



SOUTH SAN ANTONIO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Agenda Item Summary

Meeting Date: March 22, 2017

Purpose: Report Only Recognition Discussion/ Possible Action

Presenter(s): Robert Blankenberg,- Teacher Zamora Middle School, Lisa Wilburn Teacher/Music Coordinator Shepard Middle School, Ben Davis, Teacher SSAHS.

Item Title:

Report on District Site Visit to Grand Prairie ISD

Description:

DOI committee members will report on the innovative practices observed in Grand Prairie ISD schools.

District Goal:

Goal 3 We will provide meaningful and innovative instruction that promotes critical thinking and problem solving.

Funding Budget Code and Amount:

CFO Approval

none

APPROVAL ROUTE

SIGNATURE

DATE

Principal/Director:

Executive Director:

Chief Administrator:


Superintendent:

[Handwritten signature]

3-10-17



Grand Prairie ISD is a 58 square mile district educating more than 29,000 students. It is located in between Dallas and Arlington. There are 42 campuses and 24 of those campuses are Schools of *Choice*.



Agenda for the Day

- Campus Visit - Fine Arts Academy
- Campus Visit - Dubiski CTE High School
- Debrief - with Chief of Staff GPISD
- Campus Visit - Lorenzo de Zavala Environmental Science Academy

Schools of CHOICE

- Stand-alone schools that provide unique learning opportunities for students seeking a non-traditional educational experience.
- TEA designated *District of Innovation*, which allows GPISD more local control over district operations in order to support innovation and local initiatives to improve educational outcomes for the benefit of students in the community.
- There are currently 24 Schools of Choice due to an outpouring of support from the community, staff and school board.

Grand Prairie Fine Arts Academy

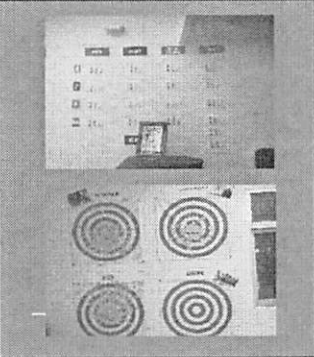





Students in Action - Middle School

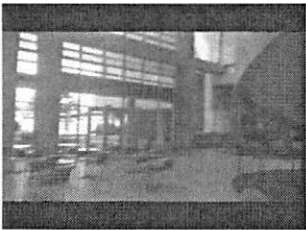
Grand Prairie Fine Arts Academy



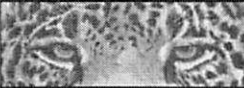
- Designed for artistically and academically talented students. High School and Middle School housed at the same building.
- The only all-advanced academics fine arts academy in the area. Students take pre-AP, AP, or dual-credit curriculum in English, math, history and science in grades 6-12.
- Students concentrate on a single fine arts area that provides more rigorous instruction and expanded internship and performance opportunities than in a traditional campus setting.
- Candidates must meet the academic (80% GPA), attendance and discipline requirements in order to qualify for an audition at the academy. Audition determines acceptance.





- Focus is equipping all students with 21st century skills.
- Students choose a sequential course of study designed to prepare them for a 2-year, 4-year, or technical college. In addition to their high school diploma, students are also eligible to complete programs that award them with advanced certifications, industry training, and internship and career-field experiences.
- Offers HB5 endorsements including STEM, Business & Industry, and Public Service.



Dubiski JAGUARS

Lorenzo de Zavala Environmental Science Academy



- Goal is to inspire and educate students to improve our world by respecting the ourselves, others and natural resources.
- boasts special features both indoors and out that allow students to learn through real-life experiences and prepare to pursue environmental science careers.
- De Zavala's outdoor features include a water cistern, a 500-square-foot growing dome, one-of-a-kind chicken coop and a butterfly garden.
- The indoor features in our recently constructed facility include interactive wall displays, data collection stations and 3-D biome habitats.



LORENZO DE ZAVALA
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE ACADEMY

GPISD - District of Innovation

Exemptions -

Class Size Reduction TEC. 25.112

First Day of Instruction TEC 25.0811

Teacher Certification TEC 21.003

Minimum minutes of instruction TEC 25.081 (HB 2610)
75,600 minutes.

Board Member
Share out -
Ms. Osteguin
Ms. Guerra
Ms. Flores
