

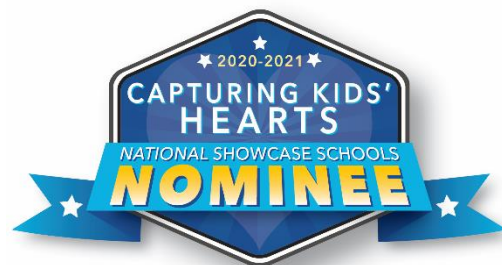
NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 2, 2021

Contact: Melanie Meredith
melanie.meredith@parisisd.net

A.M. Aikin Elementary School and Thomas S. Justiss Elementary School Nominated for a Capturing Kids' Hearts National Showcase Schools™ Award



For the fourth year in a row, Aikin and Justiss elementary schools have been nominated to receive *Capturing Kids' Hearts National Showcase Schools* awards for the 2020-2021 school year by the Flippen Group. Through the National Showcase Schools™ awards, Capturing Kids' Hearts® recognizes and celebrates schools that go the extra mile each day, creating the social-emotional safety on school campuses that is conducive to learning. 339 of U.S. school campuses have been selected as 2020-2021 Capturing Kids' Hearts National Showcase School® Nominees.

Five years ago, Paris Independent School District leaders began an initiative to transform campuses into an emotionally safe and relationally connected place for students, staff, and parents to come together with a love for learning. After researching programs used by some of the nation's most successful schools, Paris ISD chose to bring Capturing Kids' Hearts™ to its campuses. Teachers and staff have continued to learn processes to connect students with peers and adults on campus and to create classrooms where students are excited to learn.

Capturing Kids' Hearts® is the premier source of professional development for educators nationwide. Through experiential training, expert coaching, and personalized support, Capturing Kids' Hearts® equips professionals in K-12 education to implement transformational processes focused on social-emotional wellbeing, relationship-driven culture, and student connectedness.

Campuses implementing Capturing Kids' Hearts® processes consistently report improvements in academic, behavioral, and cultural outcomes. Because of the rigor of their evaluation process, the Capturing Kids' Hearts National Showcase Schools® award is both a high aspiration and an exemplary recognition of excellence.

Capturing Kids' Hearts campuses are considered for this award based on the following criteria: nomination based on observation; level of implementation of *Capturing Kids' Hearts* processes by all staff as measured by online surveys; and data demonstrating that *Capturing Kids' Hearts* has made a significant improvement in attendance, discipline, climate/culture, or academics.

The Flippen Group will gather additional data from students, teachers, administrators, and parents. The selection team will review all accumulated data and select campuses as recipients of the *Capturing Kids' Hearts National Showcase Schools* awards.

For more information about the *Capturing Kids' Hearts National Showcase Schools* awards, go to www.flippengroup.com.