December 3, 2019

Dear Families:

The tight-knit community created by our students, educators, family members and supporters are such a source of pride -- and a real differentiator for our school. We are all driven to go the extra mile to ensure our kids have the support they need to create, achieve, and grow.

As you know, the City of San Antonio’s extensive transformation of the Alameda Theater complex, where our school is located, will bring new life to a long-standing cultural gem and serve as the new home of Texas Public Radio. When completed, this transformation will also present new and exciting opportunities for our students. To that end, we will be working closely with both Texas Public Radio and the Alameda Theater Conservancy to identify unique learning experiences that are only available because of our special relationship.

In the meantime, we’ve been working closely with the City of San Antonio to determine the impact of the renovation on our school and our students. We will soon face more than internet outages and the noise of building equipment as our space becomes an active part of the construction zone. In short, we need a temporary, appropriate learning space.

Thanks to the strength of our support network, we’ve got this covered! Effective January 6, 2020, HFA: Alameda School will be temporarily re-located to a dedicated space on the University of Texas-San Antonio Downtown Campus. We anticipate that we will return to the Alameda Theater complex within 18 months. It’s a unique opportunity for our college prep students to attend school on a college campus. During this time, we will maintain the same focus on our educational program and pursue strong student personal and academic outcomes.

This decision comes after lots of thoughtful consideration by the school and its board of trustees, extensive conversations with the City and architects, and positive review by the Texas Education Agency. UTSA administration is eager help our students develop college connections and provide access to facilities that will enrich both mind and body, including learning studios (classrooms), and scheduled access to an exercise room, athletic courts, large meeting spaces, a theater, and an outdoor event patio. UTSA will also showcase our students’ artwork and theater performances in designated public spaces.

We will have a parent meeting during the week of December 9, 2019, where you will have the opportunity to learn more about our move and the anticipated HFA: Alameda School student experience at UTSA (for ex. food service, drop-off and pick-up traffic patterns, specific location of our classrooms, etc.). We hope you will attend the meeting to hear from school leaders and partners, and to ask important questions. Notification of the specific date, location, and time of the parent meeting will be sent to you just as soon as possible.
If you have any immediate questions, please reach out to Mr. Montez, Superintendent/Principal, by email (jmontez@thealamedaschool.org) or phone (210-226-4031) so that we can address them as soon as possible.

Warm regards,

Jeremiah Montez
Principal/Superintendent
HFA: Alameda School for Art + Design

Deborah Parizek
Executive Director
Henry Ford Learning Institute