



Mary M. Boals Elementary, Frisco ISD
N2 Learning Innovative Schools Application
2035 Jaguar Drive
Frisco, Texas 75033
Nominated by Christina Beran, Proud Principal, PI 13
beranc@friscoisd.org 469-633-3301

[Transforming Learning for Future-Ready Students Video Link](#)

Overview and Background

Imagine a school where your voice isn't just heard, but actively shapes the way you learn, grow, and succeed. At Boals Elementary, we believe that education must prepare students for a rapidly evolving future. Our school is committed to fostering an environment that encourages student-led, future-ready learning experiences, empowering students to become creative thinkers, problem-solvers, and compassionate leaders. With a legacy of academic excellence and a culture of innovation, Boals Elementary has embraced a transformative learning approach that puts students at the center of their education.

Located in Frisco, Texas, Boals Elementary opened its doors in 2003 as part of the rapidly growing Frisco Independent School District. Our Mission at Boals is to “Better the Community, Optimize Personal Growth, Accept, Respect and Celebrate Diversity and Learn for a Lifetime.” We are focusing on growing leaders of excellence, where “All Means All.” Serving a diverse and dynamic community, Boals reflects the district's commitment to excellence in education. Our student population represents a variety of cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds, creating a rich, inclusive learning environment. With a current enrollment of 644 students, Boals Elementary continues to adapt and innovate to meet the needs of its learners while celebrating the unique contributions of every child and family. Our campus demographics showcase the vibrant diversity of our campus: 32.8% Asian, 31.9% White, 13.7% Hispanic, 13.5% African American, 7% of students representing two or more backgrounds, 0.9% American Indian or Alaska Native, 0.2% Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, 17.4% Economically Disadvantaged, 17.7% Special Education, 3.1 % 504, 12.8% Emergent Bilingual, 21.8% At Risk, and 5.6% Gifted and Talented. This diversity enhances our learning experiences and prepares students to thrive in a global society.

Focus

Boals Elementary aligns its vision and mission with the principles outlined in the *Creating a New Vision for Public Education in Texas* Visioning Document. According to Article V.h: Organization Transformation, where students are in charge of determining where their attention, effort, and commitment drive their work, our campus ensures that every decision and practice focuses on transforming learning while empowering students and educators alike. By prioritizing a student-centered approach, fostering innovative teaching practices, cultivating a positive campus culture, and emphasizing purposeful leadership, Boals continues to redefine excellence in education. At Boals, students are at the heart of the learning process. By allowing students to determine where their attention, effort, and commitment go, we empower them to take ownership of their educational journey. This approach aligns directly with the Visioning Document's emphasis on providing students with voice, choice, and access to information. Through personalized pathways, students actively engage in goal-setting, reflection, and self-directed projects, developing the skills necessary to navigate a rapidly evolving world. Together with my Instructional Leadership Team, I have worked to implement structures that bring voice and choice into every classroom. By integrating technology, real-world applications, and critical thinking opportunities,

our teachers act as facilitators and guides, creating dynamic classrooms that inspire curiosity and nurture future-ready skills. At Boals, this culture is cultivated through shared leadership and a collective commitment to the school's mission. Staff, students, and families work together to build a supportive environment that prioritizes both academic success and personal growth. Boals is driven by a clear sense of purpose—a commitment to bettering the community, optimizing personal growth, and growing leaders of excellence. Campus leadership focuses on empowering others, ensuring that every staff member and student contributes to the collective vision of success.

Work

Our Student Ambassadors are empowered to serve as leaders, representing their peers and promoting a positive school culture. Their feedback helps drive meaningful changes that positively impact the campus experience, ensuring student voices are heard and valued. Currently our Student Ambassadors have been exploring ways to improve our recess and hallway procedures. As a campus we have implemented Campus Team Huddles. These gatherings connect students across grade levels and reinforce the school's core values of responsibility, integrity, gratitude, respect, and tolerance. They foster collaboration, character development, and a sense of community. Our students have created friendships vertically and now have implemented classroom academic buddy time to reinforce learning. Boals educators create opportunities for students to make meaningful decisions about their learning. Examples include student choice in math stations, where students select activities that align with their learning styles and goals, and Science Talks, where students lead discussions, ask questions, and explore scientific concepts that matter to them. Additional examples include student interviews about choice in how they publish and celebrate their writing, personalized options in WIN Time for enrichment, and differentiated literacy stations that allow students to choose tasks that match their interests and skill levels. From project-based experiences to personalized learning plans, students take ownership of their education while fostering creativity and independence.

Results

The transformation at Boals Elementary is evident in our students' engagement, growth, and achievements. Based on our Parent, Staff, Student Survey, 84% of our parents, 90% of our staff, 95% of our students feel that students have voice and choice in their learning and are setting personalized goals that drive their success. This has led to increased student ownership, with students demonstrating greater independence and motivation as they take charge of their learning journeys. Goal-setting and self-reflection have resulted in improved academic performance and personal development. Boals continues to achieve academic excellence, meeting and exceeding benchmarks while fostering creativity and collaboration in learning environments. Additionally, our students are developing essential 21st-century skills, becoming confident communicators, innovative thinkers, and resilient problem-solvers. Through hands-on projects and technology integration, they are acquiring the tools needed to succeed in future challenges.

At Boals Elementary, we are redefining education to create a brighter future for every student who walks through our doors. By prioritizing student-led, future-ready experiences and embracing voice and choice in personalized learning, we inspire and empower our learners to reach their full potential and thrive in a world of endless possibilities. Our journey is one of growth and innovation, driven by a shared commitment to excellence and the success of each child. Together, we are building a foundation where individuality is celebrated, dreams are nurtured, goals are achieved, and the future shines even brighter.