BRINGING THE COMMUNITY INTO THE CLASSROOM
New Beat, Same Heart

Katy ISD is sustained by long-held values and traditions, among them a shared commitment to the vital partnerships between our schools and community. School district culture doesn’t just happen, it’s created. Our practice of warmly welcoming community into our schools has been crafted over decades step by step, hour after hour by volunteers and staff with a shared conviction that community engagement brings unique value to our schools and classrooms.

We offer vibrant community engagement programs because we believe with you that both students and staff thrive with the encouragement and support of their community. Led by flagships Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS), Business & Community Partnerships and KEYS Mentoring, our programs are deeply embedded in the Katy ISD mission of leading in educational excellence, together with family and community, thanks to thousands of community and parent volunteers.

This school year offers an opportunity to “reimagine” what that engagement looks like. The way we engage our community and volunteers shifted dramatically overnight. But while the approach may vary, the values remain the same.

We remain committed to offering exceptional programs designed to engage the community in our classrooms – even when that engagement is virtual. And when normalcy returns, or a new version of normal, we are convinced that we will have learned new practices and created improved community engagement strategies that will endure. Our programs will grow deeper, more meaningful, more effective because of this season.

Join us as we build new, stronger bonds with volunteers and the Katy ISD community.

Dr. Ken Gregorski
Katy ISD Superintendent
For many years, Katy ISD Partners in Education has paired with community and parent volunteers to build compelling initiatives that make a lasting impact on our schools. Parents, business partners and community members all come together through different Partners in Education programs, connecting everyone to a singular common goal: Making A Difference for Kids.

This year brings a new approach to volunteering: some based on circumstances, some of our choosing. We recently launched a new look for every program, with redesigned logos notable throughout this brochure. Our new partnership portal offers an unprecedented online exchange opportunity for business partners and Katy ISD campuses. And our partnership program boasts a new name, Business & Community Partnerships, signaling a broader welcome to organizations of all types.

New practices for volunteers’ personal presence on campus have been prompted by our current environment. While the conditions are certainly unprecedented, so is the opportunity presented to us. We now have the chance to revitalize decades-long programs, not just their look and feel. Together we will: create new pathways for community volunteers to contribute and be part of school communities and affirm the value our volunteers bring to their campus staff, students and families. We’ve been handed the opportunity to dig below the surface and modernize, reinvent every facet and proceed with renewed faith and enthusiasm into the next decade.

This year, we march to a NEW BEAT, but with the SAME HEART, ready to serve. Come find your spot in our Partners in Education family.

VISIT PIE ONLINE: tinyurl.com/katyisdPIE
Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS) are an amazing group of people who are always willing to help no matter the task. They are the behind-the-scenes, hands-on heartbeat of our schools. For over 30 years, VIPS has benefitted thousands of teachers and students across every Katy ISD campus. As the largest and most extensive Katy ISD Partners in Education program, VIPS sets a standard of excellence and service deeply embedded throughout our district.

VIPS come from all walks of life. They are parents, grandparents and community members all donating the most essential commodity to build a successful educational support group – their time. They show up day after day to help with fundraisers, school stores, field trips, Watch D.O.G.S., Destination Imagination, in-class support, teacher work baskets and more. Their energy and spirit inspire a tradition of service woven deeply through their campus community and fuels our district’s exceptional partnership with the volunteers who support it.

Volunteers give back in every way you can imagine—here’s just a few ways our VIPS make an impact for Katy ISD campuses:

- Fundraisers
- School Stores
- Car Parades
- Watch D.O.G.S.
- Destination Imagination
- Library Help
- Teacher Work Baskets
- Field Trips
- Spirit Yard Signs
- Drive-thru Spirit Nights

...AND MORE!

VISIT VIPS ONLINE: tinyurl.com/katyisdVIPS
The KEYS Mentor Program (Keep Encouraging Youth towards Success) matches a caring adult with a student on the brink of success once a week, during the school day, throughout the school year.

Each week, mentors go to campuses across the district to spend time with their KEYS kids talking, playing games, reading books and planning futures. With the faithful gift of time and encouragement, a mentor can empower their KEYS kid to dream bigger, casting an improved life vision fueled by renewed confidence in themselves and their abilities.

KEYS serves students at every Katy ISD campus with meaningful results. By consistently serving as a guide and role model, mentors produce measurable impact on their students personally, academically and professionally.*

KEYS Mentors:
1. Commit to spending time with a student each week for one school year.
2. Review, understand and agree to KEYS program expectations.
3. Complete the comprehensive KEYS mentor application and pass the required background check.
4. Complete KEYS 101 - New Mentor Training (either in person or online)


To find out more about being a mentor, or if you would like for your Katy ISD child to participate in KEYS, please visit: tinyurl.com/katyisdKEYS

KEYS mentors are building relationships and sparking hope, one student at a time. For many of us, a turning point in our lives came when someone we respected and admired declared, “I believe in you.” A KEYS mentor can be that person for their student.
Junior Achievement (JA) volunteers help shape the next generation of go-getters and entrepreneurs.

Junior Achievement National Statistics:

- Students Reached: 4,777,567
- Classes: 208,373
- Volunteers: 247,350
- Schools Reached: 21,503

JA has a long history and strong partnership with Katy ISD. Through dedicated volunteers, its programs continue to motivate and prepare the next generation to succeed in a vastly growing global economy. JA challenges students by exposing them to real-world entrepreneurship, work readiness and financial literacy through JA-in-a-Day or traditional one-hour weekly sessions tailored for each grade level (K–12).

What does JA look like in the classroom? Kindergartners are introduced to personal economics and the choices people make to meet their needs and wants through the use of interactive activities, storytelling and games. Junior high and high school students explore personal finance and career opportunities through guest speakers, leadership conferences and interactive presentations. No matter the lesson plan, the JA experience is designed to make a memorable impact on students through first-class curriculum delivered by dedicated volunteers.

While JA provides all curriculum materials, it’s the diverse group of corporate, parent and community volunteers who provide the knowledge and experience needed to kindle student understanding and enthusiasm for our free market economy. As volunteers inspire students to embrace our role in the world’s financial system, they are igniting a spark in future leaders who will greatly impact the financial health of our nation and the world.

VISIT JA ONLINE: tinyurl.com/katyisdJA
This program, which has impacted thousands of kids since it began, emphasizes the importance of reading to children. Reading stimulates their imaginations and sharpens their cognitive skills. Not only are they hearing a story, they are watching facial expressions, recognizing patterns, making connections and predicting outcomes.

Promise to Read provides businesses and community members the opportunity to come together for thirty minutes to bring the love of reading to elementary students in the classroom. Each November the program is offered at various elementary campuses, and this year the program will go virtual, giving more reading options to more excited kids.

Many of our volunteers have been with the program from the very beginning, finding Promise to Read as personally rewarding for them as it is for their endlessly curious student audience. And all it takes is one story at a time.

Promise to Read is a 25-year tradition in the Katy community and has become a favorite for many community and business volunteers. What could be more fun than reading to a group of wide-eyed, engaged children hanging on your every word?

VISIT PROMISE TO READ ONLINE: tinyurl.com/katyisdPromiseToRead
For more than 30 years, Partners in Education has worked to create long term reciprocal relationships between business and community organizations and Katy ISD schools. The results have been astounding with some pairings lasting for decades and evolving into enduring friendships.

Our Business and Community Partnerships program focuses on the unique gifts of each participant, creating an outcome that strengthens and celebrates both. Business and community partnerships come to life in many different ways: on campus and district committees, donation drives for backpack and school supplies, giving back to schools through spirit nights, career day expos, serving as guest speakers, providing teacher appreciation luncheons, mentoring and more. Above all, the most valuable contribution from a business and community partnership is people: members and employees who give countless hours sharing invaluable knowledge and creating memorable experiences for students.

Community volunteers participate in many of the different Partners in Education programs like Promise to Read, Junior Achievement and KEYS Mentoring. In 2020, Business and Community Partnerships launched an exciting new tool to help match partners to campuses and chronicle their progress. The Partner Portal is an online exchange site for member organizations and Katy ISD campuses to share and track partner activities. Our Partner Portal serves as a vibrant marketplace for business, community and campus interactions that make a difference for a kid in a desk or a teacher in a classroom. Visit the Partner Portal at https://katy.voly.org/partner/index.html.

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For over 17 years, Leadership Katy has invited community members for a year-long, behind the scenes look at everything from prekindergarten to graduation, the classroom to the bus barn, and facilities to balance sheets.

Highly interactive, monthly sessions hosted by district leaders provide members with a unique understanding of district operations via firsthand viewings of daily activities. Throughout the year, Leadership Katy members build relationships with district leaders and others in our community while developing a deeper understanding of one another, including the issues they face and the roles they serve. Meetings are hosted by the Katy ISD Superintendent and include presentations and direct reports by each of our district officers. Topics include district growth and demographics, support services, technology, teaching and learning, school finance and governance.

Each year a new Leadership Katy group is comprised of community and parent volunteers nominated by Leadership Katy alumni, campus principals and Katy ISD district leaders. They are a diverse group representing multiple Katy ISD stakeholders and the entire district geographically.

Leadership Katy has been recognized for its innovative approach to engaging the community in public schools by both the Texas School Public Relations Association (TSPRA) and the National School Public Relations Association (NSPRA) with their highest award.

VISIT BUSINESS & COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS ONLINE: tinyurl.com/katyisdBCP

VISIT LEADERSHIP KATY ISD ONLINE: tinyurl.com/LeadershipKatyISD
The Katy ISD Education Foundation is comprised of like-minded community and school district leaders who share the guiding conviction that our most valued relationships belong to teachers and their students.

The foundation’s primary purpose is to award Inspiring Imagination teacher grants for innovative classroom programs that go beyond school district budget capabilities. To date, the foundation has raised, managed and invested more than $2 million in Katy ISD classrooms by funding the dreams and vision of teacher innovators.

The Education Foundation is a stand-alone, non-profit organization that engages the community as stakeholders in the education of students at every campus. Managed by its own Board of Directors and supported by an enthusiastic group of volunteers, the foundation works closely with Katy ISD leaders to pilot initiatives that complement district efforts.

Foundation teacher grants are far-reaching, reusable and impactful, benefitting students in every area of Katy ISD. Armed with the knowledge of what will enrich learning, teachers submit grant requests aligned with Katy ISD learning standards. Team grants for three teachers or more are awarded for up to $5,000 or $2,500 for teams of two, and individual teacher grants are awarded for up to $1,000. Last year, a new category of grants was added to encourage wider district engagement: Campus Collaborative grants for three campuses or more are awarded up to $5,000 and up to $2,500 for two campuses working together to achieve greater outcomes for Katy ISD kids.

**VISIT THE KATY EDUCATION FOUNDATION ONLINE:** tinyurl.com/katyisdEdFoundation
Food for Families had a humble beginning in 2003, when Katy ISD administration staff noticed a financial need during the holidays among students in the district. In order to help these students and their families have a happier holiday season, they came together with the help of the community to provide donations for H-E-B gift cards.

**VISIT FOOD FOR FAMILIES ONLINE:** tinyurl.com/FoodForFamiliesKatyISD

Katy ISD campuses identify students for the program, and Partners in Education collects individual and corporate donations. Grocery gift cards, along with a note of support from the Katy ISD community, are then delivered to each student by a campus staff member.

Through Food for Families, our community’s support of Katy ISD students transcends the classroom and related academic performance, extending to their family’s health and security during the holidays. Such is the strength of our community: combining the individual contributions of many to help others – one Katy ISD family at a time.

**VISIT FOOD FOR FAMILIES ONLINE:** tinyurl.com/FoodForFamiliesKatyISD

Elementary Sister Campuses
Alexander ~ Cimarron
Bear Creek ~ Hayes
Bryant ~ Shafer
Campbell ~ Davidson
Creech ~ Mayde Creek
Exley ~ Golbow
Fielder ~ West Memorial
Franz ~ Winborn
Griffin ~ Morton Ranch
Holland ~ Hutsell
Jenks ~ Memorial Parkway
Katy ~ Wolman
Kilpatrick ~ McRoberts
King ~ Nottingham Country
Randolph ~ Schmalz
Rhoads ~ Stanley
Stephens ~ WoodCreek
Sundown ~ Williams
Wolfe ~ Rylander

Secondary Sister Campuses
Adams Jr. High ~ Cardiff Jr. High
Beck Jr. High ~ West Memorial Jr. High
Katy Jr. High ~ Beckendorff Jr. High
McMeans Jr. High ~ Morton Ranch Jr. High
McDonald Jr. High ~ Seven Lakes Jr. High
Memorial Parkway Jr. High ~ Mayde Creek Jr. High
Stockdick Jr. High ~ WoodCreek Jr. High
Seven Lakes High School ~ Raines High School

**VISIT SISTER SCHOOLS ONLINE:** tinyurl.com/katyisdSisterSchools

Individually we are different, together we are stronger.

In Katy ISD, we are family, unified by our shared commitment to prepare and inspire each student, both academically and personally. Our unique Sister Schools program celebrates that connection, drawing our Katy ISD family even closer, two campuses at a time. United by shared interests and aligned goals, our Sister Schools create an exclusive friendship between students and campus staff. The result is a bond that only these two campuses share and stronger connections across the district.

Sister Schools plan “sister activities” to build and deepen their bond such as contributing items for a campus to enjoy a Fun Food Friday, organizing holiday gifts for students in need, or two schools partnering together in a 5k run to support a school fundraiser - the teambuilding opportunities are endless. The idea is simply this – build a friendship that serves both for the benefit of all.

**VISIT SISTER SCHOOLS ONLINE:** tinyurl.com/katyisdSisterSchools
GROWTH AND DEMOGRAPHICS*

**PROJECTED ENROLLMENT**

- 2020-21: 85,917
- 2021-22: 88,273
- 2022-23: 90,327
- 2023-24: 92,386
- 2024-25: 94,579
- 2025-26: 96,634
- 2026-27: 98,629
- 2027-28: 100,468
- 2028-29: 102,470
- 2029-30: 104,575

**STAFF STATISTICS**

- Total Staff: 10,273
- Teachers: 5,274
- Professional Support: 1,042
- Campus Administration: 244
- Central Administration: 63
- Educational Aides: 1,006
- Auxiliary Staff: 2,644
- Teachers with Advanced Degrees: 265
- Average Years Teaching: 11
- Teachers with 10+ Years Experience: 45
- Average 2018-2019 Teacher Salary: $58,308

*Current as of September 2020

**PROFILE OF KATY ISD KIDS**

- Hispanic/Latino: 35.85%
- White: 31.7%
- Asian: 16.13%
- African American: 12.35%
- Two or More Races: 3.61%
- Native American: 2.5%
- Pacific Islanders: 1.2%
- At Risk: 39.5%
- Economically Disadvantaged: 33.7%
- Limited English Proficient: 19%
- Special Education: 13.1%
- Bilingual / English as a Second Language: 16.9%
- Gifted and Talented: 8%
- Title I Programs: 17.8%

**KATY ISD SCHOOL BOARD**

- Courtney Doyle – President
- Bill Lacy – Vice President
- Ashley Vann – Secretary
- Dawn Champagne – Member
- Susan Gesoff – Member
- Duke Keller – Member
- Lance Redman – Member

**KATY ISD ADMINISTRATION**

- Dr. Ken Gregorski – Superintendent
- Leslie Haack – Deputy Superintendent
- Justin Graham – General Counsel
- Dr. John Alawneh – Chief Information Officer
- Dr. Christine Caskey – Chief Academic Officer
- Dr. Andrea Grooms – Chief Communications Officer
- Brian Schuss – Chief Human Resources Officer
- Christopher J. Smith – Chief Financial Officer
- Ted Vierling – Chief Operations Officer

**PARTNERS IN EDUCATION**

- Janet Theis - Executive Director of Community Partnerships
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- Tammy Stringer - Partners in Education Coordinator
  281.396.2645 • tammyrstringer@katyisd.org

**JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT OF SOUTHEAST TEXAS**

- Courtney Azuike - Director of District Operations, Katy ISD
  281.396.2439 • courtneyazuike@katyisd.org
- Aliyah Thomas - Operations Manager, Katy ISD
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