

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Austin ISD Launches 'Futures Initiative' to Revolutionize STEM Education

AUSTIN, Texas – The Austin Independent School District will launch "Futures Initiative"," a robust educational program designed to integrate leading-edge technology and inventive teaching methods into the school curriculum. Launching in August 2025, the program aims to increase students' technological aptitudes and skill sets to effectively prepare them for the workplace.

Through the program, students will gain hands-on experience including an enhanced STEM curriculum, offering newly revamped courses focused on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Students will have access to enhanced resources, including coding classes and robotics clubs. These programs will offer students the opportunity to build a solid foundation of engineering and computer skills, while continuously building upon these skills as they progress through their education. These programs aim to develop students' skills in areas such as critical thinking, problem-solving and teamwork.

"We hope to equip students with not just foundational skills expected by employers and universities, but also the expertise that will make them invaluable team members," said Dr. Maria Hernandez, the Superintendent of Austin Public Schools.

In addition to expanded programming and curriculum, the "Futures Initiative" program also offers strategic partnerships with leading technology companies. These collaborations will offer mentorship opportunities, where students can build long-term relationships with professionals. Internship and project experiences are also available following the implementation of this program, allowing students to gain hands-on experience prior to graduation.

In efforts to remain apprised of developing technologies, the program will contain regular programming to ensure students are informed on pressing cybersecurity information. These sessions will take place in new Innovation Labs, which are equipped with 3D printers, VR set-ups and other technology.

To learn more about the "Futures Initiative" and its impact, visit www.aisdfuturesinitiative.com.

The Austin Independent School District is leading the way in technological education opportunities for students, continuously questioning how it can better prepare students for future challenges. Through this new program, AISD ensures that students are equipped to not only understand developing technology, but to lead the way.

**About Austin Public Schools:** Austin Public Schools serve 72,830 students across one of the fastest-growing metropolitan areas in the country. Committed to high-quality and challenging curriculum, it strives to meet and exceed the needs of all students and families across Austin.