



# MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



Aug. 15, 2018

Dear CFISD community,

I hope that you have enjoyed a restful summer and spent some quality time with loved ones during the break. In less than two weeks, we are expecting more than 117,000 students to walk through our doors as the 2018-2019 school year kicks off on Aug. 27.

When they enter those doors, the students will be greeted by a professional staff of educators committed to developing positive relationships while enhancing their educational and extracurricular experience. Opportunity awaits your children through top-tier athletic and fine arts programs, unique CTE and robotics advancements and an early college program that move them years ahead of peers. From the most gifted students to those who need the most support—there is a place for everyone in CFISD.

We have a lot to cheer about and celebrate as we approach 2018-2019. One of our success stories will be the “new and improved” Moore Elementary School, which will open for students and staff following a year at the former Matzke campus after sustaining damage from Hurricane Harvey. Many other campuses received building, athletic and parking renovations as part of the 2014 Bond Program. In CFISD we stand by our commitment to *Opportunity for All*, and we believe that translates into access to high-quality facilities in every corner of the school district.

Opportunity abounds for UIL participants, as Bridgeland and Cypress Park high schools will compete in Class 6A competition this year. Our tradition-rich athletics program will spread its wings into Region II and III, as we compete in both District 14-6A and District 17-6A. Imagine how exciting it would be to have up to eight playoff football or volleyball teams, or two baseball or softball teams meeting in the state tournament!

We have spent a large part of the summer refining our school safety plan and have unveiled some enhancements that can be found on our district website. We have received much input in preparing the plan, which will be fluid as we continually evaluate and research new security methods. We understand that no single measure is the answer, but that a layered approach will help in the prevention, identification/intervention and response to potential school threats.

Opportunity is here in Cypress-Fairbanks ISD. Thank you for partnering with us as we provide the best possible protection, education and enrichment for our children in 2018-2019. It’s going to be a great year!

Sincerely,

Mark Henry, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of schools



# MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



Sept. 27, 2018

Dear CFISD community,

It's no secret that our community is passionate about fine arts, and our universal public education system reflects this value. I was proud to report during my annual *State of the District* address to the Cy-Fair Houston Chamber of Commerce that nearly 87,000 of our students participate in fine arts.

That number—representing nearly 75 percent of our enrollment—includes award-winning choir, orchestra, band, dance, theatre arts and visual arts participants from elementary through high school. Today, however, I wanted to specifically highlight the 2,675 students throughout our 12 high schools taking part in marching band.



Many of these students began learning to play their instruments as early as the sixth grade. In the years since, they have honed their marching abilities to match their refined musical skills. Marching band incorporates not only music, but dance, movement and theatrical and thematic materials to make an on-field ensemble that is beyond impressive.

We know that fine arts like marching band help students perform better academically, but I have also observed the added benefits of teamwork, discipline, leadership and time management that are crucial to a young person's total education.



It's the fall, which means it's marching band season! I have enjoyed seeing all the schools' routines during halftime of our football games at Cy-Fair FCU and Pridgeon stadiums, and look forward to the upcoming competition season. As we are in an even-numbered year, Class 6A bands have the opportunity to advance to UIL regional, area and state competitions. CFISD bands routinely qualify for state, where they march against the top ensembles in Texas.

Here is a look at some of the upcoming local and UIL events that comprise marching competition season:

- Sept. 29 – [Pridgeon Processional](#) (Pridgeon Stadium)
- Oct. 13 – Battle at the Berry (Cy-Fair FCU Stadium)
- Oct. 20 – UIL Region 27 Marching Contest (Cy-Fair FCU Stadium)
- Oct. 27 – UIL Area I Marching Contest (Legacy Stadium, Katy)
- Nov. 5-7 – UIL State Marching Contest (Alamodome, San Antonio)

More detailed contest information will be posted on the CFISD website during the week leading up to each event. I invite you to come watch these talented students in action during the 2018 marching season and witness *Opportunity for All* in action.

Our fine arts programs give us a lot to cheer about in CFISD! I plan on sharing more program-specific messages throughout the school year so you can join me in cheering on the outstanding accomplishments of these students.

Sincerely,

Mark Henry, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of schools



# MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



Oct. 22, 2018

Dear CFISD community,

The two-week early voting period for the Nov. 6 general election began today, **Monday, Oct. 22** and will continue through **Nov. 2**. I encourage you to make your voice heard by casting your vote either at an early voting site or your election day polling location.



Please take a few minutes to browse the voter-specific ballot and polling locations on Harris County Clerk Stan Stanart's [website](#) by entering in your name and address. You can also access the [early voting sites and hours](#) on the site.

Some of the convenient early voting sites in our community include:

- Jersey Village City Hall (16327 Lakeview Drive, Jersey Village, 77040);
- Richard & Meg Weekley Community Center (8440 Greenhouse Road, Cypress, 77433);
- Juergen's Hall Community Center (26026 Hempstead Highway, Cypress, 77429); and
- Prairie View A&M University - Northwest (9449 Grant Road, Houston, 77070).

Voting is a key component of the freedom and democracy we enjoy in the United States, but too few of registered voters participate in this important process. I encourage each of you to exercise your right to vote, either during the early voting period or on Election Day.

Sincerely,

Mark Henry, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools



# MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



Nov. 15, 2018

Dear CFISD community,

As the Thanksgiving holiday approaches next week, I encourage you to take a moment to count your blessings. To lead by example, I have created a short list of things I am thankful for during this season of giving.

I cherish my **CFISD family** and the way it comes together for every occasion. Recently, when challenged to get out and vote, staff and students alike organized major efforts to make their voices heard. I was so proud to see that when #CFISDvotes, it votes big!



I am thankful for the courageous **veterans** who have defended our freedoms for 242 years. I was humbled to meet the families of Cypress Creek HS graduates SPC Scott Quentin Larson Jr. and Cpl. Scott A. McIntosh, who lost their lives in Operation Iraqi Freedom, during the unveiling of Cypress Creek's Fallen Warriors memorial on Oct. 9.



**Heroes** are all around us. My friend Walter Grice, pictured below with his wife Mary, is a Purple Heart recipient from World War II. He served more than 70 years ago in his youth so I and others could be free today.



I am thankful to work with a **Board of Trustees** who are aligned with the vision of *Opportunity for All*. These seven servant leaders truly cheer all students to succeed!



**Family** is everything. I was raised by great parents who have been married for 65 years and continue to set an incredible example for me to this day. My wife, Cindy, is my rock and I am so grateful for her. Blessings continue to multiply in the form of beautiful grandchildren. I am now up to five following the arrival of Homer Sutton on Oct. 3. I am blessed to be able to spend Thanksgiving with all of them.



Too easily we forget how much we have to be thankful for. During this Thanksgiving break, briefly hit the pause button and reflect on those blessings. Enjoy the time off, and I will see you back on Nov. 26!

Sincerely,

Mark Henry, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools



# MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



Dec. 19, 2018

As we close the book on another calendar year, I am proud to look back on the many successes of 2018 and the way we demonstrated *Opportunity for All* throughout Cypress-Fairbanks ISD.

That *#CFISDspirit* was evident starting in January, when we partnered with the Houston Health Department to bring free eye exams and eyewear to thousands of students through the [See to Succeed](#) program. Our health services department is already expecting more than 1,000 students to utilize this life-changing program in January 2019!



We celebrated many fine arts successes, like the [38 TMEA All-State musicians](#) who performed in San Antonio in February. The Cy-Fair and Jersey Village high school marching bands both [qualified for the state championship](#) in November, finishing among the top 33 groups in Texas.



Athletics achievements were all around us. We celebrated the Cypress Ranch High School girls' wrestling team as they [won their first-ever UIL state championship](#) last February. Cypress Woods High School basketball standout Cate Reese was [named a McDonald's All-American](#). We even cheered on an Olympian, as Cy-Fair High School alum [Sam McGuffie competed in bobsled in South Korea](#).



Our educators continued to set themselves apart in 2018. Cypress Falls High School New Arrival Center instructor Pamela Broussard was named an [H-E-B Excellence in Education award finalist](#). Lamkin Elementary School visual arts specialist Jeanna Peña was recognized as [Region 4 Teacher of the Year](#).

I was overwhelmed by the way the community came together for the fifth annual Superintendent's Fun Run in March, [raising a record \\$100,000](#) for the Cy-Fair Educational Foundation. Save the date for the sixth annual event on [March 2, 2019 at the Berry Center!](#)



It was truly a year of outstanding highlights. There were [27 National Merit honorees](#). More than \$700,000 was [given](#) to Livestock Show and Sale projects. Our voters had [great turnouts](#) at the polls. Our Camp Summit summer literacy program won a [prestigious national award](#). We handed out a record number of diplomas to [Class of 2018 graduates](#).

CFISD was once again the largest district in the state to have all our campuses meet the state's academic standards. But as you can see, we are defined by much more than our test scores. We are a district that gives students with the most challenges and the most potential the same first-class

education. We are a place where every student can succeed no matter what their gifts or challenges may be. We provide opportunities to become a great athlete or artist, to be involved in robotics, to transition into an Ivy League school or the workforce.



We had an incredible year, but we look forward to 2019 and the promise it brings for our entire community. On behalf of Cypress-Fairbanks ISD, I wish you a safe and restful holiday break. See you in January!

Sincerely,

Mark Henry Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools



# MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



Feb. 12, 2019

Dear CFISD community,

Last night, during their regularly scheduled monthly meeting, our Board of Trustees unanimously voted to call a bond election for May 4, 2019. Community members living within Cypress-Fairbanks ISD will vote on the \$1,762,000,000 referendum this spring.

The election was called after a community long-range planning committee (LRPC) presented a recommendation to the Board during a Feb. 4 special-called meeting. The 50-member LRPC met regularly throughout November-January and formulated a plan that will meet the following needs for the school district through 2025:

- instructional and support facilities;
- safety and security;
- transportation;
- technology; and
- facilities renovations and additions.



*Community members collaborate during a January long-range planning committee meeting.*

More information on what is included in the referendum, as well as the [detailed recommendation given to the Board](#), can be found on the [LRPC webpage](#). I encourage you to review the information to help prepare you for an informed vote in May.

The projected impact of the bond on our debt service tax rate (also called the Interest and Sinking tax rate), would amount to an incremental change of up to 3 cents over a seven-year period. A home

valued at \$200,000 would have a maximum annual I&S tax increase of \$40.50 by the year 2025. Remember that this is only a projection. Prior to the 2014 bond election, we forecasted a maximum tax increase of 4.5 cents and it actually decreased by one penny.

Please note that there would be **no tax increase for those 65 years of age or older** or who are disabled and who qualify for an over-65 homestead exemption, according to Texas Property Tax Code Section 11.26.

We will continue to post more information on the district website ([www.cfisd.net](http://www.cfisd.net)) and our social media channels (search *#CFISDBond*) in the coming weeks to answer potential questions and supply voting information to our community members. We will also deliver a series of presentations at upcoming events to help inform the voting public.

Thank you in advance for committing to making an informed vote in the 2019 bond election.

Sincerely,

Mark Henry Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools



# MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



May 1, 2019

Dear CFISD community,

Early voting for the CFISD 2019 Bond Election concluded yesterday (April 30), and I was encouraged by the amount of people who shared that they voted. Election Day is this **Saturday, May 4**, with polls open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.



CFISD 2019 Bond Election  
Early Voting April 22-30  
Election Day May 4  
[www.cfisd.net/bond](http://www.cfisd.net/bond)

As I mentioned in last week's message, the Bond 2019 page of our district website ([www.cfisd.net/bond](http://www.cfisd.net/bond)) includes several helpful resources:

- an [overview](#) of the bond package;
- a [video](#) that breaks down the components and potential financial impact to taxpayers;
- [frequently asked questions](#) about the bond;
- [campus-specific project sheets](#) that highlight the work planned for each school; and
- a list of [Election Day voting locations within the CFISD community](#).

# ELECTION DAY LOCATIONS

**MAY 4**

**Andre' Elementary School**  
8111 Fry Road, Cypress 77433

**Aragon Middle School**  
16823 West Road, Houston 77095

**Ault Elementary School**  
21010 Maple Village Drive, Cypress 77433

**Autumn Creek Baptist Church**  
6735 Barker Cypress Road, Houston 77084

**Black Elementary School**  
14155 Grant Road, Cypress 77429

**Carverdale Park Community Center**  
9920 Porto Rico Road, Houston 77041

**CFISD Exhibit Center**  
11206 Telge Road, Cypress 77429

**Chimney Hill Community Center**  
13720 Smokey Trail Drive, Houston 77041

**Cypress Falls High School**  
9811 Huffmeister Road, Houston 77095

**Danish Elementary School**  
11850 Fallbrook Drive, Houston 77065

**Frazier Elementary School**  
8300 Little River Road, Houston 77064

**Gleason Elementary School**  
9203 Willowbridge Park Blvd., Houston 77064

**Goodson Middle School**  
17333 Huffmeister Road, Cypress 77429

**Hamilton Elementary School**  
12050 Old Kluge Road, Cypress 77429

**Harris County Public Library  
Northwest Branch**  
11355 Regency Green Drive, Cypress 77429

**Iglesia Bautista Redencion**  
16155 Aspenglenn Drive, Houston 77084

**Iglesia Trinidad Church**  
11602 Bobcat Road, Houston 77064

**Kirk Elementary School**  
12421 Tanner Road, Houston 77041

**Korean Christian Church of Houston**  
10410 Clay Road, Houston 77041

**Lone Star College Cypress Center**  
19710 Clay Road, Katy, 77449

**Lowery Elementary School**  
15950 Ridge Park Drive, Houston 77095

**McFee Elementary School**  
19315 Plantation Cove Lane, Katy 77449

**Pope Elementary School**  
19019 North Bridgeland Lake Pkwy., Cypress 77433

**Post Elementary School**  
7600 Equador, Houston 77040

**Prairie View A&M University Northwest**  
9449 Grant Road, Houston 77070

**Regina Caeli Parish**  
8121 Breen Drive, Houston 77064

**Richard & Meg Weekley Community Center**  
8440 Greenhouse Road, Cypress 77433

**Sampson Elementary School**  
16002 Coles Crossing Drive, Cypress 77429

**Tipps Elementary School**  
5611 Queenston Boulevard, Houston 77084

**Truitt Middle School**  
6600 Addicks Satsuma Road, Houston 77084

**Village on the Park**  
12102 Steeple Way Boulevard, Houston 77065

**Walker Elementary School**  
6424 Settlers Village Drive, Katy 77449

**Wilson Elementary School**  
18015 Kieth Harrow Blvd., Houston 77084

**Willbern Elementary School**  
10811 Goodspring Drive, Houston 77064

**Windfern Forest Utility Building**  
14410 Mauna Loa Lane, Houston 77040

**Woodard Elementary School**  
17501 Cypress North Houston Road, Cypress 77433

**Yeager Elementary School**  
13615 Champion Forest Drive, Houston 77069

*A list of additional polling centers is available at [www.harrisvotes.com](http://www.harrisvotes.com). Voting locations subject to change.*

Additional voting locations within Harris County are available at [www.harrisvotes.com](http://www.harrisvotes.com). As a reminder, Harris County has implemented the Countywide Polling Place Program, making this the first election in which voters can cast a ballot anywhere in the county on Election Day.

Thank you again to those of you who took the time to exercise an important civic responsibility by casting votes during the early voting period. Please encourage your friends, co-workers and family members who have not yet voted to do so between 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Election Day, Saturday, May 4.

Sincerely,

Mark Henry, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of schools



# MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



May 6, 2019

Dear CFISD community,

I was so proud to see that more than 15,000 voters came out to make their voices heard over the past two weeks in the 2019 CFISD Bond Election. The \$1.762 billion [referendum passed](#) with a 70-percent approval mark, and will address instructional and support facilities; safety and security enhancements; transportation; technology; and facilities renovations and additions through the year 2025.



I appreciate the overwhelming support for CFISD. My commitment to our community is that we will continue to be good stewards of your trust as we move forward with the bond program. We will continue to update the district on the progress of bond projects on our website ([www.cfisd.net/bond](http://www.cfisd.net/bond)) and social media channels ([#CFISDbond](#)).

Voting is a necessary component of a successful democracy, and it delighted me to see so many of you sharing your voting selfies and stickers on social media throughout the last two weeks. Thank you for being a key part of the CFISD community that I am proud to call my home.

Sincerely,

Mark Henry, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of schools