Dear Travis Families,

Here are items to note for the Week of June 1-4, 2021:

MEET THE INCOMING TRAVIS PRINCIPAL

Please join us this evening, Tuesday, June 1 at 5:30 p.m., for a virtual community meeting to meet our incoming Travis Elementary principal! Please join the meeting by accessing the link found on our website by clicking: HERE. See you online!

ANNUAL FIRE ALARM AND INTERCOM INSPECTION, PART 2

Please be aware that HISD is conducting part 2 of this annual inspection today (Tuesday, June 1), from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Those who live nearby in the neighborhood who heard the exterior fire alarm ring for several hours on May 20 during part 1 of the inspection can anticipate the same experience today. Thank you for your patience and understanding during this City of Houston required process.

PTA GENERAL MEETING

Join the Travis PTA for its last general meeting of the school year to take place in-person this Friday, June 4 at 7:30 a.m. in the Travis Garden outdoor classroom. We will elect our 2021-2022 PTA Board, vote on our budget, and most importantly -- be in person! Be sure to pop over after morning drop-off and join us!

TEACHERS SAYING GOODBYE, TAKING ON NEW CHALLENGES

- Sharon Dodd (PE), our PE coach the last 11 years and a 33-year teaching veteran, is retiring at the end of the year. (See more information below about ‘Last Lap’ event in her honor.) Next year, Ms. Dodd will come full circle and serve as a 1st grade teacher’s aide at her parish school, St. Rose of Lima, the same position in which she started her career. She will also continue work on her “second career” as a writer, focusing on the promotion of her recent book release, Offerings, A Book of Poetry. She is currently working on a book of limericks for kids, as well as a book titled Prayer Sparks: 100 Ways to add More Prayer and Praise into Your Days.
- Lauren Stackenwalt (4th Grade) is relocating back to her home state of Florida to be closer to family.
- Emily DeLeon (3rd Grade) is moving to College Station as her husband begins graduate school.
- Sarah Butler (Kindergarten) is taking on a new role as Director of Hospitality and Reconnection at St. Luke’s United Methodist Church here in Houston.
- Ali Luna (3rd Grade) is moving into a Teacher Development Specialist (TDS) role in math with the HISD Elementary Curriculum and Instruction department.
- Michele (Grooms) Makarenko is moving over to Hogg Middle School to serve as their school nurse.
- Bethany Moore (Teaching Assistant) has accepted a 6th grade teaching position in Katy ISD.
- Lynnette Tello, a 26-year teaching veteran who has served the Travis community the last 12 years (eight in 2nd grade following four years in Pre-K), will take on a new role next year supporting our students as a campus
interventionist. This is a role she had planned to move into this year before being called back to duty to serve as a teacher in the virtual setting. We look forward to her continuing to serve our students in a new way.

Each of these special people have made a huge impact on our school and community and we are grateful to them for their dedication and service. We are very happy for each of them, but very sad for our school family. They will be missed. Over these last couple of weeks, please join us in thanking them and bidding them a fond farewell and/or congratulations on these big life events. We wish them well!

‘LAST LAP’ WITH COACH DODD -- SAVE THE DATE: MONDAY, JUNE 7

As shared in this space last month, Sharon Dodd, our PE coach the last 11 years and a 33-year teaching veteran, is retiring at the end of the year. Please make plans to help us honor and say goodbye to her at a ‘Last Lap’ celebration in the Travis SPARK Park on Monday, June 7 at 3:15 p.m. Students can take one final lap around the track with Coach Dodd, and we will spread out for a meet and greet to recognize and bid Ms. Dodd a fond farewell. We hope you can join us!

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

Will take place on Friday, June 11.

SHAKESPEARE PLAYERS RETURN IN 2021-2022

After over a year of being closed down by COVID-19, the Travis Shakespeare Players will return for a new season of bringing Shakespeare’s plays to life on The Travis Stage! The Travis Shakespeare Players are two troupes of third, fourth, and fifth graders who meet after school each Tuesday or Thursday for two hours on the Travis Stage. The young actors read, study, and perform plays by William Shakespeare and absorb the history of the period in which he lived and wrote. Applications are now being accepted from incoming third, fourth, and fifth graders for the 2021 fall semester. The deadline to apply is June 8. For more information on the Shakespeare Players, program expectations, and how to apply, click here: Fall 2021 Shakespeare Players Letter & Application.pdf. -- Carole Fairfield, Director, The Travis Shakespeare Players

Wishing you well.

Sincerely,

Tom Day, Principal