

“Expect Excellence!”



Superintendent's Newsletter

- Dr. Frederick Clarke



Student Achievement is increasing at Manara!

We were very pleased to receive our first round numbers from TEA on the 5th and 8th grade STAAR assessment. We exceeded nearly every growth indicator in Reading and Math. In addition, we exceeded the standard set by the state in all areas.

We are very proud of our students! Our teachers have done an exceptional job preparing them. Clearly, we are on an upward trajectory. I look forward to achieving even greater results within the next year.

Our children deserve the very best!!

The 4th Annual Manara 5K Run is Just Around the Corner!

On May 13th, Manara will be hosting the 4th Annual 5K Run to benefit the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Please visit our web page and scroll down to "**MANARA ACADEMY 4TH ANNUAL 5K FUN RUN**" to register or get additional information. See you there!!

Enrollment Increasing

As we continue to add grade levels to Manara Academy (7th Grade at Arlington and 11th Grade at the Leadership Academy), our enrollment has been steadily increasing. We currently have 8 grade levels with students on the waitlist. This expansion may result in the addition of sections if needed; however, that determination will be made in August once we see the final enrollment numbers for 2017-18.

Strategic Planning for 2017-18

Manara Academy has completed a comprehensive Strategic Planning process utilizing several sources of data (including the Parent and Staff Surveys). Six District Goals were identified and will be presented to the Board on May 20th. The Goals focus on: Achievement, Community, Safety, Human Resources, Operational Effectiveness, and Financial Stewardship. Several Objectives were also created by the SP Committee under each Goal. The final draft of the 2017-18 Strategic Plan will be presented to the Board in June.

Manara to Explore Adding a Gifted and Talented Program for 2017-18

As we review our needs assessment data, one of the initiatives we are focusing on for the 2017-18 school year will be to provide students with enrichment activities that expand their learning opportunities beyond the regular curriculum. A proposal will be presented to the Manara School Board in June outlining the components of the program. We are exploring providing in-class activities, pull-out initiatives, as well as after school programming—all designed to increase opportunities for college and career readiness.

Refer a New Student, Receive 3 FREE Uniforms for 2017-18

Families—we need your help to recruit students. Please let others know about the great learning environment here at Manara. For each new student referred by you (and enrolled), one of your children will receive 3 uniforms to help offset your costs. We are developing a referral form for new families. More information to come!



Other Notable News...

Nearing the end of the 2016-2017 academic year, it has gotten very busy around the district. Manara students and teachers have been working harder than ever to make the most of the last few months of the school year. Students at Arlington STEM Academy have been undergoing an Institutional Review Board (IRB) certification process in order to conduct their own research studies at the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History's "Research Learning Center." Irving elementary school students have been producing work at breakneck speed, as well. 1st grade recently held a showcase of their NOV8 (Innovate) expedition, learning about various fields of engineering, while 3rd graders opted for a "farmers market" to bring awareness to the role bees play in the production of our food. Manara students also kicked off yet another expedition featuring the Trinity River as Irving 5th graders learned about the historical significance of water. Our Leadership Academy art students hosted a successful Art Show!



Upcoming Events

- May 6th—Irving Elem and Leadership Academy Town Hall—Information Fair
- May 13th—Manara 5K Run
- May 20th—Board Meeting
- May 26th— Last Day of School