

HIPPO NATION

MAGAZINE

**A NEW ERA
FOR HUTTO**
A STORY OF GROWTH
AND LEGACY

DISTRICT SCORECARD
2024-25



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WELCOME TO HIPPO NATION

There's something special about being part of Hippo Nation. It's a pride that runs deep: a commitment to our students, our families, and our community. As we stand on the threshold of a new era for Hutto ISD, I want to celebrate where we've been and share the exciting path ahead.

Our community is growing, and with that growth comes incredible opportunities. Across the District, we are embracing change, not just to keep pace, but to lead. We are building new schools and upgrading our existing facilities to ensure every student has access to safe, modern learning environments. From cutting-edge technology in the classroom to innovative career and technical education programs, we are preparing our students for a future filled with possibilities.

This year, we're breaking ground on new campuses, opening the doors to the brand-new Lee Martinez Elementary School, enhancing playgrounds, and expanding programs designed to set our students up for success. These improvements go beyond brick and mortar. They are about creating spaces where learning thrives, teachers feel supported, and students are inspired to be excellent.

Our growth isn't just about buildings, though, it's about people. The heart of Hippo Nation has always been our students, our educators, and our families. As we move forward, we remain committed to providing high-quality curriculum, investing in our teachers, and ensuring that every child—whether in kindergarten or preparing for graduation—has the resources they need to achieve their goals.

The future of Hutto ISD is bright, and it's because of the unwavering support of this incredible community. Together, we are shaping the next generation of leaders, thinkers, and innovators. And together, we will continue to make Hippo Nation the best place to learn, grow, and thrive.

Thank you for being part of this journey. Here's to a new era for Hutto!

With pride,

Jeni Neatherlin

Jeni Neatherlin
Hutto ISD Superintendent

Board of Trustees



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Term expires May 2026
Began serving Nov. 2020
Re-elected May 2023



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Began serving May 2021
Re-elected May 2024



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MISSION

Hippo Nation inspires all students to achieve excellence in academics, character and community.

VISION

Inspiring Excellence



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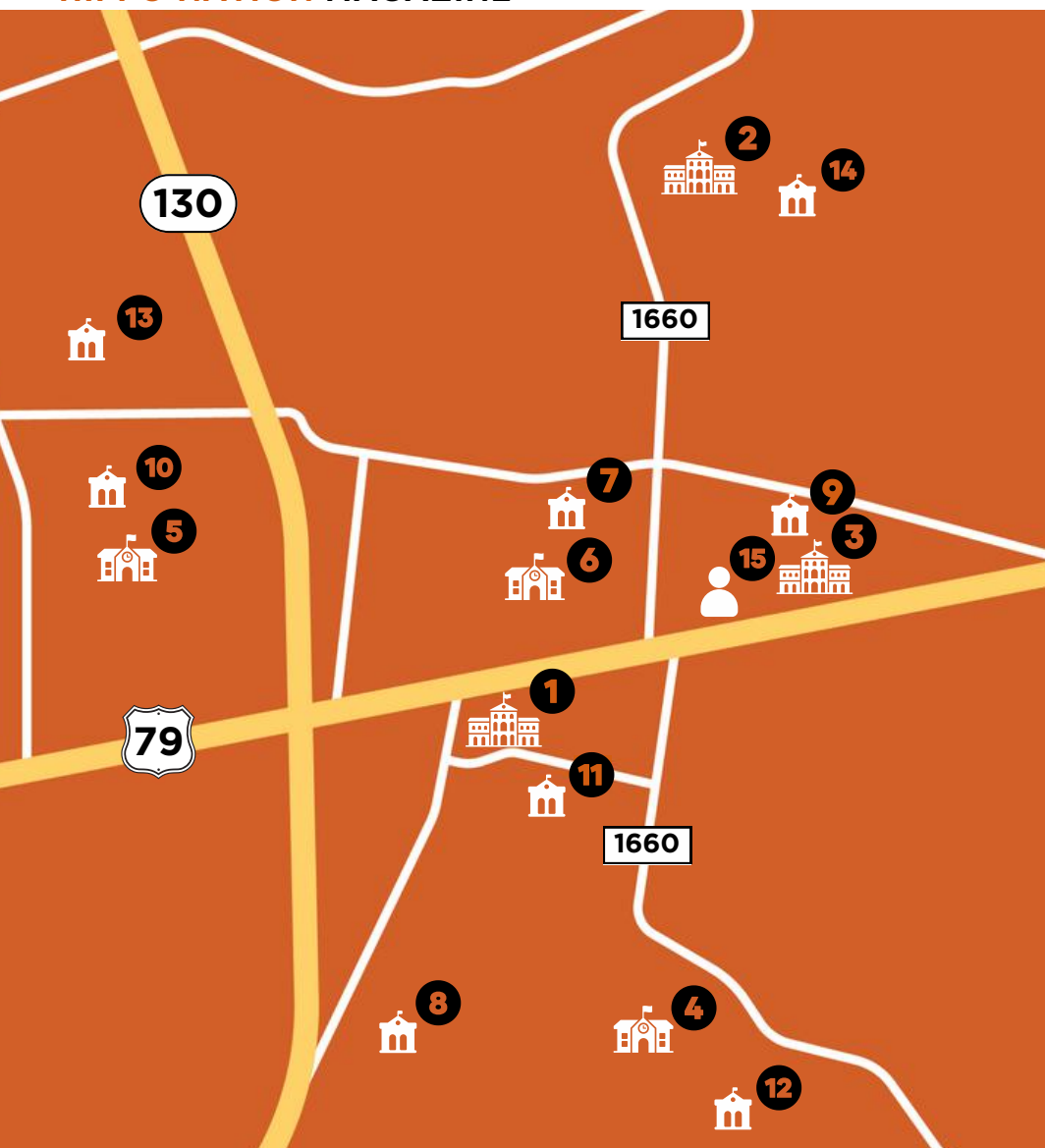
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Email: Hutto@templejc.edu

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Our Schools

- 1 Hutto High School**
101 Chris Kelley Blvd., Hutto, TX 78634
(512) 759-4700 | [f](#) @HuttoHighSchool
- 2 Hutto 9th Grade Center**
301 Destiny Lane, Hutto, TX 78634
(512) 759-5420 | [f](#) @Hutto9thGradeCenter
- 3 River Horse Academy**
309 E. Live Oak Street, Hutto, TX 78634
(512) 759-3020 | [f](#) @RiverHorseAcademy
- 3 Hutto Virtual Academy**
309 E. Live Oak Street, Hutto, TX 78634
(737) 327-5345
- 4 Farley Middle School**
303 CR 137, Hutto, TX 78634
(512) 759-2050 | [f](#) @FarleyMiddleSchool
- 5 Gus Almquist Middle School**
1000 Haybarn Lane, Hutto, TX 78634
(512) 642-9290 | [f](#) @GusAlmquistMiddleSchool
- 6 Hutto Middle School**
1005 Exchange Blvd., Hutto, TX 78634
(512) 759-4541 | [f](#) @HuttoMiddleSchool
- 7 Cottonwood Creek Elementary**
3160 Limmer Loop, Hutto, TX 78634
(512) 759-5430 | [f](#) @CottonwoodCreekElementary
- 8 Howard Norman Elementary**
101 Llano River Trail, Hutto, TX 78634
(512) 759-5480 | [f](#) @HowardNormanElementary
- 9 Hutto Elementary**
100 Mager Lane, Hutto, TX 78634
(512) 759-2094 | [f](#) @HESHippos
- 10 Benjamin "Doc" Kerley Elementary**
800 Haybarn Lane, Hutto, TX 78634
(512) 759-5410 | [f](#) @KerleyElementary
- 11 Nadine Johnson Elementary**
480 Carl Stern Drive, Hutto, TX 78634
(512) 759-5400 | [f](#) @NJESHutto
- 12 Ray Elementary**
225 Swindoll Lane, Hutto, TX 78634
(512) 759-5450 | [f](#) @RayElementary
- 13 Veterans' Hill Elementary**
555 Limmer Loop, Round Rock, TX 78665
(512) 759-3030 | [f](#) @VeteransHillElementary
- 14 Lee Martinez Elementary**
301 Main Hippo Dr., Hutto TX 78634
(512) 642-9293 | [f](#) @LeeMartinezElementary
- 15 Hutto ISD Central Administration**
200 College Street, Hutto, TX 78634
(512) 759-3771 | [f](#) @HuttoISD



HUTTO ISD EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM (left to right)

Jason McAuliffe, Executive Director of Secondary Schools
 Dr. Dustin Barton, Assistant Superintendent of Operations
 Dr. Cara Malone, Chief of Schools
 Jeni Neatherlin, Superintendent
 Brittany Swanson, Associate Superintendent of Instruction and Innovation
 Caleb Steed, Chief Financial Officer
 James Gazzale, Executive Director of Communications and Community Relations



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Hutto, TX 78634

HEALING HERDS

HUTTO ALUM'S JOURNEY FROM FFA BARN TO VETERINARY MEDICINE



When Maggie (Taylor) Moe graduated from Hutto High School in 2013, she already knew she wanted to be a veterinarian. Her passion started early: raising horses and showing livestock through 4-H and FFA. Now, after years of persistence and preparation, she's earning her white coat from Texas Tech University's School of Veterinary Medicine.

At Hutto High School, Maggie was deeply involved in the Agricultural Science program. She showed steers, goats, and pigs, competed in parliamentary procedure, and held multiple FFA officer positions, including president. "I was the youngest officer when I started as secretary," she said. "FFA taught me leadership, time management, and grit."

Maggie also worked at Forest Creek Animal Hospital in Round Rock, gaining experience in small animal care. While she enjoyed that setting, it was her love for livestock and the agricultural industry that truly shaped her path.

After graduating from Sam Houston State University, Maggie earned a master's degree in veterinary biomedical sciences from Kansas State University. She then worked in the cattle industry developing probiotics for feedlot cattle. "It took me three tries to get into vet school," she shared. "That's not uncommon, and I want students to know it's okay if your journey takes time."

Maggie is now president of the Food Animal Club at Texas Tech Vet School and is preparing for clinical rotations focused on livestock. She'll work in feed yards across Texas, Kansas, and Nebraska, focusing on herd health and food safety. "We make sure animals are healthy and cared for before they enter the food supply," she explained.

Looking back, Maggie credits Hutto ISD's ag teachers and hands-on experiences for lighting the fire. "FFA gave me more than just knowledge. It gave me confidence and direction," she said.

Her advice to students? "Get your foot in the door. Even small opportunities can open big ones. And keep your grades up, especially if vet school is the goal."

Pathways to Success

Hutto ISD provides a robust selection of academic pathways, including the opportunity for high school students to earn up to 60 college credit hours through dual credit partnerships with Temple College and Texas State Technical College. For students seeking advanced academic challenges, the District offers 22 Advanced Placement (AP) courses, with college credit accepted by institutions nationwide.

Career & Technical Education (CTE) programs deliver a structured sequence of courses that combine rigorous academic content with industry-relevant technical skills. These programs are designed to prepare students for postsecondary education and success in today's evolving workforce.



FROM FIRST STEPS TO FINAL WHISTLE

A HIPPO NATION STORY OF GROWTH AND LEGACY

In Hippo Nation, every journey begins with a single step: tiny feet walking into a classroom for the first time, wide-eyed and full of potential. And with every commencement, a new chapter begins, not just for the graduate crossing the stage, but for the entire community cheering them on. Each May, we see the promise of a bright beginning and the pride of a journey well traveled.

Jacob Bell, a standout senior at Hutto High School, is the kind of student who makes you believe in the power of perseverance. A dedicated student-athlete, Jacob has balanced a full academic load with an impressive athletic career in both soccer and basketball. He's a club soccer player with Lone Star Soccer Club and has officially committed to play at the University of Texas at Dallas, a reflection of years of hard work, discipline, and heart.

"There were definitely times where I felt like quitting or like the pressure was too much," said Jacob, who plans to study Business Marketing at UTD. "But I just kept reminding myself of my goals. I've learned that if you want something, you have to keep showing up, even when it's hard."

But Jacob's story goes beyond the field and court. Whether he's hitting clutch three-pointers, like the memorable comeback game against Bryan his sophomore year, or serving meals during the holidays through community initiatives like Orange Santa, Jacob has embraced what it means to be a leader in Hippo Nation.

"To me, leadership means being someone others can count on," he said. "Hutto has shown me that leadership isn't just about being loud or out front. It's about setting an example, doing the right thing when no one's watching, and being someone your teammates and classmates can rely on."

Coach Gant Caraway, Jacob's basketball coach, echoed that sentiment: "Jacob was a three-year varsity letterman who embodied what it means to be both an ambassador and a servant leader within our program," said Caraway. "He led by example: maintaining high standards in the classroom, and representing Hutto High School with integrity and humility. Jacob is the kind of student-athlete you could count on, both on and off the court, and he's left a lasting impact on our athletic culture and campus community."

Now, as he prepares to graduate, Jacob is passing the torch to a new generation of Hippos, like one bright, eager kindergartner who, not long ago, walked into her classroom for the first time.

Evie Lewis represents the future of Hutto ISD. With a spark in her eye and dreams that stretch as far as the Texas sky, she's just beginning her educational journey. She may not know where her path will lead just yet, but she walks the same halls, learns from the same teachers, and benefits from the same supportive community that helped shape Jacob into the young man he is today.





“I like reading books with my friends,” Evie grins. “My teacher is so nice. School is fun!”

For Evie’s mom, Briana Lewis, a fifth grade teacher at Hutto Elementary School, her daughter’s first year in Hutto ISD has been everything their family could have hoped for, and more.

“It’s been amazing,” she shared. “The community has been one that has just really embraced our family very easily. Her teachers are phenomenal, and the community itself has just taken us under their wing, and it’s just been amazing.”

In a time of tremendous growth and opportunity for Hutto ISD, with new campuses opening, modern classrooms being built, and cutting-edge programs expanding, the stories of students like Jacob and Evie remind us of how much can change in a short period of time.

From kindergarten to cap and gown, every success story starts with a single, hopeful beginning.

“To the younger kids, I’d say don’t be afraid to try everything: sports, clubs, anything that interests you,” Jacob shared. “And to high schoolers: don’t wait to start chasing your goals. Take advantage of every opportunity because time flies. You’ll be walking the stage before you know it.”

As Jacob closes one chapter with graduation, it’s a reminder that every ending is really a new beginning, and through the eyes of Evie, that future is full of hope, excitement, and the promise of growth and positive change in the years to come.

“I want to be a teacher like mommy, but you can be more than one thing you know,” Evie quipped.

From the first day of kindergarten to the final walk across that graduation stage, Hutto ISD is building more than scholars and athletes: it’s shaping leaders, dreamers, and a legacy that grows stronger with every generation.

2024 Graduates

\$2,198,054

SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

625 GRADUATED

21 WITH ASSOCIATE'S DEGREES

16 TEXAS BIOSCIENCE INSTITUTE GRADUATES

169 SENIORS EARNED INDUSTRY-BASED CERTIFICATIONS

380 TOTAL INDUSTRY-BASED CERTIFICATIONS IN 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Hutto High School offers certifications in:

- Accounting - Basic
- Adobe®
- Animal Science
- AutoDesk
- Automotive Service Excellence
- Certified Web Animator
- Early Childhood Education
- Educational Aide
- EKG Technician
- EMT
- Entrepreneurship and Small Business
- Equine Management
- IAED Emergency Telecommunicator (911 Dispatcher)
- Medical Assistant
- Pharmacy Technician
- Python Coding
- Restaurant Management
- Veterinarian Assistant
- Veterinary Medical Applications
- Welding

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STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

THE HUTTO ISD BOUNDARY SERVES STUDENTS FROM THESE ZIP CODES
COVERING 78 SQUARE MILES:

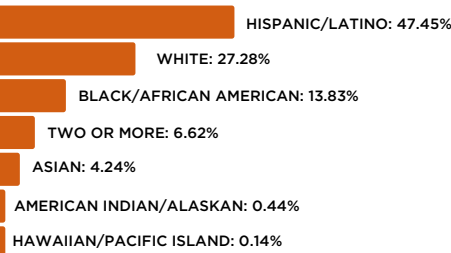
HUTTO (78634 & 78660)	GEORGETOWN (78626)	ROUND ROCK (78664 & 78665)	TAYLOR (76574)
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**TOTAL
NUMBER OF
STUDENTS**
10,688

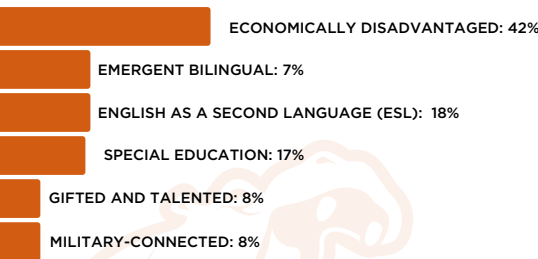
 **MALE**
5,500 (51.46%)

 **FEMALE**
5,188 (48.54%)

ENROLLMENT BY ETHNICITY



SPECIAL POPULATIONS



Student Demographics reflects Snapshot Data from April 2025.

SCHOOLS



7 ELEMENTARY CAMPUSES - PK-5TH GRADE
Does not include Lee Martinez Elementary School, which opens Fall 2025



3 MIDDLE SCHOOL CAMPUSES - 6TH-8TH GRADE



1 HUTTO VIRTUAL ACADEMY - 6TH-12TH GRADE



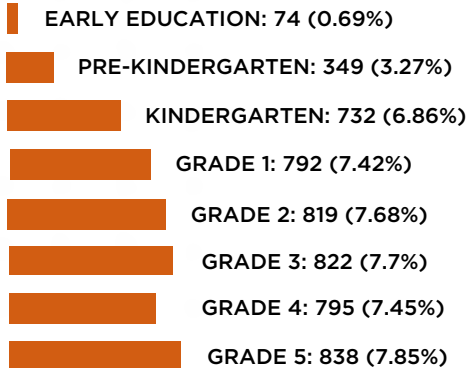
1 NINTH GRADE CENTER



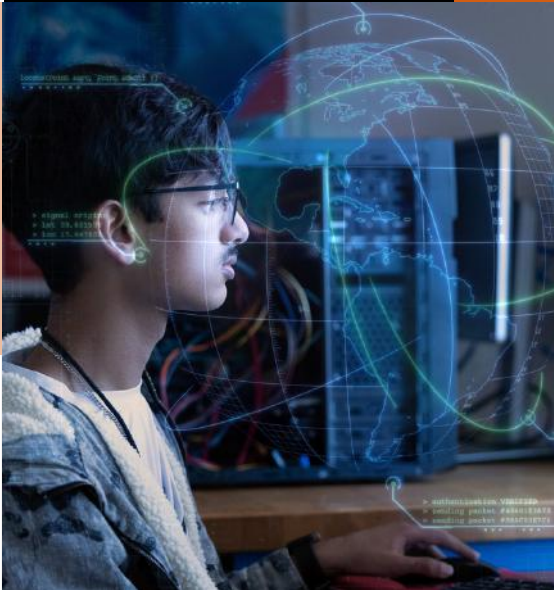
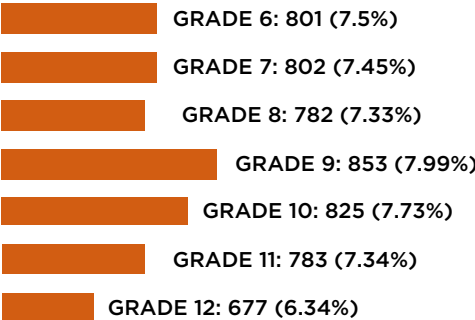
1 HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS - 10TH-12TH GRADE

CLASS SIZE INFORMATION

ELEMENTARY



SECONDARY



2024-25 District Highlights

**9 SCHOOLS NAMED
TEXAS EDUCATION
AGENCY (TEA)
PURPLE STAR CAMPUS**



HUTTO ISD RECEIVED AN "A" RATING
FOR "SUPERIOR ACHIEVEMENT" FROM
THE TEA'S FINANCIAL INTEGRITY
RATING SYSTEM OF TEXAS (FIRST)
FOR THE NINTH STRAIGHT YEAR



**14 TEXAS SCHOOL PUBLIC
RELATIONS ASSOCIATION
AWARDS:**

2 BEST OF CATEGORY WINS
9 GOLD STARS
2 SILVER STARS
1 CRYSTAL COMMENDATION



**PURCHASING AWARD OF
MERIT FOR THE SEVENTH-
CONSECUTIVE YEAR**



**2025 CAREER &
TECHNICAL ASSOCIATION
OF TEXAS CTE DISTRICT
OF DISTINCTION**



**TEACHER
INCENTIVE
ALLOTMENT**
**82 TEACHERS
RECOGNIZED ON
12 CAMPUSES**



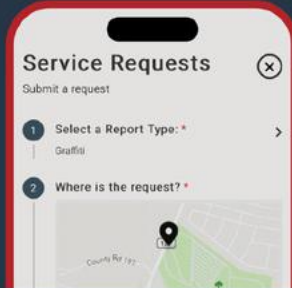
Solve-It

Submit a Ticket.

Solve a problem.



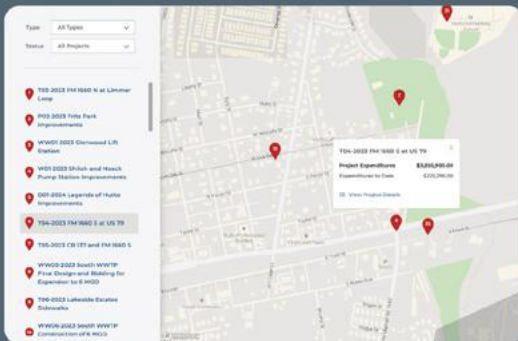
huttotx.info/solve-it



Graffiti? Tall grass? Report it fast with Hutto Solve-It. Streamlined, powerful, and designed to get things done quicker than ever. Track your requests from start to finish and see the progress in action.

Building the Future

Capital Improvements Dashboard



huttotx.info/cip

All projects have migrated to the ClearGov software and are ready for residents to use. This website has all the information residents are accustomed to, with detailed timelines and financial information.

Strategic Plan Updates

Strategic Objectives

2B. Ensuring the responsible stewardship of tax revenue through accurate value assessments that uphold our collective responsibility and betterment of our community's infrastructure, services, and overall well-being

Overall Progress 46%

Overall Status

● Complete ● On Track ● Minor Disruption
● Major Disruption ● Not Started ● Future

huttotx.info/LiveProgress

We're revamping our strategic planning process with a new dashboard to track major initiatives, budget updates, and Key Performance Indicators. This tool empowers you to review data and engage in more insightful conversations with your Council Members.



Never miss a chance to connect



huttotx.info/connect

Hutto Connect is your central hub for discovering events and activities in Hutto, Texas. Our calendar includes diverse events, making discovering something fun and interesting easy.



Hippo Nation,

Our city is square in the middle of change. Change to our demographics. Change to our economy. Change to how we deliver services. When historical Hutto was just 1,250 souls, the biggest change was the weather. Now, with Hutto's population quickly approaching 50,000, we are feeling the strain of change in the demands on our infrastructure, city services, and community resources. You don't have to look far or listen too carefully to recognize the increased sentiment to maintain and operate better roadways and traffic systems.

After safety, transportation is our highest priority. City Council is working closely with staff to prioritize transportation improvements such as improved road networks, enhanced traffic operations, and long-term infrastructure needs, all while aiming at reducing the financial burden on families. Our goal is to ensure that Hutto becomes a well-connected, accessible city that serves residents and businesses alike.

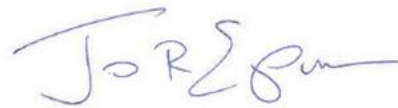
Bright futures require careful planning, shrewd strategic investments, execution and—most importantly—your input. As more people call Hutto home, the diversity of not just our demographics but also of thought is occurring. It's more important than ever that communication and dialogue occurs neighbor to neighbor. Over the past several months, the City Council and staff have been focused on creating new opportunities for public engagement. We recognize that community involvement is essential in shaping decisions that impact all of us. To that end, we have launched several initiatives, including an interactive budget survey, budget public meetings and strategic plan workshops. We have also introduced additional work sessions for the City Council, ensuring that there is more time for thoughtful discussion and planning, and expanded the way that the public can engage City Hall.

Looking ahead, we are committed to expanding and refining the ways we engage with you. Your voice matters, and we want to ensure you have

a say in the future of our City. Whether through surveys, workshops, public meetings, or other interactive opportunities, we will continue to seek your input and ideas. We want to make sure that we can serve you, regardless of obstacles, or location.

I can say with confidence, all things change. Hutto's future is yet to be written, but it certainly radiates with opportunity, and together, we can shape it in a way that benefits all who call this City home. Thank you for being a vital part of this journey—we look forward to working with you to build a stronger, more connected, and thriving community.

-James R. Earp, CPM



Mr. James Earp was thrilled to become city manager of the City of Hutto in August 2022. Mr. Earp now leads "Team Hutto," the historic, fast-growing city of over 40,000 residents.



Since taking the helm, he has improved city functions, improved public input opportunities, moved projects that were stuck in quagmire into action, found resolution to several legal disagreements and moved Hutto toward water security by negotiating and securing two new additional water sources for the burgeoning community.

In his professional tenure of over 20 years, he has negotiated countless economic development deals, fostered numerous public-private partnerships and built authentic internal cultures. In recent years he has been designated a recipient of the 2023 Exemplary Public Servant Award by American City and County and in 2019, was awarded Distinguished Public Administrator by the American Society for Public Administration. By the numbers, he has overseen development of 8,000+ homes, 1,200+ multifamily units, a 280-bed hospital, millions of square feet of commercial development, and a \$300 million regional water partnership.

1,545

TOTAL STAFF

48%

TEACHERS

19%

AUXILIARY

14%

AIDES

12%

PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT

5%

CLERICAL

2%

CAMPUS ADMIN**BEGINNING
TEACHER
SALARY**

\$57,000

**AVERAGE
TEACHER
SALARY**

\$60,907

**TEACHER
EXPERIENCE****0-5 YEARS:** 38%**6-10 YEARS:** 23%**11-15 YEARS:** 16%**16-20 YEARS:** 12%**20+ YEARS:** 11%**DYNAMIC DUOS***How mentorship is shaping the next generation of educators*

In classrooms across Hutto ISD, powerful partnerships between new teachers and their mentors are building confidence, sparking growth, and strengthening instructional practices.

Mentor: Haleigh Latham**Mentee:** Sefora Perez**5th Grade & Pre-K Teachers at Veterans' Hill Elementary****WHY WE TEACH**

Ms. Perez loves creating "aha" moments. Ms. Latham finds joy in helping students grow through strong relationships.

BIGGEST TAKEAWAY

Ms. Perez learned to focus on what she can control and that student safety and love come first. Ms. Latham is reminded how impactful encouragement can be.

A CALLING TO GUIDE

Ms. Latham mentors to support others the way she once needed as a first-year teacher.

SHIFTING PERSPECTIVES

Ms. Perez now leads with more patience, flexibility, and grace.

UNEXPECTED LESSONS

Ms. Perez is surprised by how mentorship blends friendship and professionalism. Ms. Latham sees her own growth reflected in the journey.

WORDS THAT STAY

"Don't worry about the things you can't control."
"It can wait until tomorrow. Go home."

TOOLS FOR THE TRADE

Ms. Perez is mastering patience. Ms. Latham continues building leadership through support and reflection.

**Opportunities
for Advancement****TEACHER APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM**

This program, which launched in the 2024-25 school year, is designed to assist aspiring teachers. Candidates earn a salary as full-time paraprofessional employees while they complete a tuition-free degree and/or certification program. The future educators will receive on-the-job training so when they enter the classroom as a teacher, they will not only have a degree and certification, but also enhanced teaching skills.

MENTORING PROGRAM

All year-one and year-two teachers receive a veteran teacher mentor to support them in their first two years of teaching.

ASPIRING LEADERS ACADEMY

This group meets monthly for current employees who aspire to grow into a leadership position in the District. When leadership positions are open, it is part of the District hiring guidelines to consider these candidates.

RESIDENCY PROGRAM

The District partners with Texas State University to offer a year-long student teaching program. Participants receive a paid residency with the District. They get a year of experience in the classroom in hopes we grow them into effective teachers and that they will choose Hippo Nation for their career.

TUITION REIMBURSEMENT

Based on District guidelines, Hutto ISD provides tuition reimbursement to employees who are seeking their bachelor's degree and/or teaching certification, professionals seeking their initial degree, or those seeking advanced degrees.

Mentor: Virginia Ream**Mentee:** Aaron Williamson**Advanced Academics Specialist, K-12;
World History Teacher & Coach, Hutto High School****WHY WE TEACH**

Mr. Williamson teaches to be a steady, supportive presence for students who feel unseen. Ms. Ream teaches to share her father's love of history and service.

BIGGEST TAKEAWAY

Mr. Williamson has learned that student success often starts with space to struggle and support to grow. Ms. Ream values the fresh perspective mentoring brings to her own journey.

A CALLING TO GUIDE

Ms. Ream mentors to give back—sharing guidance and encouragement she once needed as a new educator.

SHIFTING PERSPECTIVES

Mr. Williamson has learned to bring history to life through hands-on learning and student-led discussion.

UNEXPECTED LESSONS

Mentoring has deepened Ms. Ream's patience and insight. Mr. Williamson finds that laughter and adaptability go a long way in the classroom.

WORDS THAT STAY

"Never stop learning." This shared mantra fuels both teachers and shapes their work with students.

TOOLS FOR THE TRADE

Ms. Ream mentors with grace—meeting others where they are and encouraging growth. Mr. Williamson relies on planning, collaboration, and connection.

HIPPO NATION MAGAZINE

Mentor: Libby Rosipal
Mentee: Sydney Nelson
1st Grade Teachers at Howard Norman Elementary

WHY WE TEACH

Ms. Rosipal loves helping students discover a passion for learning. Ms. Nelson is driven to build trust and create a safe space.

BIGGEST TAKEAWAY

Ms. Nelson has learned to give herself grace. Ms. Rosipal believes small steps lead to big wins.

A CALLING TO GUIDE

Ms. Rosipal's own mentor inspired her. Now she pays it forward as a steady, honest support.

SHIFTING PERSPECTIVES

Ms. Nelson didn't expect how emotional teaching would be. The mentorship has helped her set boundaries and find balance.

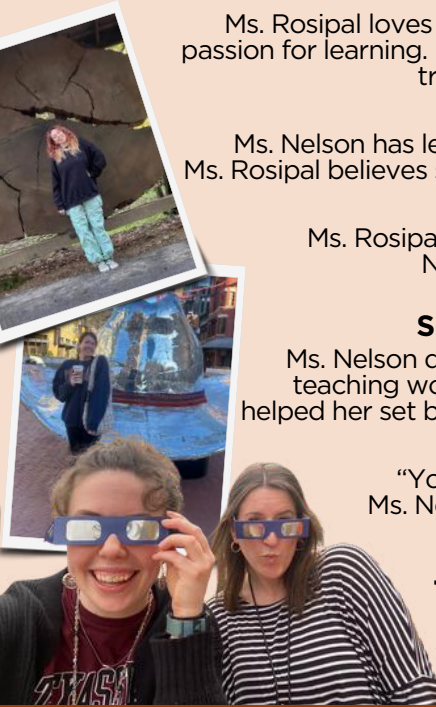
WORDS THAT STAY

"You're not alone" still grounds Ms. Nelson when days feel heavy.

Ms. Rosipal's motto: one moment at a time.

TOOLS FOR THE TRADE

Quick check-ins, shared laughter, and chocolate go a long way.



Mentor: Nicole Pina
Mentee: Nathan Gaitan
1st & 2nd Grade Teachers at Benjamin "Doc" Kerley Elementary

WHY WE TEACH

Ms. Pina has dreamed of teaching since childhood. Mr. Gaitan felt a strong pull to the classroom during COVID and found his calling there.

BIGGEST TAKEAWAY

Ms. Pina has learned how much clarity goal-setting brings. Mr. Gaitan values how strong teams fuel success.

A CALLING TO GUIDE

Ms. Pina mentors to support reflection and growth—two things that deepen her own practice as well.

SHIFTING PERSPECTIVES

Mr. Gaitan has learned the value of a strong team and how much support shapes his approach.

UNEXPECTED LESSONS

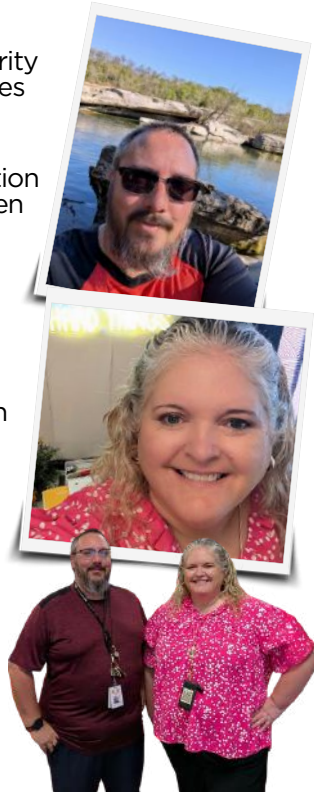
Ms. Pina continues to grow through mentoring. Mr. Gaitan sees how support and collaboration shape classroom success.

WORDS THAT STAY

"Connect with students before curriculum." That simple truth still grounds Ms. Pina. Mr. Gaitan holds onto: "Do what works for you."

TOOLS FOR THE TRADE

Ms. Pina uses reflection and intentional goal-setting. Mr. Gaitan has found confidence in making the classroom his own.



HUTTO ISD

2025-2026 ENROLLMENT IS OPEN!



TIME FOR NEW STUDENT ENROLLMENT RETURNING STUDENT INFORMATION VERIFICATION

FAST-GROWING DISTRICT

- ✓ Foundational learning and creative exploration so your child can think critically and build their independence.
- ✓ Highly sought-after fine arts programs where your child can showcase their creative spirit.
- ✓ Strong community and student support so your child has a safe place to learn and grow.

ENROLL NOW



www.hipponation.org/enrollment



TYLER - AUSTIN - HOUSTON - EL PASO - SAN ANTONIO - SHREVEPORT



www.emaengineer.com

EMA Engineering & Consulting, Inc.

Texas' lead K-12 MEP engineer

EMA
DESIGN. SOLVE. ENHANCE.

Fine Arts Offerings

Art, band, choir, dance, guitar, orchestra and theatre begin in middle school. Elementary students enjoy art, music and activities like honor choir, guitar and art clubs, musical theatre and ballet folklorico.

POINTS OF PRIDE

ART

- 58 high school entries submitted to VASE Region 13 North; 44 received top rating
- 37 Jr. VASE entries and 15 Team entries submitted
- Farley Middle School unveiled a mural reflecting school and community values

BAND

- 26 soloists competed at Region 26; 18 earned Division I, 16 advanced to State
- Saxophone and woodwind quartets advanced to State
- Color Guard competed at WGI Championships in Cincinnati
- All middle school bands earned UIL Sweepstakes

CHOIR

- Two Hutto High School choirs earned Sweepstakes at UIL
- Hutto Middle School Varsity Treble Choir earned Superior rating
- 46 high school soloists earned Division I; 12 advanced to State

DANCE

- Hi-Steppers named Ascension Grand Champions and Crowd Pleasers State Champions
- All secondary teams placed at Vista Ridge, with Hi-Steppers earning Highest Scoring Dance of the Day

GUITAR

- Three ensembles earned Sweepstakes at UIL
- Courses offered at all middle schools, fulfilling Fine Arts credit

ORCHESTRA

- All middle schools earned Sweepstakes at Region 26 UIL
- HHS Orchestra to graduate first full cohort in 2026
- HHS Orchestra earned straight ones at the Bayou City Classic

THEATRE

- Gus Almquist Middle School won 1st in One-Act Play
- HHS earned multiple Heller Award nominations
- *Tom Jones* advanced to Bi-District with top acting honors
- 40+ students competed at the State Thespian Festival; 25 qualified for Internationals

FINE ARTS IN FULL FORCE

“Newsies” Production Unites Hutto Students in a Collaborative Showcase

This fall, the Hutto High School Fine Arts Department came together for one of its most ambitious productions to date: *Newsies*, a high-energy musical that united theatre, choir, dance, instrumental music and art students in a collaborative experience.

Nicknamed “The Beast” by those involved, *Newsies* featured 36 student actors portraying newsboys, 14 of whom were on stage for most of the show. The large ensemble allowed more students to gain meaningful stage time and develop their skills in a full-scale production.

“This was such a BIG show,” said Rene Fulton, Theatre Arts Director at Hutto High School. “It was a challenge to manage so many kids on stage, but the payoff was incredible.”

The technical and visual demands of the production were intense. Student crews constructed a massive set featuring rotating staircases and 12-foot balconies, while visual art students worked after hours to design and paint a full-size city skyline backdrop, something rarely done at the high school level due to the difficulty of the build and installation. The painting was often done late into Friday nights, adding professional-level polish to the production and allowing students to develop portfolio-worthy experience.

The show also welcomed two younger students in a shared role, one from Hutto Middle School and one from Farley Middle School, adding depth and dimension to the cast.

In total, nearly 50 students shared the stage at once, making it Hutto High’s most ambitious production yet in terms of scale. The tight spacing and choreography challenges became key learning moments, especially during large ensemble numbers that demanded precision and nonstop dancing.

Set in 1899, *Newsies* tells the true story of young newspaper sellers who organized a strike against unfair practices by powerful publishers. Its high-energy dance numbers, familiar Disney soundtrack, and all-ages appeal provided a lively contrast to last year’s production of *Chicago*.

Newsies earned eight nominations for the Heller Awards for Young Artists, including Best Direction, Scenic Design, Lighting Design, Technical Execution, and three Student Achievement honors for stage management, marketing and sound design.

The cast and crew can celebrate a job well done, and look ahead to what’s next, knowing that in Hutto ISD, creativity thrives through collaboration.



GROWTH IN MOTION

Economic growth across Hippo Nation brings undeniable benefits to people, places, businesses and governments. But growth also comes with its own sets of challenges, especially for public schools. For Hutto ISD, the challenge shows up as increased enrollment and the ongoing need to strategically construct new facilities, hire staff and manage additional academic resources.

As a fast-growth District spurred by rapid regional business development, Hutto ISD is prepared to invest in, provide and deliver a high-quality education for its students and families. Superintendent Jeni Neatherlin says the biggest challenge isn't the growth itself, it's trying to stay ahead of it.

"The leaders of this District, in cooperation with our many community partners, are determined to ensure the success of every student, staff and stakeholder of Hutto ISD," Neatherlin said. "We need to be innovative and constantly looking towards the future. Every decision being made for Hippo Nation doesn't just have a short-term effect but has the capability of influencing the next 50 years."

With nearly 11,000 students enrolled, Hutto ISD adds the equivalent of one-half to three-quarters of a school each year. By 2030, enrollment is projected to reach 13,700 students, — and 15,525 by 2035.

Thanks to voter approval of the \$522 million bond package in May 2023, Hutto ISD is on a path to meet the local needs of our students, staff and the broader community. The bond also reflects the vital role public education plays in

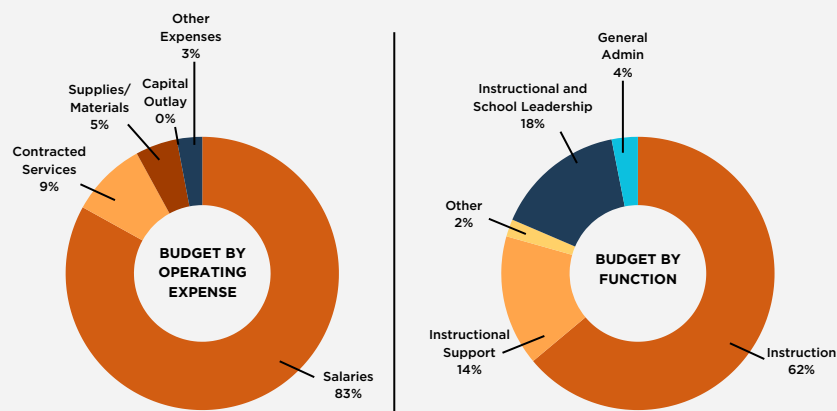
preparing and equipping graduates to succeed in Texas' rapidly changing economy.

Among the bond-funded projects are two new elementary schools and Hutto's second comprehensive high school—a \$180 million facility designed with future-ready learning spaces and expanded Career & Technical Education offerings. Groundbreaking is set for summer 2025 with completion targeted for late 2027. The adaptable design of High School #2 allows the District to evolve with emerging technologies and workforce demands, especially in high-tech and advanced manufacturing sectors.

Hutto ISD is also investing in future growth by acquiring land for additional school sites. Voter-approved funds will support Elementary #9, sites for future K-5 campuses and a fourth middle school. These strategic acquisitions help the District stay ahead of enrollment trends and meet the community's long-term needs.

"Fast-growth districts, like Hutto ISD, are critical drivers of local economic growth," said Neatherlin. "Our schools make Central Texas more competitive for business, better prepare students to enter the workforce, strengthen local housing markets, and improve quality of life in our community."

"When we plan for the future in Hutto ISD, we focus on alignment, responsible use of resources, and doing what's right for every student," she added. "At the end of the day, our goal is simple: every Hippo succeeds and graduates ready for college, a career, or wherever life takes them."



TOTAL TAX RATE:* **\$1.2052** INTEREST & SINKING: **\$0.45** MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS: **\$0.7552**

*The 2024 tax rate marks a 26.13 cents decrease from the 2022 rate. This marks the ninth reduction in the tax rate out of the last ten years (2016 being unchanged).

LOCAL REVENUE: \$65,979,773
STATE REVENUE: \$51,529,226
FEDERAL REVENUE: \$1,027,757

TOTAL GENERAL
FUND REVENUES: \$118,536,756

HUTTO ISD FINANCIAL FACTS

- Moody's Investors Services Inc. upgraded Hutto ISD's bond rating from A1 to AA3 in April 2021
- Standard & Poor's Global Ratings upgraded Hutto ISD's bond rating from A+ to AA- in May 2022
- Hutto ISD has received an "A" rating for "Superior Achievement" from the TEA Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST) for the ninth straight year
- Hutto ISD received an unmodified (clean) opinion on its audited Annual Financial Report for June 30, 2024
- For Fiscal Year 2024, Hutto ISD received purchasing program rebates exceeding \$95,000
- Hutto ISD received the Texas Association of School Business Officials (TASBO) Purchasing Award of Merit for the seventh consecutive year

College Commits

The commitment of these student-athletes to collegiate programs reflects the academic and athletic excellence fostered within Hutto ISD's athletic program. They exemplify the spirit of Hutto Hippo Athletics and uphold the values of love, discipline, integrity, and pride. Once a Hippo, always a Hippo.



BASEBALL

- Roman Gramethauer - Dodge City Community College
- Jackson Reed - Sterling College
- Lou Grimaldo Torres - Schreiner University

BASKETBALL

- Cylin Tate - Southwestern Christian College

FOOTBALL

- Jayden Oldeorp - Southwestern Oklahoma State University
- Harry "Tre" Fields - McMurry University
- Jarvis Robinson - North American University
- Braeton Anderson - University of Mary Hardin-Baylor
- Andy Toddeh - University of Mary Hardin-Baylor
- Jayden Littles - Wayland Baptist University
- Greyson Armstrong - Texas Lutheran University

SOCCER

- William "Jacob" Bell - The University of Texas at Dallas
- Aaliyah McPeak - University of Texas Permian Basin

SOFTBALL

- Mia Garrett - Oklahoma Wesleyan University
- Jayda Gallegos - Howard Payne University
- Mia Sanchez - Midwestern State University
- Riley deRoulac - Cecil College

TRACK

- Jayden Lopez - St. Edward's University

VOLLEYBALL

- Izabella Orton - Auburn University

WRESTLING

- Abigail Gallardo - Texas Woman's University

ACADEMIC ALL-STATE

FOOTBALL

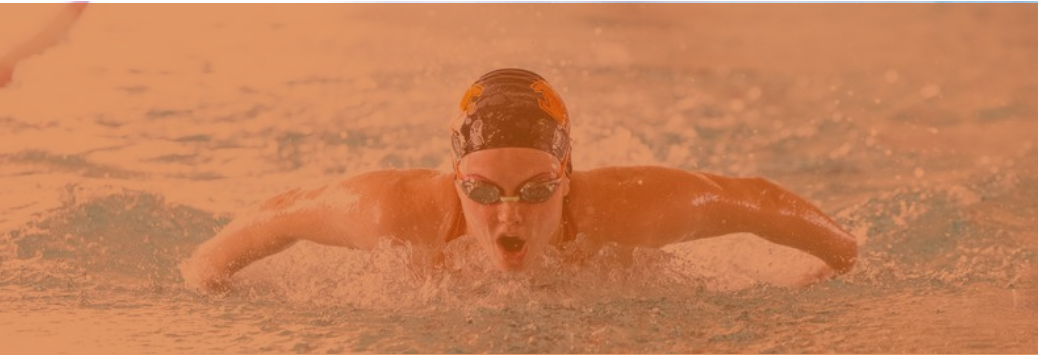
- Cashton LaPlante - Honorable Mention
- Jenna Magana - Honorable Mention
- Jayden Oldeorp - 2nd Team
- Brayden Stanfield - 2nd Team
- Nathan West - 2nd Team

POWERLIFTING

- Jenna Magana - Honorable Mention

VOLLEYBALL

- Isabella Orton - Honorable Mention



RAISE THE STANDARD

Elevating Hutto Hippo Excellence in Every Arena

Hutto Hippo Athletics is growing and evolving before our eyes. This spring marked a leadership transition with Will Compton stepping into the role of Athletic Director and Eli Reinhart taking over as head football coach and leader of the boys' programs. The athletic department remains committed to excellence both in the classroom and in competition, with a renewed focus on a guiding theme of *Raise the Standard*. As expectations continue to rise, so too must the efforts of every Hippo athlete.

The 2024-2025 school year has seen the breakout of several individual sports. A total of 1,100 student-athletes have competed across a variety of programs. This year, team sports were rezoned into a nine-team district including Round Rock, Leander and Manor. While the Hippo's narrowly missed the playoffs in football, volleyball, and basketball, other programs have stepped up to showcase what is possible at Hutto ISD.

The swim program, for example, has doubled in participation over the past three years and is leading the way in program growth. Hutto girls' wrestling celebrated its first-ever state medalist this year, Abby Gallardo. In powerlifting, Mia Sanchez, Jenna Magana and Brady Strickland advanced to the State Meet. Jenna Magana is the first athlete in program history to earn Academic All-State.

The spring season has continued to bring exciting developments. Hutto High School announced the launch of its first girls' flag football team, a program sponsored by the Houston Texans. These athletes will compete in a league based in Pflugerville. On the diamond, softball has enjoyed a successful spring, while the baseball team continues to compete with determination and grit.

Hutto ISD remains dedicated to preparing student-athletes for life beyond high school. Through athletics, students are learning the value of teamwork, perseverance and community service. This spring, many programs have placed a strong emphasis on giving back, a focus that will continue into the next school year.

Hutto Memorial Stadium continues to be a cornerstone of the District's athletic and community life. In total, the stadium hosted 132 events, ranging from athletic competitions, to Fields of Faith, and commercial photo shoots. While honoring the rich traditions of Hutto athletics, the department is committed to *Raise the Standard*, both in academic achievement and athletic excellence.



Join the Hippo Herd as a Volunteer

Strong schools are built through partnerships with families, local businesses, and community members. When adults volunteer their time and talents, students gain access to more positive role models and enriched educational experiences.

Getting started as a volunteer is simple. Begin by completing the online volunteer application at www.hipponation.org/volunteer. Once approved, the campus will contact you with next steps.

Volunteers can support a wide range of activities, from helping in classrooms and joining campus PTAs to serving on advisory committees that help shape the future of Hutto ISD.



At Hutto Elementary, **Lori Gutierrez** stands out for her kindness, reliability, and servant heart. Whether she's lending a hand at campus events, supporting the front office, or championing the work of the PTA, Lori's presence makes a difference.

Principal Jennifer Robinson describes her as "always kind, always ready," a volunteer who uplifts others through generosity and genuine care.

Volunteers like Lori strengthen the bonds of community and model the spirit of service that defines Hutto ISD.



The Hutto Education Foundation inspires creativity, funds innovations and provides encouragement to teachers and students who face adversity every day.

2024 HEF TIMELINE

JAN. 2024 ANNUAL CORPORATE DRIVE

HEF Partners in Education helped raise \$140,000 for teachers and students in Hippo Nation.

JAN. 2024 SPARK MINI GRANTS

HEF awarded over \$5,000 to teachers for use to enhance educational opportunities in Hutto ISD.

APRIL 2024 HEF-TEE HIPPO SCRAMBLE

Our golf tournament is not only one of the most fun in the area, but this event raised over \$75,000.

MAY 2024 HEF SCHOLARSHIPS

HEF awarded over \$37,000 in scholarships to graduating seniors, returning recipients and Hutto ISD graduates enrolled at TSTC.

SEPT. 2024 EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION GRANTS

HEF presented over \$130,000 in grants to be used in Hutto ISD classrooms and campuses.

NOV. 2024 STUDENT IMPACT GRANTS

HEF presented over \$5,000 in Student Impact grants.

HEF'S TOTAL GIVING

Since 2006, HEF has funded over **\$1.3 million** in teacher and faculty grants, student grants and student scholarships at Hutto ISD.

For nearly 20 years, the Hutto Education Foundation (HEF) has provided funds to support teachers and students to bring innovative educational strategies to Hutto ISD. Founded in 2006, community leaders joined forces with Hutto ISD to encourage excellence in education through the direct connection and involvement with local businesses and community organizations. The need to support students with programs not funded by traditional tax dollars led to the formation of the 501(c)(3), Hutto Education Foundation (HEF).

The Hutto community is one that values education and cares for teachers and students in our District. Join us in partnering to enrich, enhance and maximize the quality of education for all students by providing grants and scholarships to teachers, staff and students for programs not funded by the state. Contact HEF at (512) 759-3771, Ext. 1009 or via email to huttoeducationfoundation@gmail.com.





HUTTO ISD

2025-2026 Academic Calendar

APPROVED BY THE HUTTO ISD BOARD OF TRUSTEES 1/23/2025

JULY 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

31

AUGUST 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30

31

SEPTEMBER 2025

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28	29	30				

OCTOBER 2025

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26	27	28	29	30	31	

30

NOVEMBER 2025

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29

DECEMBER 2025

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28	29	30	31			

JANUARY 2026

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FEBRUARY 2026

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MARCH 2026

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29	30	31				

APRIL 2026

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MAY 2026

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JUNE 2026

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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

IMPORTANT DATES

○ First Day of Semester

— Last Day of Semester

■ Student/Staff Holiday

□ Student Holiday/
Staff Day

* Bad Weather
Make-up Day

▲ Half Day

July 30 - August 1, 2025 _____ New Teacher Orientation

August 12, 2025 _____ First Day of School

October 31, 2025 _____ Parent Conference Day

December 18, 2025 _____ End of Fall Semester

January 6, 2026 _____ First Day of Spring Semester

May 21, 2026 _____ Last Day of School

8/12 - 10/9, 10/13 - 12/18 _____ Nine Week Grading Periods

1/6 - 3/13, 3/23 - 5/21 _____ STAAR/EOC Testing

12/2 - 12/12, 4/7 - 5/1 _____ STAAR/EOC Testing