



## TUESDAY E-FOLDER – May 26, 2020

**INSIDE THIS EDITION:** A Year-End Message from Mr. Day; Summer Learning Resources; End-of-Year Checkout/Check-in; Additional Goodbyes; Honoring Mr. Arena; Summer Meals Program; Travis Shakespeare Players

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Travis Families,

As we near the close of this most extraordinary school year, I want to thank you for your awesome support – both in your volunteerism, spirit, and engagement prior to school closing ... and in your patience, and adapting to remote learning from home during uncertain times and unprecedented circumstances.

These last few weeks have been a difficult and exhausting time for so many. Through it all, the creativity, caring, and resolve of our teachers and staff members along with the flexibility and grace of our Travis families has shined brightly. I am proud of our students' hard work and resilience – these are lessons they will carry with them forever.

May they look back with fond memories of connection, coming together, and standing strong.

I also congratulate our graduating 5<sup>th</sup> graders of the Travis Elementary Class of 2020 and bid a fond farewell and thank you to our families who are 'Moving On'.

As we look ahead to next year, Travis is fully staffed and will be prepared for whatever comes. Should HISD make changes to the 2020-2021 academic calendar, daily schedules, and/or modes of instruction, we will keep you abreast of how such changes will affect the Travis community.

I wish you a safe and healthy summer.

Sincerely,  
Tom Day, Principal

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### Summer Learning Resources

For access to learning extension and enrichment activities and websites, visit the '**Travis Learning Center**' (TLC) – **Summer Resources webpage** by clicking here: <https://bit.ly/TLCSummerResources>. Engaging in reading activities and books is another fun way to guard against the "summer slide." Travis Librarian Theresa Sims has compiled resources in the Library section of the TLC – Summer Resources page, including information about enrolling in the Houston Public Library's John P. McGovern Summer Reading program.

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### End-of-Year Checkout/Check-in Windows

Travis is conducting **end-of-year Checkout/Check-in windows** this week for families to pick up student belongings still at school and other items like student work, notebooks/journals, textbook consumables, etc. We ask that families participating also use these times for returning library books or any other items checked out from the school.

These windows will also provide an opportunity for final face-to-face connection and goodbyes for students, teachers, and staff – following social-distancing requirements, of course.

Your child's teacher will communicate classroom and/or grade level options for socially distant walkup and/or drive-thru options for this process. Student items will be packed into pre-made take-home bags for easy pickup. Families of 5<sup>th</sup> graders will be able to pick up student take-home bags during scheduled Memory Walk times on Thursday.

**Families with school-issued technology (Chromebooks, iPads) are asked to return devices to the school on Monday, June 1 between 9:00-11:00 a.m. OR Tuesday, June 2 between 1:00-3:00 p.m. Thank you!**

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### **Additional Goodbyes**

**Emily Wingard** (4<sup>th</sup> Grade) and her family have moved to Glen Rose, TX to be with family, and Emily will step away next year to "live the farm life" while husband Nick gets his feet wet in the home building business.

**Lauren Malone** (Dyslexia Interventionist), an 18-year teaching veteran who has served the Travis community the last 13 years, is taking on a new challenge next year – and trading her Tiger stripes in for a school closer to home – as dyslexia interventionist at Colony Meadows Elementary (also the Tigers!) in Fort Bend ISD.

We give thanks to Mrs. Wingard and Mrs. Malone for their years of dedicated service. They will be missed.

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### **Honoring Mr. Arena**

While we will not be able to say goodbye to Mr. Arena in person for the time being, we invite the Travis community to honor him for his 17 years of service as our art teacher and say goodbye as he heads into retirement. Cards and letters can be sent to the school mailing address and will be delivered to Mr. Arena. Families can also show their love for Mr. Arena by contributing to a Go Fund Me account set up in his honor. To access, click [HERE](#).

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### **Summer Meals Program**

HISD is transitioning from its community food distribution efforts to a curbside summer meals program for students. Beginning June 1, families will be able to pick up boxed student meals twice a week on Mondays and Thursdays at one of [68 designated schools](#) across the district. Boxes may be picked up by students, parents, or other adult family members. Each box will contain a day's worth of meals, including breakfast, lunch, dinner, and a snack. Families will receive several days' worth of food — three boxes on Mondays and four on Thursdays — per child at each pickup. Boxes will be provided for all children in the vehicle. Children are not required to be present, but the driver must show proof of enrollment in any school district (report card, student id, etc.) or birth certificate. For more information on the summer meals program and to see a map of food distribution sites, please visit [houstonisd.org/summermeals](http://houstonisd.org/summermeals).

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### **Travis Shakespeare Players**

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 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders for the 2020 fall semester.** Auditions are not held, but students must be fluent readers and be able to focus and take directions. They should also be ready to savor the poetry of the language and to learn the stories Shakespeare told through theatre. Students learn stage terms and acting skills and find joy in working together to create scenes and perform plays. **The enrollment in each troupe is limited to 18 students.** Click [HERE](#) for more information, including an application and instructions. The application deadline is **today**. -- Carole Fairfield ([carolefairfield5@att.net](mailto:carolefairfield5@att.net)), Director, The Travis Shakespeare Players