



OPPORTUNITY

for

ALL

CFISD 2020-2021

STATE of the DISTRICT

OPPORTUNITY to

SHINE





We learned a lot in Cypress-Fairbanks ISD this year despite some unexpected interruptions. Our dedicated stakeholders taught us that being apart brought our community together, and most importantly, we learned that nothing can stop our CFISD spirit!

More than ever, we celebrate the value of public education and the critical role our passionate and dedicated educators play in meeting children's physical and emotional needs. Whether CFISD students are educated on-campus or through CFISD Connect, we remain committed to recognizing student potential and providing ***Opportunity for All!***



## LETTER *from the* SUPERINTENDENT

As we kick off the 2020-21 school year in Cypress-Fairbanks ISD, we are fully committed to serving all students with a high-quality educational experience in the 2020-21 school year. Despite the obstacles thrown our way by COVID-19, our mission of *Opportunity for All* has not changed!

To help remind us of our mission, we will continue our focus on *lagniappe*, or “a little extra, on purpose.” This year, our “little extra” may seem like “a lot extra” in order to give our students, parents and community the level of service they expect from CFISD.

Another key part of our mission is H<sub>2</sub>O, the chemical formula for water that I like to think of as two parts hope, and one part optimism. During unprecedented circumstances such as these, we cannot be our best without holding on to hope and optimism. We need water to get through our daily lives, and we certainly will need H<sub>2</sub>O to get us through this school year.

This is going to be a year we all remember. And while I know that many memories from 2020 are difficult to reflect on, we are now at a point where we can change that narrative. This school year can be a key turning point for us, a time to all come together and make our mission come alive. Thank you for joining us on this essential mission. Whether it's on campus, or on camera, I hope to see you soon!

Sincerely,



Mark Henry, Ed.D.  
*Superintendent of Schools*



## LETTER *from the* BOARD PRESIDENT

Welcome HOME to your destination district, Cypress-Fairbanks ISD. We are so pleased that you have chosen the Cy-Fair community. Each of my fellow trustees had children or grandchildren educated in CFISD schools. We are proud to be your elected Board of Trustees, and with our Superintendent Dr. Mark Henry (Team of 8), we will guide the state's third-largest district into this most unusual and complex 2020-2021 school year.

Our Board shares and believes in Dr. Henry's vision of *Opportunity for All*, and we support the campus initiatives for “No Place for Hate.” No matter where you visit in CFISD, you will see amazing facilities, cutting-edge technology, rigorous and relative shared curriculum and enticing extracurricular activities.

Our vision is “Learn - Empower - Achieve - Dream (LEAD)!” We believe students deserve the absolute best educational experience that will equip them to be global leaders in the military, a career after high school or as college students.

My wife and I chose the Cy-Fair community in 1975 because of its impressive education and to live in the place we wanted to raise our children — and we chose well! To quote Dr. Henry, “CFISD is a destination district,” and we thank you for making the same choice we did years ago. As we begin this non-traditional and history-making school year, may you find that H<sub>2</sub>O (two parts hope and one part optimism) is exactly what you will experience with CFISD.




Bob R. Covey  
*President, CFISD Board of Trustees*



# OPPORTUNITY for ALL

In CFISD, each student is part of our diverse community celebrated for its unique talents. We are proud to welcome all students, and we encourage them to maximize their potential, explore their interests and pursue their passions.

CFISD is home to **92 campuses**, and we project more than **118,000 students** to be enrolled in 2020-2021. That makes CFISD the **third-largest district in Texas and 22nd-largest in the U.S.**

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- 92 Total Campuses
  - 56 Elementary Schools
  - 19 Middle Schools
  - 12 High Schools
  - 5 Special Program Facilities



# OPPORTUNITY for GROWTH

Thanks to the support of CFISD voters, more than \$3 billion in bond funds have been approved since 2014. This has allowed the district to continue to upgrade, expand and provide even more opportunities for students and the community. Most recently, CFISD invested nearly \$204 million into 2020 summer renovation projects at 58 facilities and dedicated \$10 million to campus furniture replacements.

CFISD continues to enhance safety and security for all by expanding our layered approach. Bond funds provided newly installed security fencing around the perimeter of dozens of elementary campuses. The district plans to break ground in September on a new state-of-the-art Visual and Performing Arts Center, anticipated to open in 2022.



# OPPORTUNITY for NEW TRADITIONS

Continuing our commitment to ensure students from every corner of the district have access to first-class facilities, CFISD opened Harold R. Rowe Middle School in August 2020 on the Cypress Park High School multi-campus site.

Our 19th middle school, Rowe Middle School, features a three-story academic wing with a centrally located commons/kitchen building shared with Cypress Park High School. This second facility of the master-planned multi-campus site designed by PBK Architects and built by Satterfield & Pontikes Construction boasts a 252,000-square-foot floorplan and will accommodate up to 1,750 students.







To promote health and safety, our operations team worked diligently to ensure hand sanitizer dispensers are wall-mounted in every CFISD classroom. Mobile sanitizing stations are also positioned in public spaces, including the main office, library and cafeteria of each campus.

Custodians and other district staff took extra precautions while successfully launching in-person instruction, including frequent sanitizing of high-touch surfaces with hospital-grade disinfectant. Additionally, distancing has been stressed and required face masks have been worn by all staff and students.



# CONNECTIVITY *for all*

To accommodate for the shifting instructional landscape in 2020, CFISD's Board of Trustees approved the purchase of Chromebooks for every CFISD student. Our goal is that by the end of the fall 2020 semester, all 118,000 students will have in their possession a district-owned laptop to utilize for CFISD Connect learning.



CFISD has also distributed thousands of Wi-Fi hotspots to students in need. Additionally, school buses featuring wireless access points will help learners to connect with their teachers and classmates online.

The CFISD LTE 1:1 program will make Schoology, our robust distance learning platform, more accessible to all.

Two cheerleaders are positioned on either side of the central text. They are wearing dark t-shirts with 'SUPERINTENDENT'S FUN RUN' printed on them and holding large, light-colored pom-poms. The background is a solid, muted blue color.

# COMMUNITY for all

Despite the unique challenges the world faced in 2020, the CFISD community demonstrated that nothing would stop their *#CFISDspirit!* With the support of every CFISD school and 60 local business sponsors, the Superintendent's Fun Run and Festival brought in \$120,000 for the Cy-Fair Educational Foundation. The enthusiasm of event participants shined brightly on social media with snapshots of virtual fun runners clad in their most cherished fun run t-shirts.

# OPPORTUNITY to WORK TOGETHER

Nearly 180,000 hours of volunteer service were recorded by about 15,500 volunteers, including mentors, bus buddies and adopt-a-school volunteers comprised of 68 faith-based and business partners.



In February of 2020, CFISD was honored by the Cy-Fair Houston Chamber of Commerce as the 2019 Large Business of the Year for extraordinary contributions to the business community.



# VALUE

for



For the second straight year, CFISD passed a budget with a proposed tax rate decrease. The adopted rate of \$1.3555 is down more than a penny from the prior year and more than an 8-cent decrease since 2018.

The district also passed a historic budget of more than \$1 billion while providing raises for all staff for the ninth consecutive year.



Administrative expenditures  
account for only **1.8%**  
of the operating budget.

20% LOCAL OPTIONAL  
HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION *plus*  
\$25,000 STATE EXEMPTION

# Opportunity to SERVE



The challenges of COVID-19 created many new opportunities to serve. CFISD's nutrition services team pivoted to curbside meal service in March, and by June 30 had reached the incredible milestone of 1 million meals served. Going forward, the district is committed to offering breakfast and lunch in the cafeteria and curbside — honoring our promise to keep our students nourished.

CFISD's police department, staffed with 105 officers and the Mental Health Intervention Team, sought additional ways to reach students and staff in their homes following the cancellation of in-person instruction.



# SHOUT OUT *to all our* SENIORS!

*Cheers to the Class of 2020!*

These exceptional students are the very definition of perseverance, and they made the most of their opportunity to shine in June. That's when CFISD was among only two of the 25-largest districts in Texas to hold in-person graduation ceremonies. Ours, of course, took place outdoors at the renowned Cy-Fair FCU Stadium. Distancing and health protocols were closely observed, which allowed more than 8,000 graduates from 12 high schools to celebrate the conclusion of their CFISD careers in an undoubtedly unforgettable fashion.



# Always a lot to CHEER ABOUT *in* CFISD!

Even with fewer opportunities to gather in person during the 2019-20 school year, CFISD faculty and students weren't short on achievement.

*Kathryn Haynes, Cypress Park HS*

Texas Teacher of the Year

*Leah Stephanow, Cypress Woods HS*

Outstanding Teaching of the Humanities Award

*Hoover Elementary School* named one of the  
"2020 Schools Transforming Learning" by the Principal's Institute

*Erica Ogwumike, 2015 CFISD graduate,*

becomes the third Ogwumike sister to be drafted into the WNBA

*Cypress Lakes HS AVP students* score first place in FBI Houston video competition

*73 official No Place for Hate designated campuses*



# Opportunity to ACHIEVE

At the 2020 Scholastic Art and Writing Awards, several CFISD students illustrated what can be achieved when student talent is recognized and developed by dedicated public school teachers. The students' winning pieces are being considered for the *Art. Write. Now. Tour* which includes showings in The U.S. Department of Education and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

*Cypress Woods High School junior Jeanette Barraza*

Silver Medal for her Digital Art Media piece titled "Do You Know Who You Are?"

*Bridgeland High School junior Hannah Everage*

Silver Medal for her Photography piece titled "Surface Level Scars"

*Langham Creek High School senior Anna Schooley*

Silver Medal with Distinction for her Art Portfolio (Photography) titled "Never Too Young" and Gold Medal for her Photography piece titled "Beautiful Boy"

*Cypress Ranch High School senior Lauren Koops*

Silver Medal for her Writing piece titled "Yellow Wildflowers."



**Toby Yi**  
Cypress Woods HS



**Alexander Huang**  
Cypress Woods HS



**Gabriel Bolanos**  
Cypress Ranch HS



**Ananya Kaalva**  
Bridgeland HS



**Rohit Jha**  
Bridgeland HS

# Really got their ACT together!

Continuing CFISD's tradition of academic excellence, five CFISD students recorded a perfect score on the ACT.

# *That's the* SPIRIT!

We face the future with hope and optimism and have no doubt that approaching our world with these sentiments will grant us the fluidity we'll require to be our best. We are confident that CFISD spirit will prevail and continue to lead us to great accomplishments!





**#CFISDspirit**

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