



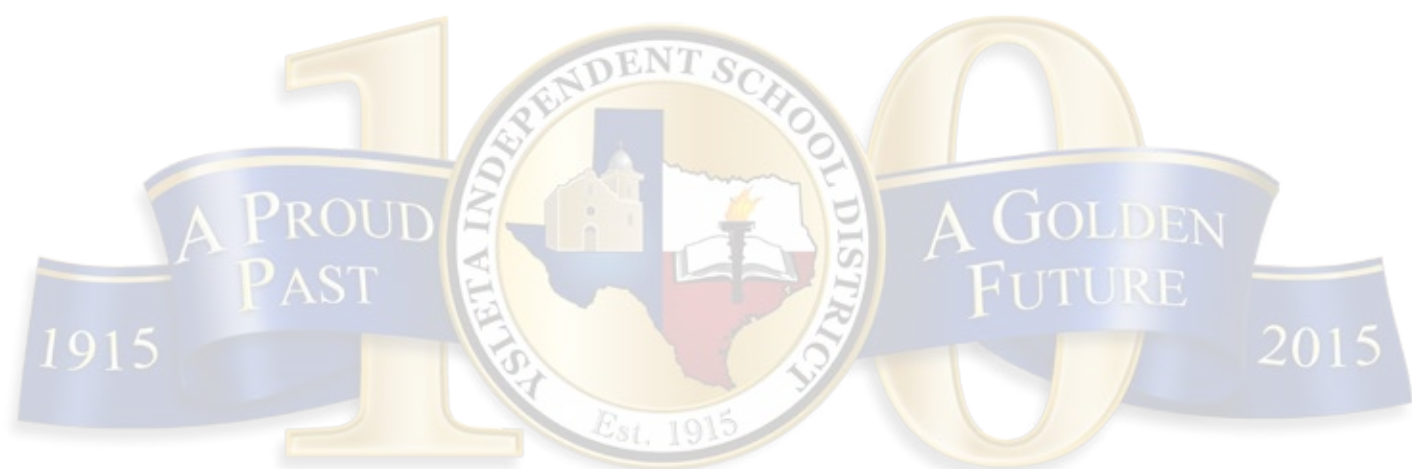
Renaissance OF EXCELLENCE

2014 ANNUAL REPORT

VISION STATEMENT:

All students who enroll in our schools will graduate from high school, fluent in two or more languages, prepared and inspired to continue their education in a four year college, university or institution of higher education so that they become successful citizens in their community.

Todos los estudiantes que se inscriben en nuestras escuelas se graduarán de la preparatoria, con fluidez en dos o más idiomas, preparados e inspirados para continuar su educación en un colegio, universidad, o instituto de educación avanzada con el fin de lograr ser ciudadanos exitosos en su comunidad.



Superintendent's Message

Nearly one year into my tenure as superintendent of schools in the Ysleta Independent School District (YISD), and I remain as excited, energized, and proud as the day I was selected to lead this storied district.

Working with the YISD Board of Trustees has been a sincere privilege, and their unfailing confidence and support is key to our district's future successes. I am very proud of our hardworking Trustees, as well as the collective spirit and teamwork among our Trustees, senior staff, and our principals. We are well-positioned to take the district into the future while remaining focused on sustaining the quality education that distinguishes our school district. Our enthusiasm is further fueled by the recognition that 2015 marks a poignant milestone for our school district – 100 years of unparalleled service to the children and families of El Paso. For the past century, no one has offered a stronger instructional program or public education experience than Ysleta ISD.

This annual report captures the results of our bold and aggressive academic agenda, and features several of the district's educational programs and commitments we are pursuing with uncompromising conviction. Featured on these pages are many examples of how our 42,500 students and nearly 7,800 employees benefit from the YISD community's commitment to education.

Our instructional framework is anchored to a simple but bold vision – that every school will be a thriving school that prepares students to graduate from high school fluent in two or more languages, and ready for college, career and community. The Trustees and I want to publicly thank all of our staff for their selfless dedication and hard work, especially those who serve our students within the four corners of the classroom. Our progress this year serves as evidence that we have the will and the skill to make our vision a reality. Working together, we have laid the foundation to close the gaps in expectations and opportunity. This will ultimately lead to better results for ALL children, and serve as a model of what a strong, urban school district should offer its community.

This year, we've also promoted incredible focus on instructional leadership and the daily work of teaching and learning – building stronger systems and structures so that schools can do their best work on behalf of all children. From targeted Campus Improvement Plans, to consistent and timely monitoring of student progress, to high-quality training and learning aimed at the supervision, support, and evaluation of instruction, we feel confident and optimistic about our future.

This report also touches on the excellent reputation YISD has earned through our continued support and investment in athletics, visual

and performing arts, as well as other extracurricular and co-curricular opportunities that help shape an Ysleta graduate. Our commitment to safety and security, current and emerging technologies, and fiscal responsibility provides YISD with all the elements of a model world-class educational experience with one exception: our facilities.

While one must commend staff for ensuring all school buildings and plants are safe, secure, clean, attractive, and well-maintained, many of our schools are old, in disrepair, and inadequate for a 21st-century learning experience. Nearly one-third of our schools are at least 35 years old, and many are 50 years or older. The consequences and realities associated with outdated school buildings will be discussed in 2015 at community forums designed to generate understanding and support for an initiative that will reinvent the district and change its trajectory for the next 25 to 50 years.

In closing, my wife Amy and I continue to be moved by the reception and support our family has received from so many people in the El Paso community. It certainly has reinforced our belief that YISD provides the environment and education we desire for our children, all of whom attend our schools.

On behalf of the YISD Board of Trustees, our faculty and students, I thank you for taking time to read this annual report, and I encourage you to continue demonstrating your support for our school district as we initiate a Renaissance of Excellence in the Ysleta Independent School District

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Xavier De La Torre', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

Xavier De La Torre, Ed.D.
YISD Superintendent of Schools





BOARD OF TRUSTEES

2014 ANNUAL REPORT

Bottom row, left to right: Paul Pearson, Vice President; Patricia Torres McLean, President; Martha "Marty" Y. Reyes, Secretary.

Top row, left to right: Dr. Xavier De La Torre, Superintendent; Ana Dueñez, District 1; Shane Haggerty, District 3; Deby Lewis, District 4; Connie Woodruff, District 2.

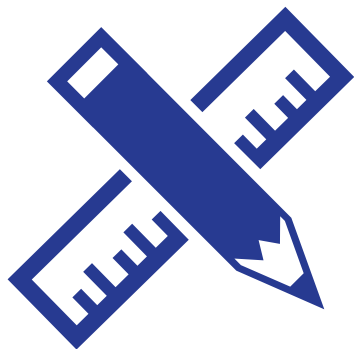


BOARD GOALS

2014 ANNUAL REPORT

GOAL 1:

Continue to enhance and improve student learning and performance.



Curriculum & Instruction

- 1.1** Ensure that both district and campus improvement plans include strategies that reinforce the emphasis on Small Learning Communities.
- 1.2** Ensure that both district and campus improvement plans include strategies to utilize technology to improve student performance, including expanding available tools and technology for staff.
- 1.3** Ensure that both district and campus improvement plans include strategies to improve the academic performance of all subpopulations, with an emphasis on hands-on and small group learning opportunities.
- 1.4** Ensure that foreign language program offerings are aligned K-12.
- 1.5** Create a professional development plan for all employees that ensures job-related training is delivered through job alike format.
- 1.6** Create a plan to expand the application of thematic unit learning based on utilization of science kits in middle schools.
- 1.7** Conduct a review of current district program evaluations and create a model for conducting annual measurement of program effectiveness.



BOARD GOALS

2014 ANNUAL REPORT

GOAL 2:

Continue to assure that all students are provided learning environments that are well-maintained and conducive to learning.



Facility & Building Improvements

2.1 Create a plan to assure that all campus buildings are physically secure; to include security cameras, exterior doors, alarm systems.

2.2 Conduct a district-wide facility and demographic needs assessment, to include 3 and 5-year projections of areas of population growth and decline.

2.3 Create a Bond Exploration Committee to evaluate the possible need for a bond issue, based on the needs assessment.

2.4 Conduct an audit of the Maintenance and Operations Department and develop a departmental improvement plan to correct deficit areas, including work order processing, facility maintenance and improvements, and quality assurance.

2.5 Create and implement a Preventative Maintenance Plan, including specific schedules for routine maintenance and classroom climate control monitoring.



BOARD GOALS

2014 ANNUAL REPORT

GOAL 3:

Continue to comprehensively address the social and emotional needs of all students.



School Safety & Special Programs

3.1 Ensure the district, department, and campus improvement plans include strategies to ensure learning environments and extra-curricular activities are safe and free of bullying, intimidation, and distractions.

3.2 Create a plan for providing regular training for campus staff of safety protocols, including continuing to schedule specific school-wide emergency preparedness drills.

3.3 Create a training plan for campus staff to increase awareness of the educational and social needs of students with disabilities.

3.4 Revise and update ADA compliance plan, including annual and five-year schedules of completion.

3.5 Review Title IX compliance status, to include all facilities, and continue to ensure compliance.

3.6 Conduct a feasibility study of options for the length of students' placement at the Disciplinary Alternative Education Program at Cesar Chavez Academy.

3.7 Create a plan to expand the Crime Stoppers and Hot Line programs, to include bullying and drug abuse reporting.



EXECUTIVE CABINET

2014 ANNUAL REPORT

DISTRICT LEADERSHIP

2014 ANNUAL REPORT



Patricia Ayala Director of Public Relations

Ms. Ayala works closely with the Superintendent's office to ensure district communication goals are met while overseeing media relations, district protocol, special events and projects, social media, and internal and external community relations. Ms. Ayala earned a bachelor's degree in journalism and a master's degree in organizational communication from the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP), and has worked at YISD for 10 years.

"As I walked through the doors 10 years ago, I immediately felt the camaraderie at YISD. I am honored to be part of an amazing team. Our district has always been a leader in El Paso, and it is a privilege to publicize the successes of our students, faculty, and staff."



Brenda Chacon

Associate Superintendent of Elementary Schools

Ms. Chacon supervises elementary-level campuses in the Del Valle, Riverside, and Ysleta professional learning communities. Ms. Chacon holds a bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies and two master's degrees in reading education and educational administration, and is pursuing a doctorate in educational administration from UTEP. She began her career in education 10 years ago, and came to YISD last summer.

"I am excited and fortunate to be part of Ysleta ISD during a time of innovation and excellence. As Ysleta celebrates 100 years of greatness, my goal is to continue to add to the history of eminence for the future of YISD."

Rolyne Kafka

Associate Superintendent of Finance

Mr. Kafka oversees the budget, accounting, payroll, purchasing, student attendance accounting, and records management departments. Mr. Kafka holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from Iowa State University, and a master's degree in accountancy from UTEP. After spending 17 years in the private sector, Mr. Kafka began working at YISD 22 years ago.

"I was immediately taken in by the family atmosphere at YISD. Anyone who has ever worked anywhere else has no idea what we have at YISD."





Dr. Catherine Kennedy Associate Superintendent of Middle Schools

Dr. Kennedy supervises YISD's 11 middle schools. Dr. Kennedy earned her bachelor's degree in science, a master's degree in educational administration, and doctorate in educational leadership from UTEP. Her career in education spans 25 years, all of which have been spent at Ysleta ISD. Most recently, she served as principal at Valley View Middle School before being promoted to Associate Superintendent in 2014.

"We work in a district that has always been so progressive and innovative. To impact the lives of so many people is very rewarding."

Jerry Molinoski Associate Superintendent of Human Resources

Mr. Molinoski oversees all aspects of YISD's human resources, including employee relations, health benefits, risk management, and employee compensation, among others. Mr. Molinoski earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education from John Brown University, and a master's degree in counseling from the University of Arkansas. He has worked in education for 36 years, 11 of which have taken place at YISD.

"I see education as a way to make a difference in the world. It's rewarding to be part of a committed team that is dedicated to providing the best services possible to the students and the community we serve."





Angelica Nieto

Associate Superintendent of Academics

Ms. Nieto oversees the departments of academic language programs, early childhood education, secondary education, advanced academics, career and technical education, and special education, among others. She holds a bachelor's and master's degree from UTEP, and has spent her 36-year career in education at YISD.

"YISD gives opportunities to all who want them. If you have the spirit, the courage, and the professional ethic to pursue a dream, YISD will give you the opportunity to fulfill it."

Patrick "Pat" O'Neill

Associate Superintendent of Operations

Mr. O'Neill oversees several YISD departments, including facilities and construction; custodial services, transportation, child nutrition, grounds, and environmental services. Mr. O'Neill holds bachelor's and master's degrees from UTEP. He previously worked at YISD for 26 years before being rehired this fall as Associate Superintendent. His career in public education spans 39 years.

"In high school, I had a coach who instilled in his players the philosophy that failure was not an option. I want to do the same for others – and as part of YISD administration, I can reach more students by working with campus administrators, teachers, coaches, and parents."





Rebecca O'Neill

Associate Superintendent of Elementary Schools

Ms. O'Neill supervises elementary-level campuses in the Bel Air, Eastwood, Parkland, and Hanks professional learning communities. Ms. O'Neill earned a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in education administration from UTEP. Before being hired as Associate Superintendent last spring, Ms. O'Neill had previously worked at YISD for 30 years. She has spent a total of 35 years in education.

"I feel this is the most noble profession – one that allows us to affect the future of so many young students. We can truly have a positive impact on the lives of many people, which in turn contributes to a more enriched society."

Dr. Susanna Russell

Associate Superintendent of High Schools

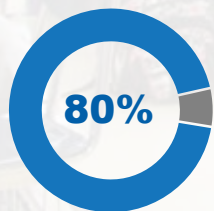
Dr. Russell oversees all YISD high schools, as well as the athletics and fine arts departments. Dr. Russell earned a bachelor's degree from Trinity University in San Antonio, a master's degree from the University of Texas at San Antonio, and a doctorate in education from the University of Texas at Austin. She has spent 30 years working in education, and has been at YISD since 2010.

"I want to be one of the keys that helps unlock doors for students. I want to pay forward the gifts of time, believing in me, and mentoring that changed me from an almost-high school dropout to earning my doctorate. This is the work I love most in the world."

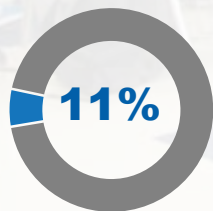


DISTRICT PROFILE

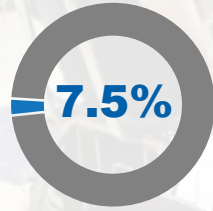
2014 ANNUAL REPORT



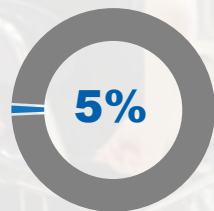
**ECONOMICALLY
DISADVANTAGED**



**SPECIAL
EDUCATION**



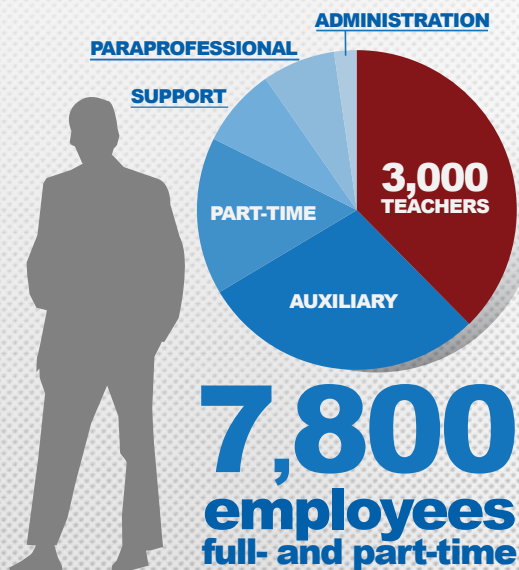
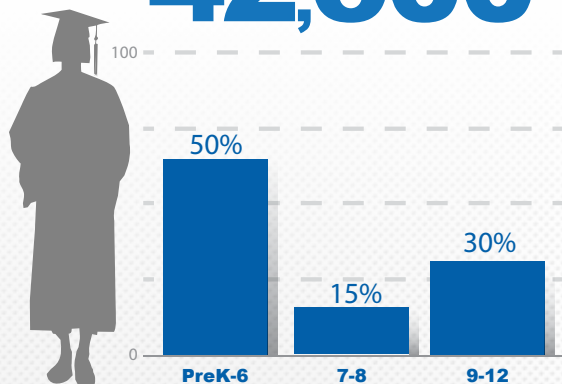
**GIFTED AND
TALENTED**



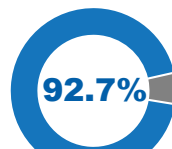
**ENGLISH
LEARNERS**

STUDENT ENROLLMENT

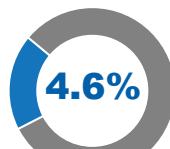
42,500



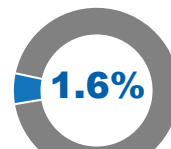
STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS



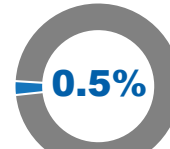
HISPANIC



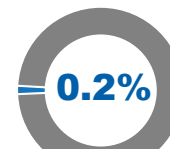
WHITE



AFRICAN
AMERICAN



MULTI-
CULTURAL



AMERICAN
INDIAN



63

SCHOOLS

7
HIGH
SCHOOLS

11
MIDDLE
SCHOOLS

35
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOLS

1 Early College High School
2 International K-8 Schools

3 Pre-Kindergarten Centers
4 Alternative Schools





86%

YISD

83%

REGION

88%

STATE

2013 GRADUATION RATES

96%

ATTENDANCE RATE

91%

COLLEGE-GOING

\$83.3 **CLASS OF**
MILLION **2014**
SCHOLARSHIPS & FINANCIAL AID

YSLETA ISD SCHOOLS

2014 ANNUAL REPORT

Bel Air Learning Community

Bel Air High	434-2000
Hillcrest Middle	434-2200
Ranchland Hills Middle	434-2300
Del Norte Heights Elementary	434-2400
Hacienda Heights Elementary	434-2500
Loma Terrace Elementary	434-2600
Mesa Vista Elementary	434-2700
North Loop Elementary	434-2800
Sageland Elementary	434-2900

Del Valle Learning Community

Del Valle High	434-3000
Camino Real Middle	434-8300
Valley View Middle	434-3300
Del Valle Elementary	434-9300
Lancaster Elementary	434-3400
LeBarron Park Elementary	434-3500
Mission Valley Elementary	434-3700
Presa Elementary	434-8700

Eastwood Learning Community

Eastwood High	434-4000
Eastwood Middle	434-4300
East Point Elementary	434-4500
Eastwood Heights Elementary	434-4600
Eastwood Knolls Elementary	434-4400
Edgemere Elementary	434-4700
Scotsdale Elementary	434-4800

Hanks Learning Community

J.M. Hanks High	434-5000
Desert View Middle	434-5300
Indian Ridge Middle	434-5400
Glen Cove Elementary	434-5500
Pebble Hills Elementary	434-5600
REL Washington Elementary	434-5900
Tierra Del Sol Elementary	434-5800
Vista Hills Elementary	434-5700

Parkland Learning Community

Parkland High	434-6000
Parkland Middle	434-6300
Desertaire Elementary	434-6400
Dolphin Terrace Elementary	434-6500
North Star Elementary	434-6700
Parkland Elementary	434-6600

Riverside Learning Community

Riverside High	434-7000
Riverside Middle	434-7300
Ascarate Elementary	434-7400
Cadwallader Elementary	434-7500
Cedar Grove Elementary	434-7600
Constance Hulbert Elementary	434-6900
Ramona Elementary	434-7700
Thomas Manor Elementary	434-7800

Ysleta Learning Community

Ysleta High	434-8000
Rio Bravo Middle	434-8400
Ysleta Middle	434-8200
Alicia R. Chacon International	434-9200
Capistrano Elementary	434-8600
Marian Manor Elementary	434-3600
Pasodale Elementary	434-8500
South Loop Elementary	434-8800
Ysleta Elementary	434-8900

Special Campuses

Cesar Chavez Academy	434-9600
Parkland Pre-K	435-7800
Plato Academy	434-9000
RFK Pre-K Center	434-9100
Tejas School of Choice	434-9900
Valle Verde Early College High	434-1500
Ysleta Community Learning Ctr.	434-9400
Ysleta Pre-K Center	434-9500



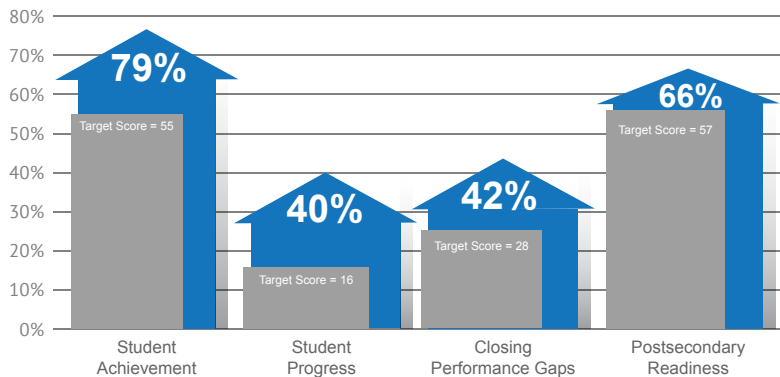
ACADEMICS

MAKING THE GRADE

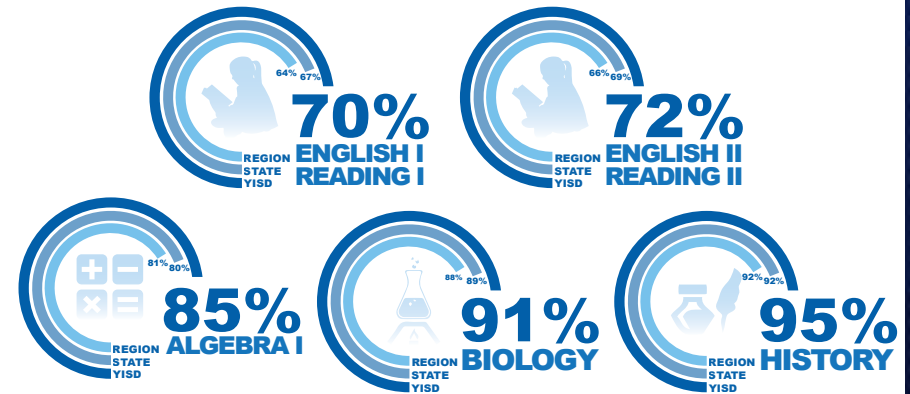
2014 ANNUAL REPORT

Surpassing State Standards

Ysleta ISD's 2014 state ratings demonstrated that our district is among the best in academics in both the El Paso region and throughout Texas. All YISD schools met the state's standards for academic achievement, while 84% of eligible schools received special distinctions in the areas of reading/English language arts, math, science, social studies, student progress, closing performance gaps, and postsecondary readiness. Additionally, two campuses – Eastwood Middle School and Del Valle High School – won academic distinctions in every category available for their school types.



PERFORMANCE INDEX REPORT



END OF COURSE PASS RATES





Leading the Way to Success

Valle Verde Early College High School was the only El Paso high school to be named among the nation's best high schools by both Newsweek magazine and U.S. News & World Report.

National Excellence in Education

Eastwood Middle School earned several notable accolades in 2014 for excellence in academics, teaching, positive relationships on campus, and fostering respect among students. Eastwood MS

was redesignated for three years as a Texas School to Watch; received the 2014 National Excellence in Urban Education award; and named a national "Mix It Up Model School."



Best Practices

Glen Cove Elementary School was among 11 in Texas and the only school in El Paso to be selected for a Texas Education Agency "best practices" case study for its outstanding 2014 state test scores.



\$239,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS
Gates Millennium Scholars

Gates Millennium Scholars

Five members of the Class of 2014 at Bel Air, Eastwood, Del Valle, Ysleta, and Valle Verde Early College high schools won prestigious Gates Millennium Scholarships worth \$239,000. The scholarships can be used at any college or university.

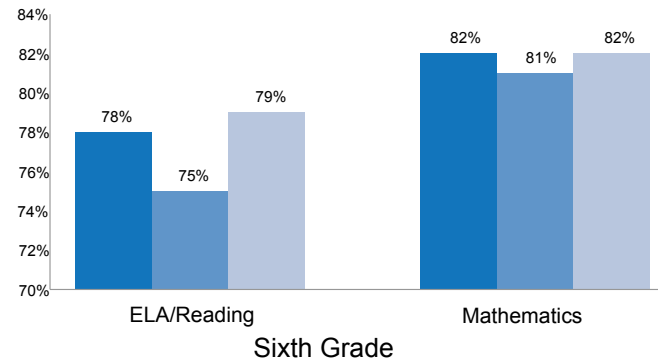
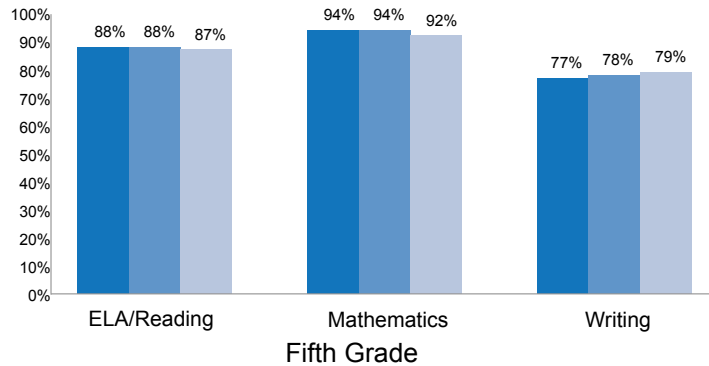
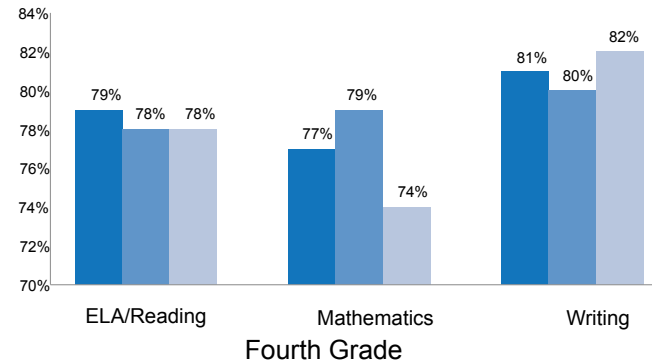
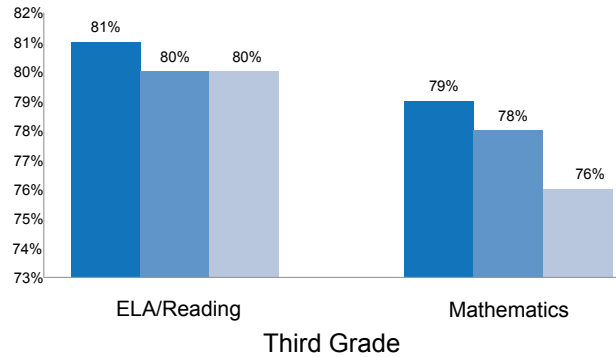
25 GRADUATES
NAMED



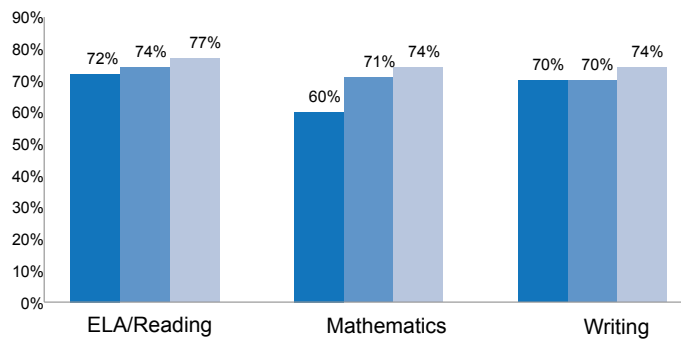
**NATIONAL HISPANIC
MERIT SCHOLARS**

COMPARING DISTRICTS

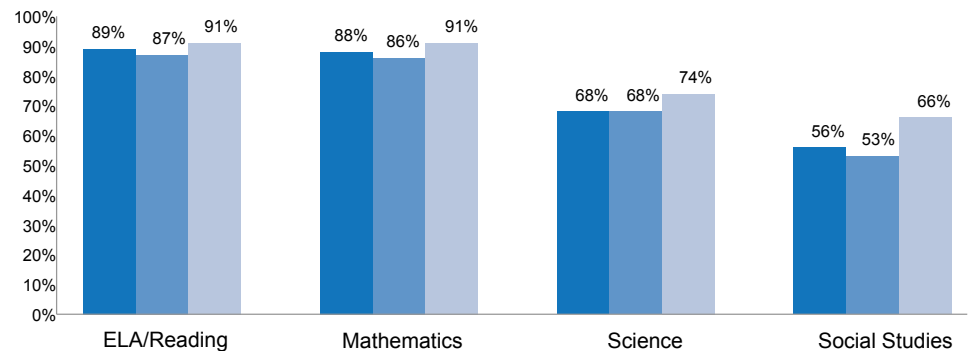
2013-14 Texas Academic Performance Report



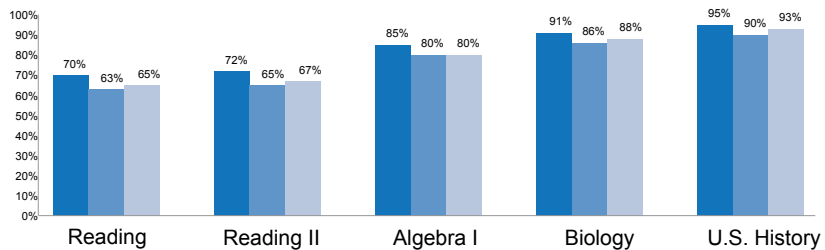
■ YISD ■ EPISD ■ SISD



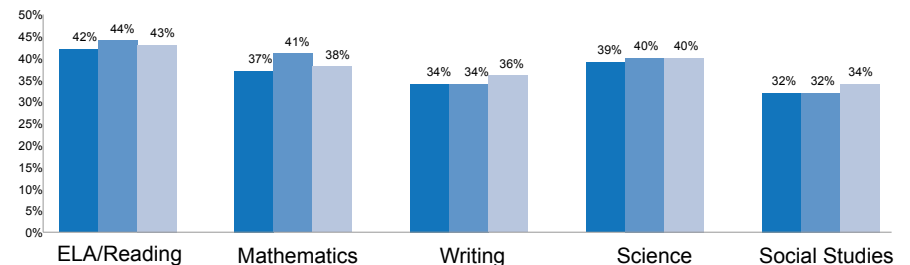
Seventh Grade



Eighth Grade



2014 End of Course Pass Rate

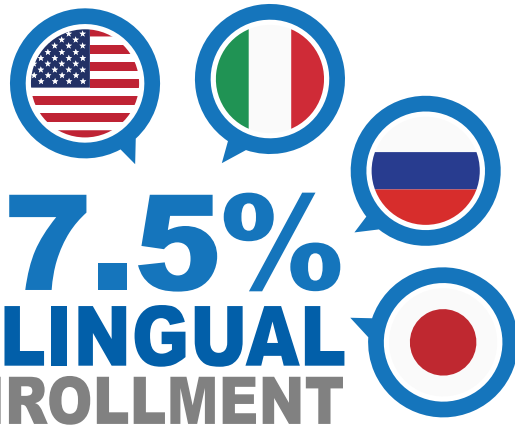


2014 End of Course Readiness





2 Kindergarten through 8th grade **INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS**



Global Education

Preparing students to compete in the global marketplace starts in kindergarten at YISD! We have two K-8 international schools that provide core instruction in academic subjects while teaching fluency in one or more languages other than English, such as Russian, Japanese, and Spanish. The schools also coordinate student trips every other year to the countries they study. So far, YISD students and staff have visited China, Germany, Russia, and Japan.



THE GLOBAL SOCIETY

2014 ANNUAL REPORT

Classroom by Google

In 2014, extensive Google Tools for teaching and learning came to our campuses. By logging into Google using YISD account credentials, students and teachers are now able to use web applications like Google Drive, Docs, Slides, and Drawing to enhance their lessons and learning.



Learning in the 21st Century

We are also taking innovation a step further in our schools with Learning Management Systems (LMS) such as Google Classroom, which allow teachers to create online classes to extend learning beyond the regular school day. Students can log in to

the online class, take notes, work on assignments, and communicate with their teacher and classmates via instant messaging. In this technology age, these online tools help us better prepare our students for college and the global workplace in the 21st century.

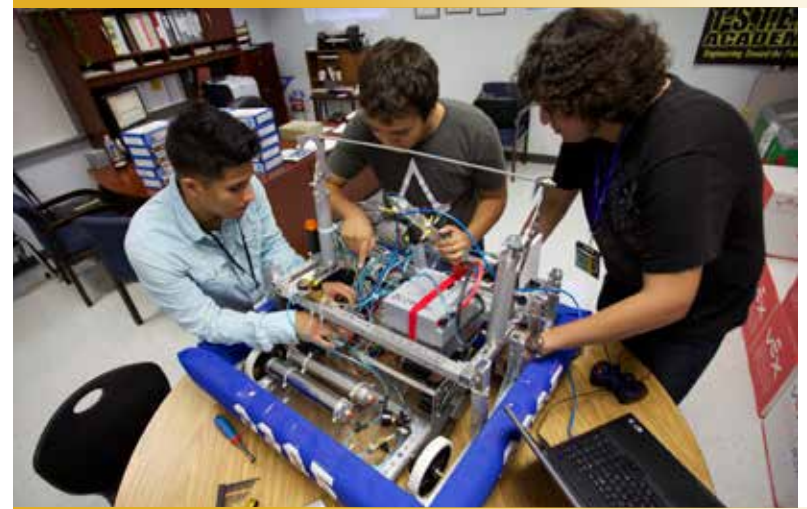


Chromebooks

Also in 2014, YISD won a highly competitive state grant that paid for 270 Chromebooks and several Internet “hot spots” for use by Parkland High School’s T-STEM Academy students.

Career Academies

Every YISD high school offers at least one career academy, which infuses students’ academic lessons with skills in industries like STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics), health care, automotive technology, culinary/hospitality, cosmetology, business, robotics, law enforcement, environmental science, and others. Upon graduation, many students are either certified in their chosen field and able to go straight into the workplace, or have earned college credit hours that can be used toward a postsecondary degree.



COLLEGE READINESS

2014 ANNUAL REPORT

Earning College Degrees in High School

Thanks to innovative programs, YISD students can earn college credit before high-school graduation. Valle Verde Early College High School is located on the campus of El Paso Community College – and graduates not only leave with a high-school diploma, but a two-year college degree as well! Our students are also eligible to enroll in dual-credit programs available at each high school, providing another avenue for our motivated students to earn high school and college credits simultaneously.



TEXAS TECH
UNIVERSITY



A Greener World

In 2014, the Ysleta High School Environmental Science Academy began a new collaborative with Texas Tech University and El Paso Community College (EPCC) that gives students the opportunity to earn college credit in certain high school classes offered by the academy. This college credit would count toward an associate's degree at EPCC, or an environmental science/engineering degree from Texas Tech University.



A young man with glasses and a dark jacket is sitting at a desk in a classroom, focused on writing in a notebook with a yellow pencil. He is surrounded by other students, some of whom are also working at their desks. The desk is cluttered with various school supplies, including a calculator, a pink folder, and a purple container. The background shows a typical classroom setting with shelves and other students.

HOUSEBILL5

Pathways to the Future

New High School Graduation Requirements

The 2014-15 school year ushered in a new set of high school graduation requirements in Texas, beginning with all ninth-grade students. There are core academic classes – such as math, science, English, and social studies – that all students must pass in order to earn a basic diploma. However, the state and YISD strongly encourage students to choose at least one area of specialization, or pathway, in their high-school studies. There are five pathways available to students: STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics); Business and Industry; Public Services; Arts and Humanities; and Multidisciplinary Studies. Informational meetings on the new graduation requirements were held at middle schools and high schools to prepare students and parents for the change in graduation requirements. The YISD counseling and guidance staff will continue working to ensure our students are able to seamlessly transition to the new graduation requirements.

WELL-ROUNDED

2014 ANNUAL REPORT

Striving to be the Best

Academics may be the heart of YISD, but extracurricular activities are pivotal in providing our students with a well-rounded education. Extracurricular activities help teach students determination, confidence, and leadership. They also learn to work as a team with others who share similar interests in areas like music, theater, speech, dance, JROTC, and athletics, among others. Together, our students strive to become the best at what they love – and very often, YISD students truly outshine their competitors. Here are just a few examples of their outstanding successes in 2014.



5 Inducted into the El Paso Athletic HALL OF FAME

Five athletes from Eastwood, Hanks and Parkland high schools were inducted into the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame in softball, football, wrestling, volleyball, and swimming.

BAHS Gymnasts Bring Home 5 Medals

The Bel Air High School girls' gymnastics team took second place in the Texas High School Gymnastics Regional meet. The team qualified an unprecedented eight gymnasts to the state meet, bringing home five medals.



Eastwood Troopers Capture Championships



Eastwood High School junior Leo Sanchez captured the gold medal in the 200-yard freestyle and a bronze medal in the 100-yard freestyle at the Texas 5A UIL swimming and diving championships.

The Eastwood High School boys' swim team continued their remarkable run of championships, earning their 16th regional title and their 32nd district title. In addition, Coach Steve Flato was named the 2014 Region I Male Coach of the Year.

The Eastwood High School soccer team had an amazing run in the Texas 5A UIL soccer playoffs. During their run, the team captured the district championship, an area championship, were Region I quarterfinal champions, and qualified for the Region I semifinal game.

Lady Knights Win State

The Hanks High School girls wrestling team captured the Texas 4A UIL state wrestling championship after earning district and regional championship honors. Two wrestlers also won individual gold medals in their weight divisions, and Coach Tony Carter was named the 4A Girls Coach of the Year for the state.





Top Notch Jazz

The Indian Ridge Middle School jazz ensemble was one of only two Texas middle schools chosen to perform at the renowned Jazz Education Network (JEN) conference in 2014.

JROTC Honors

Bel Air High School JROTC cadets took first and second place among 5,200 participants at the Bataan Memorial Death March Marathon in New Mexico.

DVHS Goes to State

In speech and academics, Del Valle High School students advanced to state competition in UIL ready writing and calculator application. DVHS also won first place in the 2-4A UIL academic contest.



YISD dominates local jazz

For 10 years, YISD has dominated in the Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA) UIL Region 22 all-region jazz competition. Our middle and high school jazz students have been awarded 14 out of 20 slots available in both Jazz 1 and Jazz 2 ensembles – which leaves only five available slots for the other districts.

Musically Inclined

Six students from Eastwood, Hanks, and Ysleta high schools qualified for all-state band and choir ensembles in 2014, and performed at the TMEA conference.

Marching to Victory

The Hanks High School marching band won first place at both the 2014 Socorro ISD marching band contest and the NMSU Tournament of Bands marching band contest, then went on to win first place in their class and third place overall at the Bands of America competition in St. George, Utah.

We Are Jazz

YISD is the only district in the El Paso area that has 100% participation in both UIL Middle and High School Concert and Jazz competition from all of our schools.

ACHIEVEMENTS

2014 ANNUAL REPORT

U.S. Capitol Quality

Bel Air High School student Gabriela Moreno is pictured below with U.S. Rep. Beto O'Rourke after winning the U.S. House of Representatives District 16 art contest. Her artwork will be on display in the U.S. Capitol for one year.



YHS Wins Region

Ysleta High School students won first place in their division at the UIL Region 2 Academic Decathlon, advancing to the state contest. Academic Decathlon is the premier national scholastic competition for high school students. Decathletes are quizzed in 10 areas, such as art, economics, and speech.



Innovative Competitors

Mission Valley and Sageland elementary school students took first and third places at Texas Destination Imagination, a state contest that fosters 21st-century learning skills. The YISD teams advanced to the global competition held in Tennessee.

RHS Artwork Honored

Riverside High School student Regina Hernandez won a \$1,250 scholarship from the El Paso Criminal Law Group for her winning artwork in the "Justice for the Accused" art scholarship competition.

BAHS Designs VANS

A special shoe designed by Bel Air High School students was among 50 nationwide finalists in the 2014 VANS Custom Culture Shoe contest. The design was chosen to represent the U.S. southwest.

Architecture Awards

Six Parkland High School students won second place in architecture at the Texas Technology Student Association contest, and went on to participate at the national level.



FACILITIES

UPDATING SCHOOLS

2014 ANNUAL REPORT

21st-Century Learning Environments

The YISD Facilities and Construction Department oversees the maintenance and upgrades of the district's 63 campuses and support buildings, which comprise more than 7.3 million square-feet of total area. Our goal is to help create 21st-century learning environments that are cost-effective, sustainable, energy-efficient, and support student academics.





Maintaining Older Schools

In 2014, YISD implemented various upgrades to older campuses to accommodate an increased need for technology and make the learning environment more comfortable for students.

Glen Cove ES: New 200-ton chiller system, with energy-conservation features and digital controls.

Loma Terrace ES: New refrigerated air-conditioning units with computerized controls.

Sageland ES: New refrigerated air conditioning system and kitchen exhaust system.

Central Office: New refrigerated system, enlarged data center for digital equipment, and electronic power sending with separate power generator capabilities for the TIS Department, which provides computer and technology support to all schools. These upgrades were necessary to support our schools' increased computer needs.

Removing Barriers

Several facilities improvements related to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) were completed in 2014.

Riverside HS: Wheelchair accessibility was added to the stadium.

Bel Air HS: An ADA-compliant student restroom underwent renovations.



Facilities Infrastructure

Infrastructure projects were also completed or under way in 2014, including:

Loma Terrace ES: Replacement of the roof, and installation of additional insulation necessary for high-performance roofing standards;

Capistrano and Dolphin Terrace ES: Various roofing improvements.

New Construction

The completion of two construction projects in 2014 brought significant upgrades to YISD campuses. At Riverside High School, eight new science labs with large lecture labs and student preparation areas were added to the campus. The second project was a new classroom wing addition at Desertaire Elementary School. The eight new classrooms at Desertaire ES house mostly fifth-grade students.



THE REALITY

2014 ANNUAL REPORT

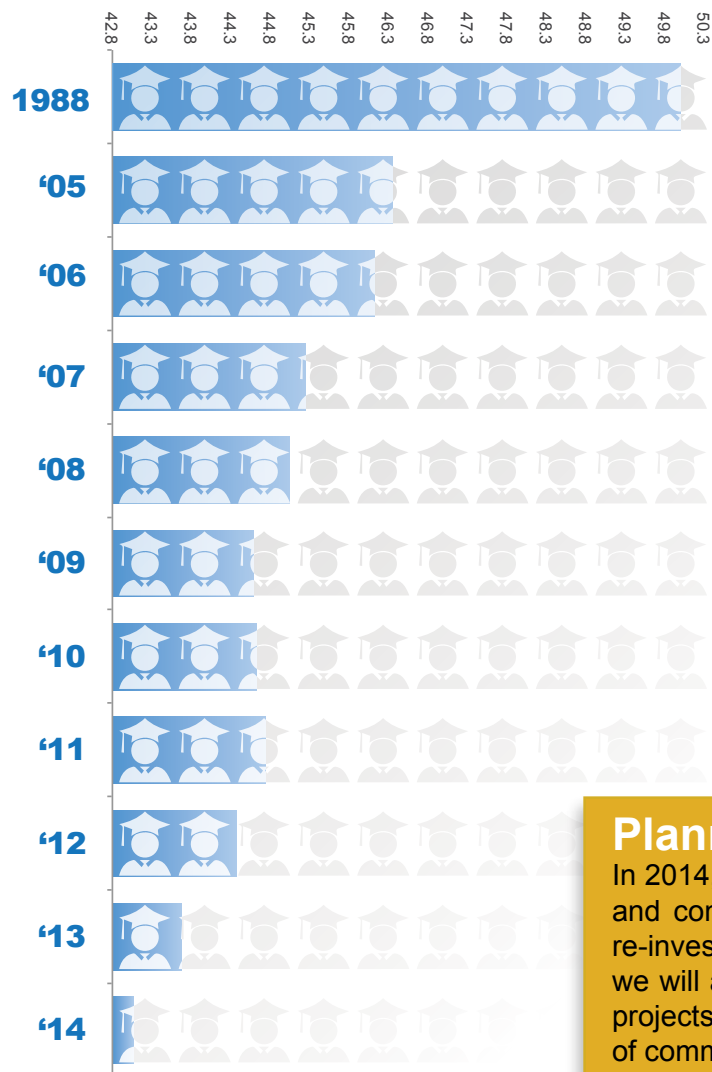
The Century Mark

The commemoration of YISD's centennial in 2015 placed a spotlight on our aging school buildings in 2014. The oldest portions of RFK Pre-K Center, Ysleta High School, and Cadwallader, Ascarate, and North Loop elementary schools range between 77 and 97 years old. These older facilities require significantly more attention and money to maintain and keep current with technological advances. At the same time, YISD is also in a trend of declining enrollment that has resulted in 17,000 empty seats in our classrooms.



YSLETA
HIGH SCHOOL

Declining Enrollment



Underutilized Schools and Aging Facilities

The Board of Trustees commissioned two surveys regarding facilities and enrollment in 2014. The first survey was a demographics study to tell us what to expect in enrollment and community demographics for the next 10 years. When the results were presented to Trustees in the summer, they showed enrollment had dropped below 43,000 students – our lowest since 1975. In addition, several YISD campuses were operating at less than 50% capacity. The second study was a Facilities Condition Assessment, which detailed the condition and capacity of our campuses. It showed us our school buildings are typically in good condition for their age, but many systems are at or near the end of their useful life. This study also revealed it will cost more than \$300 million over the next five years simply to repair and maintain buildings.

A Firsthand Look

To help validate the results of the facilities survey, the Board of Trustees visited several elementary, middle, and high schools in November to see the condition of our buildings firsthand. In addition, a new Facilities Assessment Committee (FAC) – consisting of 49 community members, business leaders, YISD employees, and board-appointed representatives – was convened. The FAC conducted visits to each YISD school to evaluate its physical condition. The committee is scheduled to provide a prioritized list of recommended repairs in each Professional Learning Community to the Board of Trustees in 2015.

Planning for the Future

In 2014, we began long-range strategic planning in an effort to maximize our current facilities and continue providing a world-class education for our students. We must repurpose and re-invest our resources to bring about a Renaissance of Excellence at Ysleta ISD. However, we will also need the public's input and support for our plans, as they may include a capital projects bond in 2015 that must be approved by voters and overseen by a special committee of community leaders.



COMMUNITY

YISD VOLUNTEERS

2014 ANNUAL REPORT



Partnering with Parents

Parents make up the majority of the district's 5,200 volunteers, whose efforts at our schools save the district nearly \$2 million every year in labor. At our schools, parents and volunteers help teachers with classroom tasks and programs, provide supervision, and organize special programs and activities to keep children engaged in their learning. At the same time, numerous studies have shown that high levels of parental involvement in schools helps increase students' academic success.

Taking Care of Our Own

Because the health and wellness of our students is important to us, our district provides a Comprehensive Care Center next to Riverside High School that offers low-cost medical and dental services to all YISD students, regardless of whether they have insurance. We also make it possible for working parents to receive affordable after-school care for their children – often at their child's campus – through local nonprofit agencies like the YMCA. The district also provides free after-school care for students at 10 campuses through Texas 21st Century Community Learning Centers grants, which are highly competitive. YISD is the only school district in Region 19 to receive these federal grants.





2,500 FREE BACKPACKS

Giving Back to YISD

YISD schools and students also benefit from the generosity of our Partners In Education, which consist of 914 businesses, military, nonprofit groups, and individuals. By donating materials, services, and money to YISD, our Partners make it possible for our district to host important events like the New Teacher Banquet and the annual Back To School Rally. In 2014, we distributed 2,500 free backpacks with school supplies at the Back To School Rally to help local students prepare for the start of the new school year.



Ysleta Independent School District

PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

INSPIRE • ENGAGE • CONNECT

Our Partners' support and involvement is invaluable to our schools, where they have directly donated time, money, labor, knowledge, and expertise in their fields. Here are just a few of the significant contributions made by our Partners In Education in 2014.

Career Mentoring

Edd Fifer, owner of Fifer's Ranch, provided weekly mentoring to Bel Air High School veterinary science students in an effort to help them decide whether to pursue careers as veterinarians.



Donating to Schools

Western Refining donated nearly \$10,000 to Ramona and Ascarate elementary schools for student incentives, field trips, and other items.



Student Interaction

Employees from Freeport McMoran read with students and worked with the robotics club at Ramona Elementary School. They also donated computers and a \$5,000 grant.

Surfing Safety

The FBI introduced a Safe Online Surfing Program at South Loop Elementary School, which is designed to teach third-through fifth-graders about online safety.

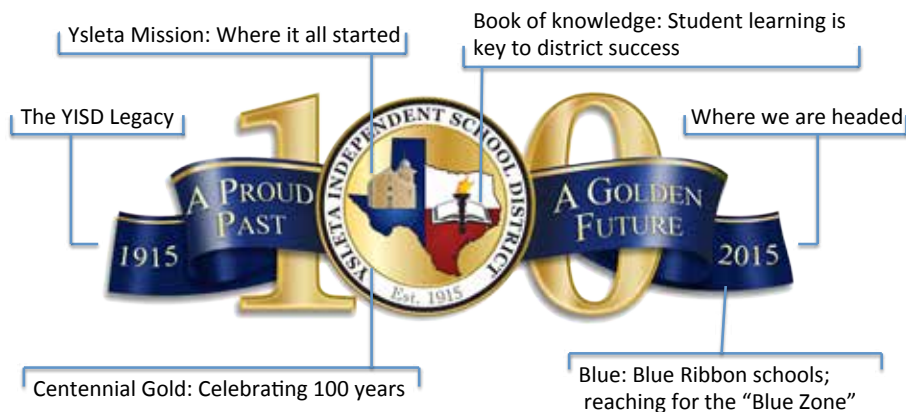
Innovation & Technology

Valle Verde Early College High School was designated an Apple Distinguished School by Apple Computers for innovation, leadership and educational excellence.

YISD: A Powerful Brand of Education

Ysleta ISD's proud legacy is supported by a long history of achievements, state and national recognitions, and progress. But in 2014, under the direction of Superintendent of Schools Dr. Xavier De La Torre, we unveiled a new, multifaceted branding campaign that was designed to distinguish YISD from other school districts. Our goal was to create a strong, unique brand for YISD that is crisp and professional, and conveys what our district stands for: excellence and tradition.

As part of this effort, we created a new logo to commemorate YISD's centennial in 2015, and the district's primary logo was redesigned. The new primary logo highlights our history (the Ysleta Mission) and our purpose (the light of learning and the book of knowledge) against a backdrop of the state of Texas.



Re-inventing our Online Presence

Enhancing communication with students, parents, employees, and the community was the motivating factor behind the redesign of our website at www.yisd.net and the introduction of a weekly blog by Dr. De La Torre called, "Dr. Xclusive." The website incorporates our new centennial logo, and prominently features important YISD news on the home page. The new website is better organized, more user-friendly, and features a clean, polished look to appeal to visitors. The "Dr. Xclusive" blog is updated weekly. It features a brief message from the Superintendent on issues affecting the district, such as new high-school graduation requirements, upcoming community meetings, and school facilities information, among others.

Reaching Out Through Social Media

In 2014, our schools and student organizations were allowed to set up official social media accounts under Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, and others. YISD supporters are encouraged to “Like” or follow us on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and YouTube to get up-to-the-minute highlights and photos, or learn more about the district.



Parents with Power

Ysleta ISD's PowerParent online system has become an increasingly popular tool among parents who wish to stay up-to-date on their child's schedules, grades, attendance, daily assignments, volunteer hours, or course history at their convenience. Parents can sign up for PowerParent by clicking the “Parents” tab on the YISD home page, then completing a simple online form to complete the registration process.



FINANCE

FINANCIAL LEADERS

2014 ANNUAL REPORT



Texas Comptroller Leadership Circle

Budget Transparency

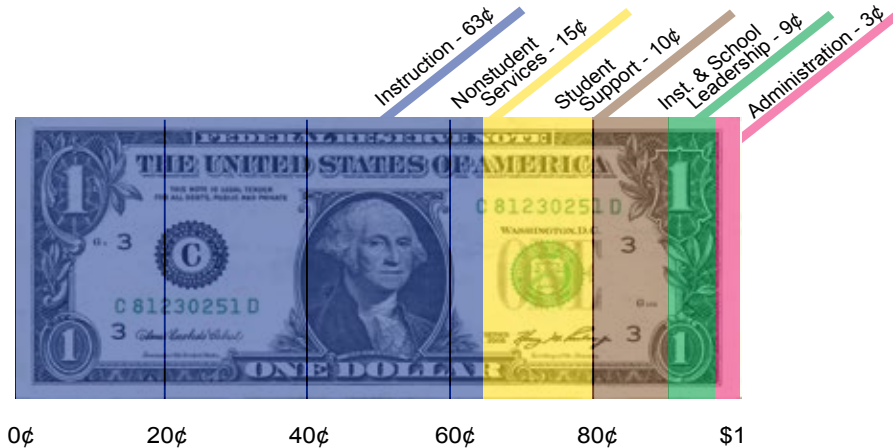
In 2014, YISD earned the highest recognition – the Platinum Award – from the Texas Comptroller Leadership Circle program. The recognition was awarded for providing the public with understandable and easily accessible financial information on the YISD website, which gives taxpayers a clear picture of district spending. This is the fifth year YISD has received the top honor from the Leadership Circle program.

Financial Integrity

For the 10th year in a row, YISD earned a Superior Achievement designation – the highest rating available – on SchoolFIRST (Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas), the accountability system developed by the Texas Education Association. The 2014 rating is based on the district's annual audit of the 2012-13 fiscal year.



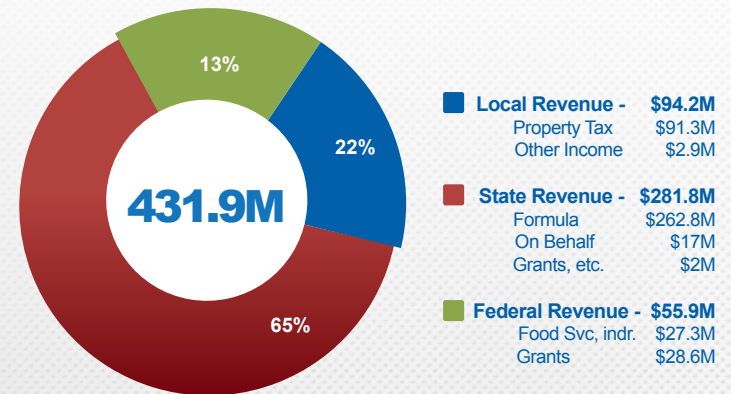
Breakdown: General Fund Expenditures



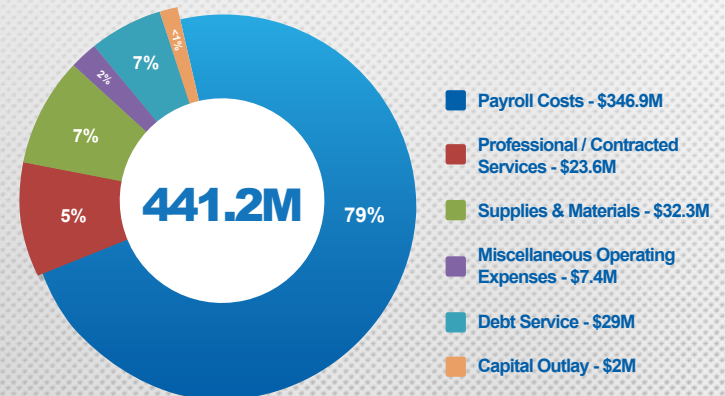
2014-15 Adopted Budget

Of the funds that YISD manages, the largest is the General Fund, which is used to support the operation of the school system. The General Fund is comprised of three major revenue sources: local, state, and federal.

FUNDS REVENUES



FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS



Tax Rate Comparison

While our tax rate is the highest of the area school districts, residential homesteaded property owners within YISD are eligible to receive an additional 20% credit on taxable value. This means YISD homeowners ultimately pay fewer taxes than neighboring school districts.

\$100,000 Scenario

Home Value
Homestead 20%
 Tax Adjusted
 Statutory Exemptions
Taxable Value
 Tax Rate
 Annual Cost

	SISD	YISD	EPISD
Home Value	100,000	100,000	100,000
Homestead 20%			
Tax Adjusted	100,000	Less 20%	100,000
Statutory Exemptions	Less 15K	Less 15K	Less 15K
Taxable Value	\$85,000	\$65,000	\$85,000
Tax Rate	\$1.27	\$1.36	\$1.24
Annual Cost	\$1080	\$884	\$1054

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

2014 ANNUAL REPORT

Strategy for 2014-15 and Beyond

Future budget pressures are twofold: one is the immediate pressure that will have to be considered as the district develops the 2015 budget; and the other long-term budget pressure is how each item plays out during the period from 2015 to 2017.

Our major assumptions in developing the 2015 budget include:

Membership is projected at 42,800 and Average Daily Attendance at 39,500 – both down 300 from 2014;

Science lab upgrades completed in 2014 will reduce our capital expense by \$2.5 million;

Health insurance contributions will increase by \$3 million to stabilize fund balance.

A new TRS surcharge on most salaries will increase benefit costs by \$2.5 million, per SB1458

Funding is needed to replace eight buses (\$800K), maintenance vehicles (\$150K), and four security vehicles (\$100K);

Staffing reduction based on lost membership will reduce campus budgets by \$1.2 million, with other reductions in central departments; and

Loss of federal funding will lead to program reductions or eliminations, with some program costs falling to the General Fund: Communities In Schools (\$90K), school resource officers (\$300K), course recovery software (\$220K), instructional specialists (\$450K).

	2013 (ending June 30)			
	General Fund	Food Service	Debt Service	Total
REVENUES AND OTHER SUPPORT:				
Local Taxes, etc.	\$75,620,874	\$2,149,882	\$10,314,248	\$88,085,004
State Foundation Support	259,219,521	122,896	10,976,732	270,319,149
Federal Programs	6,737,523	19,248,606	188,649	26,174,778
Total Revenues and Other Support	\$341,577,918	\$21,521,384	\$21,479,629	\$384,578,931
EXPENSES:				
Instructional	\$222,317,048			\$222,317,048
Student Support	75,861,252	20,619,505		96,480,757
Leadership	38,050,226			38,050,226
Debt Service	7,545,399		21,538,934	29,084,333
Capital/Intergov.	7,968,447			7,968,447
Total Expenses	\$351,742,372	\$20,619,505	\$21,538,934	\$393,900,811
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	-\$10,164,454	\$901,879	-\$59,305	-\$9,321,880
NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$82,711,079	\$4,417,102	\$18,085,063	\$105,213,244
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	\$72,546,625	\$5,318,981	\$18,025,758	\$95,891,364

	2014 (ending June 30)			
	General Fund	Food Service	Debt Service	Total
REVENUES AND OTHER SUPPORT:				
Local Taxes, etc.	\$77,136,711	\$2,097,974	\$12,486,079	\$91,720,764
State Foundation Support	271,935,080	119,150	10,755,549	282,809,779
Federal Programs	9,459,967	18,488,615	173,651	28,122,233
Total Revenues and Other Support	\$358,531,758	\$20,705,739	\$23,415,279	\$402,652,776
EXPENSES:				
Instructional	\$224,756,178			\$224,756,178
Student Support	77,532,473	21,136,940		98,669,413
Leadership	38,484,078			38,484,078
Debt Service	6,496,304		22,965,662	29,461,966
Capital/Intergov.	2,864,143			2,864,143
Total Expenses	\$350,133,176	\$21,136,940	\$22,965,662	\$394,235,778
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$8,398,582	-\$431,201	\$449,617	\$8,416,998
NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$72,546,625	\$5,318,981	\$18,025,758	\$95,891,364
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	\$80,945,207	\$4,887,780	\$18,475,375	\$104,308,362

Budget Analysis

The General Fund pays for items such as salaries and benefits, classroom resources, student transportation and administrative support — all the things schools and support centers need to operate on a daily basis.

The Food Service Fund pays for the operation of the district's food service program. The Food Service budget encompasses year-round meal and snack services to students, preparing more than 8 million meals annually.

The Debt Service Fund pays the debt on bonds previously approved by district voters for building construction and renovation. The Debt Service Fund includes the annual payments for the fixed-rate debt.

	2014	2013
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$83,016,765	\$77,098,778
Due from Other Funds	2,118,735	5,531,357
Receivables	31,091,629	23,826,446
Inventories	1,071,005	1,079,198
Property taxes, delinquent	7,129,713	7,233,774
Total Assets	\$124,427,847	\$114,769,553

	2014	2013
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$3,914,609	\$4,302,822
Due to Other Funds	16,016,214	14,272,314
Accrued Wages Payable	17,074,053	17,282,650
Unavailable Revenue - Prop. Tax	6,477,764	6,365,142
Total Liabilities	\$43,482,640	\$42,222,928
NET POSITION		
Total Fund Balance	\$80,945,207	\$72,546,625
Total Liabilities and Assets	\$80,945,207	\$72,546,625



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Prepared by the Public Relations Department.

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