

advertisement

CITY OF HELOTES


www.helotes-tx.gov

... a hill country community boasting a flourishing economy and a high quality of life.

www.shophelotes.com

sacommunities

Site | Yellow Pages | Calendar | Archives | Web Search by Yahoo!

 **59°** Hi: 70°
Lo: 56°
Traffic | Doppler | Forecast

 YOUR PICS |  SUBMIT STORIES |  CALENDAR |  TV |  MOVIES |  GARAGE SALES |  JOBS |  AUTOS |  REAL ESTATE |  CLASSIFIEDS

BULVERDE | HILL COUNTRY | NORTH | NORTH CENTRAL | NORTHWEST | NORTHEAST | SOUTHSIDE | MILITARY |

Web Posted: 02/05/2009 12:00 CST

AH ISD slated to get \$1.8 million

READ comments (0)

By **Tony Cantú** - Contributing Writer/North San Antonio Times [RSS](#) | [EMAIL](#) | [PRINT](#) | [SAVE](#)

The Alamo Heights Independent School District is among the districts slated to receive funds as part of the federal economic stimulus package – to the tune of about \$1.8 million.

But someone forgot to tell AHISD officials. A spokeswoman for the district acknowledged surprise at seeing the district among potential beneficiaries on a list of Bexar County schools eligible for a collective \$213 million in new funding.

District officials had not estimated the amount of money they would need, nor had they met with government officials to discuss their needs, the spokeswoman said.

"We were taken off guard," said AHISD spokeswoman Dr. Dana Bashara. The first district officials heard of their potential allotment – part of a broader package designed to jump-start the sluggish economy – was when the district was posted on an Austin-based research group's Web site, she said.

"We were taken aback by this," Bashara said. "We don't know where they got their figure from."

Strategic Partnerships Inc. of Austin recently posted public schools' potential funding allotments on its Web site, securing the estimates from state lawmakers, said the group's President and CEO Mary Scott Nabers in a recent interview.

The research and procurement consulting firm tracks all manner of funding coming into Texas, from state and federal money to grants from the Department of Homeland Security, Nabers said.

"Those numbers come directly from the original bill that will be debated in the House (of Representatives)," Nabers said. "That's what Congress put in the original bill. Primarily intended for poor school districts – a distinction not shared by property-rich AHISD – some of the funds are intended to be used for technology and bricks-and-mortar upgrades as part of an \$825 billion economic stimulus package."

"The vagaries of that proposed package have been approved by the U.S. House of Representatives and currently being debated in the U.S. Senate," Nabers added.

But just because their inclusion registered surprise doesn't mean AHISD officials wouldn't welcome the windfall.

Bashara said the district could put the money – estimated at \$1,816,900 – to good use, particularly in the area of facilities and technology upgrades.

"Absolutely! We have needs like all districts in Texas that are expressing their needs," Bashara said. "We have technology and facility needs and any kind of money to support our education system would be put to good use."

In a prepared statement to the North San Antonio Times, AHISD superintendent Dr. Kevin Brown buttressed Bashara's assessment.

He also noted the windfall would help augment losses faced by property-rich districts like AHISD each year – a required transfer of some of its tax revenue to state coffers designed to bolster poorer school districts' bottom lines.

"Given the current state of the economy and the current level of funding at the state level, Alamo Heights ISD will be facing big financial challenges over the next few years," Brown wrote.

"AHISD is required to send 40 percent of local tax revenues to the State of Texas, and every penny of increased local appraisals, including that from new development, goes to the state rather than to the children in our district," the superintendent added.

While the \$1.8 million in potential funding could change in exact amount, Brown said any additional funds would help district officials shore up losses while dealing with increased costs related to running the district.

"We face many increased costs each year, including fuel, new technology and numerous unfunded state mandates," Brown wrote. "Additional funding from the federal government would significantly benefit our students and help ensure they continue to receive an excellent education in spite of this challenging economy."

More stories

- Pro wrestling returns to South Side Brack graduate ordained as pastor 'Undertaker' for the road
- Hollywood Park mulls upgrading signs
- Williams recounts area's ghost tales
- Filing for local May 9 elections to begin
- City curbing prostitution along South Presa
- YMCA kicks off 2009 campaign today
- Nickerson headed to Incarnate Word

Save and share



Give Yourself a Gift this Valentine's Day
TREAT YOURSELF!



Eric Tucker's Motorsports of San Antonio

When ordinary transportation, just won't do.

15910 Nacogdoches Rd.
210.656.6000

www.motorsportsofsa.com

newspaper ads [View All](#)

Shop Here Now! View ads with savings and specials from local businesses

MOST : [commented](#) [emailed](#) [viewed](#)

- Councilwomen have trouble viewing inauguration
- Sculley wants city prepared if cuts needed
- 2 gun bills are likely to set off flurry of debate
- Spurs – Big Three = defeat
- MySpace use puts sex offender in jail
- S.A. may feel impact of Time Warner cuts
- Women kissing at mall leads to fight in court
- Man who killed pair on West Side set to die
- Police 'flash-bang' ignites house fire during drug raid
- Former Miami coach applies for UTSA job

Communities

- Bulverde
- Hill Country
- North
- North Central
- Northeast
- Northwest
- Southside
- Military News

Special Interests

- All Special Sections
- 40 Great Things About Schertz
- Daily Commercial Recorder
- San Antonio Classifieds
- Fiesta Magazine
- 210SA

Dixie Flag Manufacturing Co.

sales@dixieflag.com
210-227-5039



Got Allergies?

Comments

0 comment(s) on "AH ISD slated to get \$1.8 million"

[Login](#) | [Sign Up](#)