est. 1881**

Austin ISD is the eighth-largest school district in Texas



**116**  
Schools



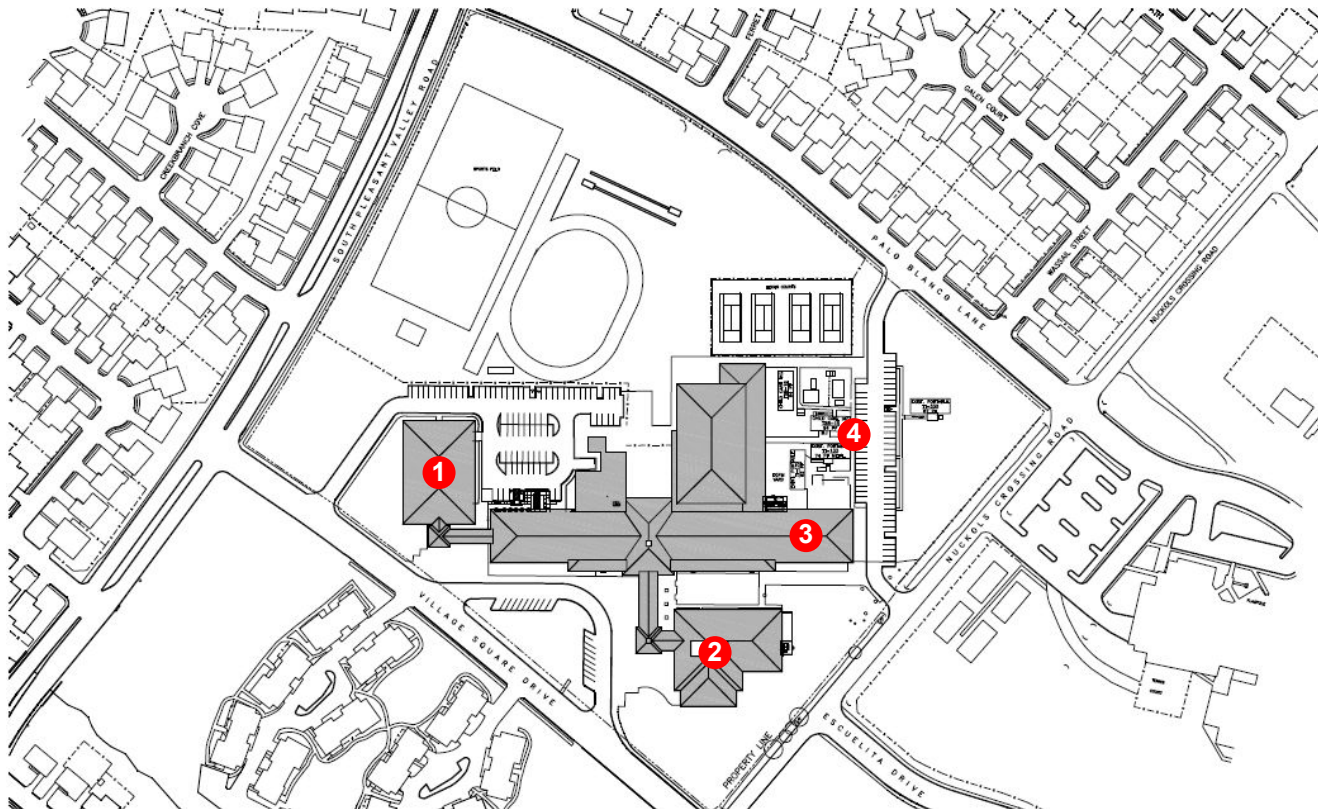
**72,000+**  
Students



**10,000+**  
Employees

- **As a district we need to make better use of our facilities.**
  - We can co-locate several smaller Austin ISD entities and partners.
  - Think of it as living in a duplex - two families with unique cultures and backgrounds, even unique schedules - but each living in their own space.
- **These are the new partners who will share space with Mendez:**
  - ASPIRE
  - Love Hub
  - Alternative Learning Center (ALC)
  - JJAEP
- **To get the buildings ready, there's work that still needs to be done for the 2025-2026 school year.**

# Where Would Partners Be?



1. ASPIRE
2. Love Hub
3. ALC
4. JJAEP

- The following work will be completed Summer 2025:
  - Secure entry vestibule
  - Life safety and security improvements
  - Heating and air conditioning improvements
  - Electrical improvements
  - Plumbing improvements
  - Building exterior improvements
  - Roofing repairs or replacement



# Alternative Learning Center (ALC) - Overview



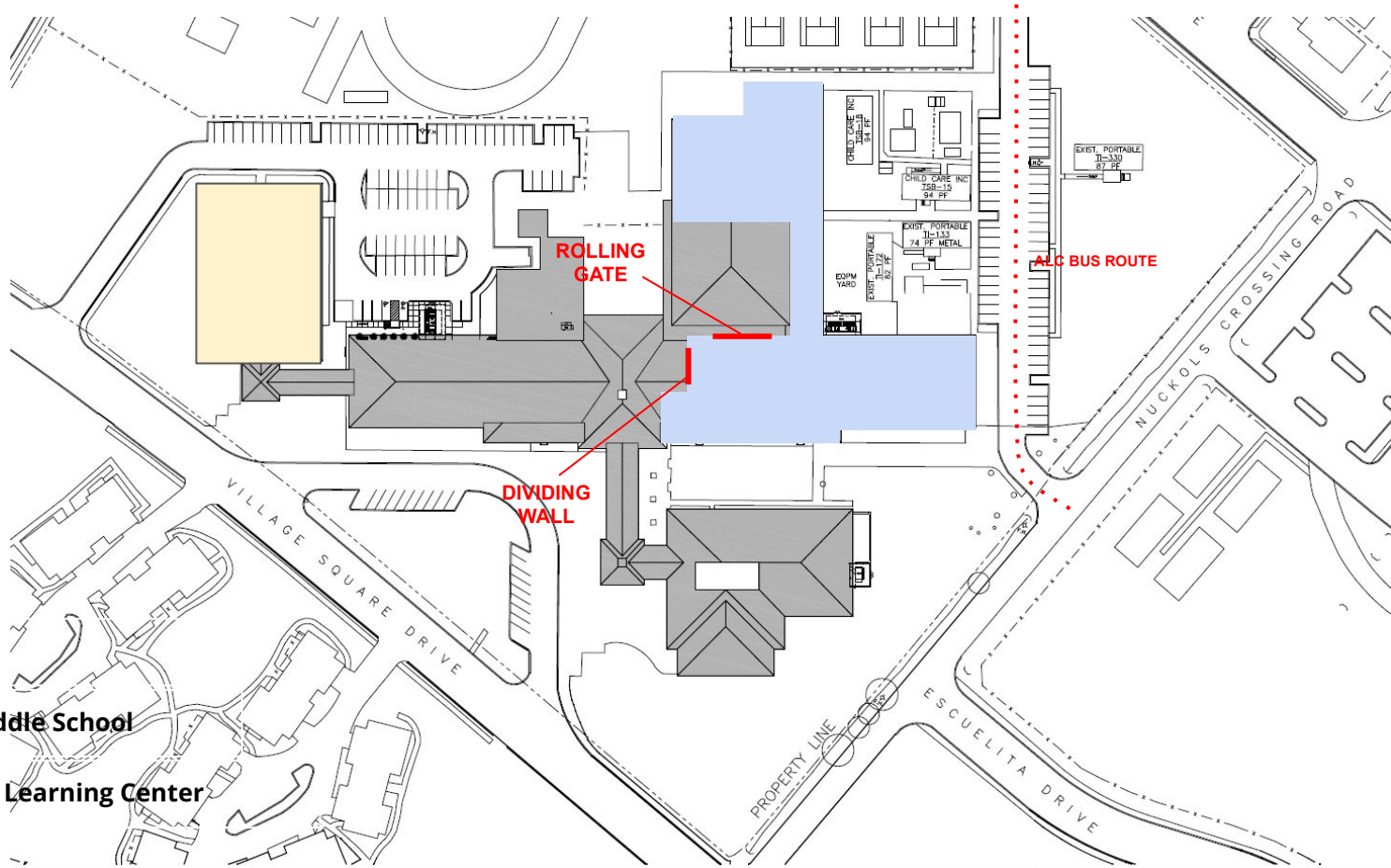
- Austin ISD school serving middle and high school students
- Students attend the ALC temporarily.
- They attend for a variety of reasons, including social and discipline challenges at their home schools as well as community-based incidents.
- The ALC team provides academic instruction, reading intervention programs and character education to help students modify inappropriate behavior, achieve academically and develop social skills to succeed at their home schools and in their communities and families.





- ALC and Mendez Middle School will be physically separated:
  - Separate student drop-off/pick-up areas
  - Separate restrooms
  - Separate gymnasium for PE classes
  - ALC students eat lunch in their classrooms
- Students are always escorted by staff.
- Students arrive at approximately 8:55AM and leaving at 4:35PM during the regular school year; there is no summer program.

# ALC - Daily Campus Operations



**ASPIRE**



**Mendez Middle School**



**Alternative Learning Center**

# Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program - Overview

- Administered by Travis County.
- Serves middle school and high school students.
- Students are assigned to a JJAEP program due to the following offenses:
  - Mandatory expulsion from their home school campus for serious infractions of the Student Code of Conduct
  - Discretionary expulsions for serious infractions that occur off-campus as well as other infractions of the Student Code of Conduct
  - Court ordered due to Title V offenses or probation conditions

# JJAEP - Daily Campus Operations



- Located outside of the main school building in portables.
- Students are always escorted by staff.
- Separate student drop-off/pick-up areas.
- Separate restrooms.
- Utilize the small gymnasium for PE classes.
- Students eat lunch in their classrooms.
- Students arrive at approximately 9:15AM and leaving at 4:30PM during the regular school year; there is no summer program.



ASPIRE Family Literacy Program provides comprehensive school-readiness services for families with young children:

- Evidence-based parenting classes
- Early Childhood Education while parents attend classes on-site
- Adult Education (ESL, GED, Computers)
- “Parent As Teachers” home visits
- Intergenerational literacy activities







- ASPIRE has full utilization of Building C.
- They do not access the Main Building or Building B (Fine Arts).
- Staff is onsite Monday through Friday.
- Parents and children are onsite Tuesday through Friday from 8:30AM to 2:30PM throughout the school year.
- ASPIRE provides a summer program in June.



- Community organization acting as a liaison between Austin ISD and community partners to provide after school programs and services with a focus on Mendez Middle School families and the Dove Springs community.
- Led by Ofelia Zapata, a community organizer and former Austin ISD Trustee who served the district in that capacity from 2020 to 2024.







- Located in the Building B - Fine Arts Building.
- Operates after school Monday through Friday from 4–8 p.m., and is occasionally open on Saturdays.
- Love Hub follows the Austin ISD calendar and is generally closed whenever Austin ISD schools are not in session.
- Daily operations are overseen by Sonia Hernandez, a member of Austin ISD's Parent Support team.

# Questions?



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# Thank you



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