

SEISD teachers receive grants

By Jeannie Meza-Chavez
Special to the Courier

SANELIZARIO—Five teachers in the San Elizario Independent School District (SEISD) received the Classroom Fund, a project with the El Paso Community Foundation. The Classroom Fund was established in 2011 to help teachers with classroom supplies. Schoolteachers from El Paso and Las Cruces can apply for the grant. With the generous support of The El Paso Community Foundation, the Classroom Fund helps educators with the necessary supplies to help support students.

“Thank you so much to the El Paso Community Foundation for allowing our teachers to apply for funds which will help our teachers to purchase more innovative learning materials. This material will greatly benefit our students by enhancing and engaging student learning,” said Alarcon Elementary School Principal Leticia de Santos.

According to the 2021 Classroom Fund Grantee list, the following five SEISD educators were awarded \$1,000 each worth of supplies to utilize with students. The Ann M. Garcia-Enriquez Middle School individuals who received the grant are Harry Collins and Marisol Galarza. Additional San Elizario High School recipients are Elizabeth Luna-Lopez and Rachel Norman Aguirre. Finally, the grantee of the Classroom Fund from the Lorenzo Alarcon Elementary is Rebecca Olan Gomez.

Harry Collins is a physical education teacher at Ann M. Garcia-Enriquez (GEMS). He said, “The pandemic changed many students’ lives, especially in their physical and mental health, which go hand in hand. The School Fund Grant will allow our middle school P.E. class to provide alternative opportunities to exercise along with the traditional exercise methods we currently use to help build and strengthen their social, emotional, and physical health. Hopefully, this will also extend to the community and home, encouraging them to show others ways to get healthy.”

From its beginnings, the Classroom Fund continues to support the educational needs of students. Teachers, counselors, school nurses, and coaches all have an opportunity to apply for a \$1,000 grant. To be considered, grant applicants must apply online and include a list of supplies they request.

GEMS Counselor Marisol Galarza thanks the El Paso Community Foundation. “I am deeply grateful for the grant and thrilled to utilize these items as they will enhance our SEISD Eagles’ social-emotional learning,” she said

According to the Classroom Fund website <http://theclassroomfund.org/>, all applications undergo a review by the Classroom Fund committee. Upon selection, grantees must provide a digital photo, video, or a thank you letter to the Foundation. The Foundation takes care of ordering the materials requested, and arrangements are made for the grantees to pick up the items.

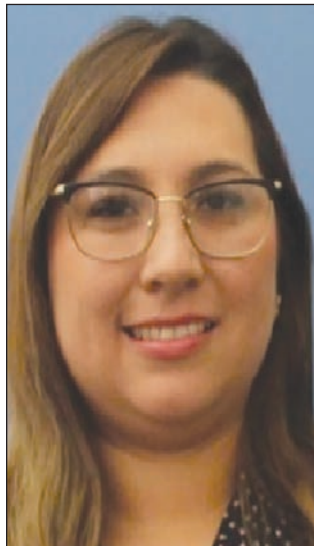


— Photos courtesy SEISD

Rachel Norman Aguirre



Harry Collins



Marisol Galarza



Elizabeth Luna-Lopez



Rebecca Olan-Gomez

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Canutillo Independent School District will hold a public meeting 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 28, 2022 in the Central Office Board Room, 7965 Artcraft, El Paso, Texas 79932. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district’s budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.**

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed tax rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice. Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

Maintenance Tax	\$0.982400/\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax	
Approved by Local Voters	\$0.360000/\$100 (Proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year’s Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and Operations	8.24%	Decrease
Debt Service	14.70%	Increase
Total Expenditures	6.47%	Increase

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Section 26.04, Tax Code)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 3,868,826,896	\$ 4,714,423,056
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ 143,500,601	\$ 140,299,755
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 2,864,134,508	\$ 3,339,559,729
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 131,812,584	\$ 130,578,216

* “Appraised value” is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.
** “New property” is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.
*** “Taxable value” is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$79,979,627

* Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year’s Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year’s Rate	\$ 0.982400	\$ 0.360000*	\$ 1.342400	\$ 6,758	\$ 4,911
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 0.936380	\$ 0.214910*	\$ 1.151290	\$ 6,456	\$ 4,591
Proposed Rate	\$ 0.982400	\$ 0.360000*	\$ 1.342400	\$ 7,323	\$ 4,747

*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both.

The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year’s Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 205,776	\$ 258,988
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 171,204	\$ 190,074
Last Year’s Rate Versus		
Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.342400	\$ 1.342400
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 2,298.25	\$ 2,551.56
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 253.31

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in the tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$1.342400. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of \$1.342400.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 22,121,211
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 12,024,851

A school district may not increase the district’s maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district’s debt service.