

END-OF-YEAR REPORT COLLABORATIVE COMMUNITIES

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Introduction

The 2023-2024 school year can best be described in one word *connection*.

The Department of Collaborative Communities cultivated and fostered connections across the community by forming new partnerships, launching new programs, and providing more opportunities and support to our students. There has been an intentional and strategic focus of strengthening our footprint across the community and bringing in the community to further engage with Fort Bend ISD.

The End-of-Year Impact Report provides a detailed overview and description of key outcomes related to the portfolio of work and department visioning to demonstrate student and community impact.



Key Priorities

Collaborative Communities has key priority areas of focus to align programmatic work and community engagement efforts with District priorities. The key priorities include:

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Community Impact Initiatives

Solution-focused initiatives that address the needs and/or gaps experienced by our students, families, or District.

Exemplary Partnerships

A sustainable relationship between the District, a community partner(s) and campus(es) that focuses on the creation of a resource room and specific campus needs for students.

Family Engagement & Community Collaboratives

Supporting the whole child through dedicated opportunities that bring together both the family and the community.

Mentoring & Literacy

Providing dedicated opportunities to students through a focus on socialemotional connection, literacy, peer-to-peer, and educational enrichment supports.

KEY PRIORITIES FRAMEWORK:

Additional prioritization included partnerships that were focused on building community connections to enhance support for students, staff, and families and are further described in the report.





Community Impact Initiatives

Shared Dreams Food Insecurity School Supplies Deployment Stakeholder Engagement School Boundaries

Community Impact Initiatives

PRIMARY AIM

Community impact encompasses multiple programming and stakeholder engagement efforts working collectively to improve the well-being of students, families, and the community.

PROGRESS UPDATE & IMPACT

Community impact programming includes the Shared Dreams Program, food insecurity initiatives, school supplies deployment, stakeholder engagement opportunities, and school boundaries. Approximately 50% of District families have been identified as experiencing financial and other hardships. Our goal is to help reduce the stressors that students and families may experience by removing any barriers for the normal school day. In addition, we have aimed to increase engagement with the community to help provide feedback into District initiatives including committees, focus groups, and other stakeholder engagement opportunities.

SHARED DREAMS

Shared Dreams was created to provide basic everyday items to students in need of temporary assistance. This year, the team developed an internal request form to further engage counselors, nurses and social workers and reach more students who need support. The department commemorated 35 years of the Shared Dreams Program and accomplished the following outcomes.

381,974 Received \$381,974.36 in in-kind and monetary donations.

36,076 Provided **36,076** opportunities* to students to receive basic need items (e.g., clothing, shoes, toiletries, etc.).

382 Supported **382** children and their families through Holiday Cheer, an initiative focused on providing gift and food items to designated families during the winter break. A total of 22 campuses participated and 68 community sponsors provided support.

- Over 65 campuses received support with over \$90,000 in in-kind contributions from community sponsors.
- Children supported through this initiative more than doubled from the prior school year.



PATH FORWARD: Shared Dream's umbrella will continue with the goal of reaching new community partners to support more students with basic need items. Funding and staffing will play a critical role in expanding the number of individuals served.

FOOD INSECURITY

Collaborative Communities addresses food insecurity through community support and partnership development to help District families and students access healthy food and nutrition education. The following efforts have allowed the department to scale this initiative.

SHARED CUPBOARD

The District's food cupboard, supported by the community and District campuses, provides students with non-perishable food items. An example of community support is from Faith Church who donated 10,000 non-perishable meals to the Shared Cupboard.

OTHER FOOD INSECURITY PROJECTS

The department also received support from local non-profit organizations, faith groups, and community members to assist with the opportunity for numerous students and families to receive food during school-related breaks. An example of support included a partnership between the Ismaili Jamatkhana and Center, ABC13 and the department through the Share Your Holidays initiative, to receive over six pallets of non-perishable food items.

BRIGHTER BITES PROGRAM

A local non-profit District partner who brings fresh produce and nutrition education to designated campuses for a 16-week period during the school year.

Seven elementary campuses participated in this initiative during the school year (Armstrong, Glover, Goodman, Holley, Mission Bend/Glen, Ridgemont, and Ridgemont Early Learning Center) **Over 172,000 pounds of food were delivered to 1,519 District families.**

Shared Dreams, Armstrong Elementary, and Holley Elementary Schools will collaborate with Brighter Bites in the summer to provide both targeted and community-wide distributions to provide food support during the summer break.

Brighter Bites highlighted the department as a lone school district honoree for its partnership at its Annual Gala.



PATH FORWARD: Collaborative Communities plans to further engage with local community groups, business partners, and faith groups to collaborate on and create new initiatives that provide support to designated campuses and individual students who may need the assistance. The Brighter Bites Program will expand to Barbara Jordan and Rosa Parks Elementary Schools in the 2024-2025 school year.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES DEPLOYMENT

Collaborative Communities leverages community donations (both monetary and in-kind) as well as grant funds to provide school supplies for students in need. While support may not look the same each year, the team successfully leveraged Title I funds and other grant funding to coordinate the distribution of school supplies. Community and local business support combined with Title I funding allowed the department to provide **22,234 school supply kits** to students during the 2023-2024 school year.

PATH FORWARD: The department aims to secure additional external funding to continue the support of thousands of students and equip them with school supplies at the start of the school year.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

The department recognizes the importance of engaging stakeholders and the community at large to obtain input, inform decision-making, and provide support to students. The following were launched to provide opportunities for the community to collaborate and work alongside the District.

- A CENTRAL APPLICATION PLATFORM: Provides an equitable and streamlined way for the community to use one application and submit interest to participate on a variety of District committees/stakeholder groups. To date, **472 community applications** have been submitted this school year.
- PARTNERSHIP INTEREST FORM: As part of Policy (GK) Local, the Partnership Interest Form allows the District to streamline partner requests, formalize partnerships, and align offerings to campuses and/or feeder patterns for maximum impact.
- CAREER DAY SPEAKER DATABASE: Created as another avenue to engage local businesses and community members to present career and post-secondary school offerings to students across campuses.

PATH FORWARD: Stakeholder engagement efforts will continue to be prioritized with the goal of increasing community involvement across all platforms. The team will work both internally and externally to communicate and promote the availability of a multitude of engagement options with the District.

BOUNDARY PLANNING AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

ATTENDANCE BOUNDARIES

School attendance boundaries exist to provide structure for educational pathways through consideration of the unique student needs on each campus to help ensure equitable, effective, and efficient use of facilities. The team collaborated with the Board Policy Review Committee to revise Policy FC(Local) to redefine the boundary change process for future boundary work. The policy includes engagement with the community to create a School Boundary Advisory Committee (SBAC) that will serve in an advisory role to District Administration on proposed boundary recommendations. A School Attendance Area Handbook was created to help guide the attendance work and inform the community on the attendance boundary process.

ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

The team successfully received Board approval to work with a District demographer. The demographer created a District Demography Study to provide long-range planning and student enrollment projections for the next 10 years.

PATH FORWARD: For the 2024-2025 school year, the team will focus on obtaining approval for a District boundary planner to provide subject matter guidance and expertise into school boundaries and long-range planning. The department will also assemble the SBAC and begin boundary-related work for designated campuses.



Exemplary Partnerships

Faith Groups Business Partners Community Partners

Exemplary Partnerships

PRIMARY AIM

The primary aim of an exemplary partnership is to provide a feeder pattern with continued resources and sustainability to help address the "access gap" experienced by many of our students—designated campuses have an allocated resource room on campus to provide students with necessary and basic everyday items, including food, toiletries, clothing, shoes, and school supplies.

PROGRESS UPDATE & IMPACT

Collaborative Communities launched three new exemplary partnership rooms in the 2023-2024 school year; thus, providing support to 11 total rooms across the District. Nearly **6,300 opportunities** for students have been recorded by partner campuses with more than **\$73,000** in monetary and in-kind support being donated by five exemplary partners with additional support from Shared Dreams.

CAMPUS	EXEMPLARY PARTNER
Armstrong Elementary School*	Reverb
Baines Middle School	The Harvest Church Sienna
Blue Ridge Elementary School	Second Baptist Church Pearland
Heritage Rose Elementary School*	The Harvest Church Sienna
Hodges Bend Middle School	Sugar Land Methodist Church
Kempner High School	Kempner Parent Organization (KPO)
McAuliffe Middle School	Second Baptist Church Pearland
Missouri City Middle School*	Reverb
Ridgegate Elementary School	Second Baptist Church Pearland
Ridgemont Elementary School	Second Baptist Church Pearland
Willowridge High School	Second Baptist Church Pearland

*Designates a new exemplary partnership room opening in the 2023-2024 school year.

PATH FORWARD: For the 2024-2025 school year, the goal includes expansion of the initiative to one new feeder while maintaining and providing continued support to existing exemplary partner rooms. Data will continue to be collected and analyzed on the rooms to determine future expansion efforts in the subsequent academic school year.



Family Engagement & Community Collaboratives

Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS) Title I Parent/Family & Community Educators Faith Network

Family Engagement & Community Collaboratives

PRIMARY AIM

Family engagement efforts include building strong connections between families, the District, and campuses to support students and increase academic success. Community collaboratives exist to bring together members of the community to help ensure ongoing communication channels are maintained and feedback is garnered from the community on a diverse set of initiatives.

PROGRESS UPDATE & IMPACT

The department engaged in a formal program evaluation process of the Title I family engagement to help assess its effectiveness and inform key learnings for future decision-making. In addition, the following outcomes were achieved in partnership with Parent/ Family & Community Educators at Title I campuses.



- Provided support, capacity-building, and training to 25 Parent/Family & Community Educators to ensure meaningful engagement opportunities were provided to District families.
- Aligned District mentoring efforts at **16 Title I** campuses resulting in **179 student mentees** (Additional information on mentoring provided below).
- Offered a total of **3,410 family courses** and/or engagement opportunities on Title I campuses with **36,257 counts** of participation from parents/guardians.*
- Promoted literacy and family reading by providing new books to 1,464 students at 23 campuses to help grow home libraries.

*Parents/guardians may have participated in more than one event or engagement opportunity.



The department also engaged different stakeholder groups under the Collaborative Communities umbrella. The following are key groups in which the department has engaged this year.

VOLUNTEERS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS (VIPS)

The department provided monthly support and guidance to VIPS to develop strategies to recruit volunteers and capture volunteer hours.

FAITH NETWORK

This network was launched to engage area faith-based organizations to work alongside the District through a shared mission and vision to collectively support students and campuses.





PATH FORWARD:

Collaborative Communities aims to enhance and align family engagement efforts to support families and increase parent involvement across the District. Internal coordination will play an important part in streamlining initiatives, communication, and support more District families.





Mentoring & Literacy

District-to-Student Community-to-Student Peer-to-Peer

Mentoring & Literacy

PRIMARY AIM

The Mentoring Program offers students and the community the opportunity to engage to provide social emotional learning, academic supports, and/ or language learning activities to assist students in being successful. The program includes three different mentoring models:

- District to student
- Community to student
- Peer-to-Peer

PROGRESS UPDATE & IMPACT

Due to strategic prioritization in leading mentoring program efforts on behalf of the District and capturing metrics directly from campus mentor programs, overall District mentoring has grown to **1,008 mentees** in participation from the prior school year. Additional metrics and descriptions include the following:



ALL-IN MENTORING

The All-in Mentoring Program engaged a group of 20 District employees as mentors, fostering the growth of a select group of students at Hunters Glen Elementary School for the third year. In total, over **200 hours** were dedicated to mentoring by District staff, in partnership with the campus to provide valuable literacy support.

COMMUNITY MENTORING

Trained community members are matched with a student where mentors spend time reading, other academic related activity, and/or guiding students with opportunities to propel academic success. A total of **114 community members** mentored students across 19 elementary and secondary campuses.

PEER-TO-PEER

Peer-to-Peer mentoring offers students a mutually beneficial learning and growth opportunity, with mentees receiving student led support with guidance from a teacher sponsor, while upper-classmen mentors develop lifelong leadership skills. In the District, it was reported that, **94 middle and high school students were mentored by their upper-classmen peers, while 331 elementary students received guidance and academic support** from high school students through the Peer Assistance and Leadership (PALs) program.



PATH FORWARD: Collaborative Communities aims to rebrand the Mentor Program and develop targeted outreach and recruitment strategies. The department will leverage existing relationships and engage new community members with the goal of increasing the number of mentors supporting students across campuses. Streamlining mentor data tracking across campuses will also play a critical part to help quantify student impact and program outcomes.



Additional Endeavors

Additional Endeavors

Additional community engagement and partnership endeavors were initiated and/or executed by the department to provide increased support to campuses, students, and families. These opportunities included partnering with:

- Camp Allen to provide field trip opportunity for 60 Gifted & Talented students at two campuses: Baines and Thornton Middle Schools.
- Sewa International to provide mobile education (portable planetarium) to students at four campuses: Bhuchar, Dulles, Ferguson, and Patterson Elementary Schools.
- Green Recycler to provide ongoing funding for unusable items from Shared Dreams; monies used for student support initiatives.
- City of Sugar Land to provide over 400 tickets for staff and students spanning musical performances and sporting events to serve as a token of appreciation for their hard work.
- Burlington Stores to commemorate new store openings in the community and nominated Rosa Parks and EA Jones Elementary Schools to receive \$5,000 donations for all teachers to receive supplies for their classrooms.



Summary

Teamwork, focus, and intention were instrumental attributes in helping the Department of Collaborative Communities achieve key outcomes. We saw increased engagement across all programs and initiatives to support more students, families, and campuses. The following provides a snapshot of the 2023-2024 highlights.



253,049 volunteer hours were tracked and/or reported by District campuses and volunteers.



36,076

Provided 36,076 opportunities* to students to receive basic need items (e.g., clothing, shoes, toiletries, etc.).



22,234

22,234 school supply kits were disseminated to students.



6,348

6,348 opportunities were provided to students through the exemplary partnership initiative across 11 campuses.

3,410

3,410 family courses and/or engagement opportunities were offered at Title I campuses.



3,589+ families supported through food insecurity efforts coordinated with community collaborators.



1,008 students received mentoring services through department tracking and community partnerships.



382 students and their families received gift and food items through Shared Dreams Holiday Cheer initiative.

Investing in our students is our why. Building strong connections through relationships, partnerships, and programs allows us to propel our why and lead students towards academic success. As we look towards the future, we strongly invite the community to help us align efforts and scale our collective impact.

We are better together.



Department of Collaborative Communities

2023–2024 Staff and Roles



Kimberley Smith Chief Communications Officer



Payal Pandit Talati, MPH Executive Director



Lydia Chavez-Garcia, MBA

Director



Bobbie Anderson, MHRD

Assistant Director



Reba Cook Executive Assistant



Jodi Rider Coordinator, Engagement & Planning



Erik Dumantay, MSSW Coordinator



Nykyta Rainer Clerk II

Thank You!

TO OUR PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

We cannot thank our District partners, community members and volunteers enough for your unwavering support this year. Connection is our strength and your efforts made a strong impact across the community, our schools, and most importantly, our students. Thank you for all that you do!

Academy Adult Transition Services AFC Urgent Care All Things Love Event Planning Altitude Alvin Skate N Party Amazon American Family Care Angels with a Mission Animal Hospital Highway 6 APEX Arby's AT&T Attentive Ear Lodge #350 F&AM PHA Aventography Bahama Buck's **BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir BDS Connected Solutions** Be A Champion, Inc. **Berg Hospitality Group Best Bet Roofing Better Business Bureau** BJ's Restaurant **Bombshell Medspa Boys Scouts of America** Brandani's Restaurant Brave Church **Brazos Valley Schools Credit Union Brighter Bites Brookdale Senior Living** Burlington Cabo Bob's

Caldwell & Steinbring Dentistry For Children Camp Allen **Campus Booster Clubs Campus PTO/PTA** Carden International Circus Carolyn & Vernon Madden **CenterPoint Energy Foundation Cerrone Grant** ChampionX Chick-fil-A Child Advocates of Fort Bend Chris' Kidz Early Education Center **Christ Church Sugar Land** Church of Jesus Christ Latter-day Saints Chuv's **Circus Spectacular** City of Sugar Land Cliff Parker Coca-Cola Give **Common Threads Community Volunteers** Constance Chiplock Corelli's Italian Café **Cornelius Nursery Sugar Land Corredor Concepts** Crime Stoppers David & Sara Fletcher DBR Engineering Consultants, Inc. Dick's Sporting Goods Domino's

Double Dave's Pizzaworks Dr. Khalilah Shephard Dr. Robert Lee Dr. William Sung, DMD East Fort Bend Human **Needs Ministry** Emmanuel Cares Community **Development Corporation Enchanted Gardens Engineering Tomorrow Equitable Advisors Escape Again** F50 Faith Church FBISD Construction & Design **FBISD Extended Day Program FBISD** Textbooks Department **FENDI** Speaks FEVO Rice Owls Kid's Club First Colony Church of Christ First United Methodist Church **Missouri** City Fluor Fort Bend - Harris Retired Educators Fort Bend American of **Federation Teachers** Fort Bend County Juvenile Probatión Fort Bend Education Foundation Fort Bend ISD Police Department Fort Bend ISD **Transportation Department Freedom Center Church**

Gandy Ink Garden Bros. Nuclear Circus Gatorade **Golden Chic Restaurant** Grand Mission Dentistry Grand Parkway Baptist Church Greater Harvest Church **Green City Recycler** Gringo's Mexican Kitchen H-E-B Herff Jones Hewett Richardson HOA Enclave at The Lake Horizon Baptist Church Houston Police Department Houston Skyline Rotary Houston's First Baptist Church -Sienna Hungry's Huntington Learning Center In His Presence Fellowship Ismaili Jamatkhana and Center J. Redilla Jack Golden's Environmental Extravaganza Jeremiah's Italian Ice Jordan Simpson **Junior Achievement Just Right Reader** Ken Kaser Kendra Scott Kenny Whitworth Kids 'R' Kids Learning Academy King Edward VI Handsworth Grammar School for Boys **Kingdom Church** Kroger Lake Olympia Garden Club Lakeshore Learning Store Lakewood Church Lazy Dog Restaurant Lee Family Orthodontics Liberty Office Products **Lighthouse Baptist Church** Lopez Mexican Restaurant Make A Wish Foundation Marine Corps League Mathnasium Max Chewning McAlister's Deli **MD** Anderson Cancer Center

MEGlobal Memorial Hermann Miranda Knippers Ms. Mary's Child Care MTO Shahmaqhsoudi Nalco Water Neal Immega Network of Behavioral Health Providers New Hope Lutheran Church Next Level Urgent Care Nicole Freer Group Ninoshka's Cakes Nothing Bundt Cakes NRG Office Depot Give Back to Schools One Church At Bethel's Family Painting with a Twist Panda Express Panera Bread Paul & Michelle Fenley Pepperoni's Pepsi Perry's Steakhouse & Grille **Phoenix Design** Piada Italian Street Food **Positive Recovery Centers Pottery Barn** Prime 1 Car Care **Quail Valley Family Dental Raising Cane's** Ready to Learn Academy **Reserve at First Colony** Reverb **Richmond Dental Center Rick Kline, DDS Ridgemont Civic Association Rising Star Academy Robin's Dance Studio** Rosati's Pizza **Royals Booster Club** Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories Scott & Jane Orthodontics Second Baptist Church Shake Shack Shell Oil Sherry Liu Sienna Women's League SilverBow Sip Tea Boba

SmileTexas So Coffee Roasters Sour Strips Southeastern Guide Dogs **Splashway Waterpark** & Campground Spring Creek Barbeque **Starbucks** Strawbridge Sugar Land Baseball Sugar Land Fire Department Sugar Land Methodist Church Sugar Land Space Cowboys Sunflower Bank Sweetwater Nail & Spa Sylvan Learning of Sugar Land Target **TBG** Store Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Fort Bend County Texas Children's Urgent Care Texas Roadhouse The Beach House Pediatric Dentistry & Orthodontics The Bridge Church The Cheesecake Factory The Daily Dish The Imani School The Merck Foundation The Sansone Group (Remax) The Towne Creek School The WIDE School **ThiinkSmart Taxes** Tidal Wave Auto Spa **Tiny Toes Academy Undies for Everyone** United Distribution **United States Tennis Association US Postal Service** Vista Management Company Walmart Wells Fargo WFG National Title Company Whataburger Willowridge Wall of Honor, Inc. Word of Restoration International Church Youth Development **Resource Center** Zernice Broadus