

THE CAMPUS ON LAKE AUSTIN

“The Campus is a beautiful space dedicated to the idea that public education matters, and it’s essential to improve the skills of the people entrusted with this sacred duty. The quiet grandeur of the campus nudges us to expand our sense of what is possible.”

Guillermo Treviño
Southern Distributing
Holdsworth Board Member



44

acres tucked into the hillside
along the shores of Lake Austin,
15 minutes from downtown

\$200M

investment dedicated to
public education

15

state-of-the-art classrooms
connected to social common
areas: a library, café, courtyard
and patio with lakeside views

18

meeting spaces to
accommodate anywhere from
10 to 340 people including a
unique two-story classroom
perched on a floating dock

186

overnight guest rooms with
indoor/outdoor community
lounges

500

pieces of curated artwork
celebrating 23 Texan educators
and student artists





“No matter what problem we are trying to solve, before we can impact our student’s lives, we must reflect and improve ourselves.”

Sylvia Acuña
Principal, Southwest ISD
Graduate of the Campus Leadership Program

Our organization

Based in Austin, Texas, [we were founded in 2017](#) by Charles Butt, Chairman of H-E-B, who named the Center after his mother, [Mary Elizabeth Holdsworth](#), a former schoolteacher and pioneering advocate for social justice.

- Board Chair: [Dr. Ruth Simmons](#), president of Prairie View A&M and former president of Smith College and Brown University
- President: [Dr. Lindsay Whorton](#)

Who we serve

Currently, **19 school districts** across Texas are in the [5-year Holdsworth Partnership](#) involving all levels of leadership: superintendents, central office leaders, principals, assistant principals and teachers.



Why leadership?

The choice to [focus on leadership](#) is strategic. Great leadership is critical to the success of any organization, including public schools. In education, leaders impact every aspect of the system all the way down to student outcomes. Two decades of [research](#) backs this up.

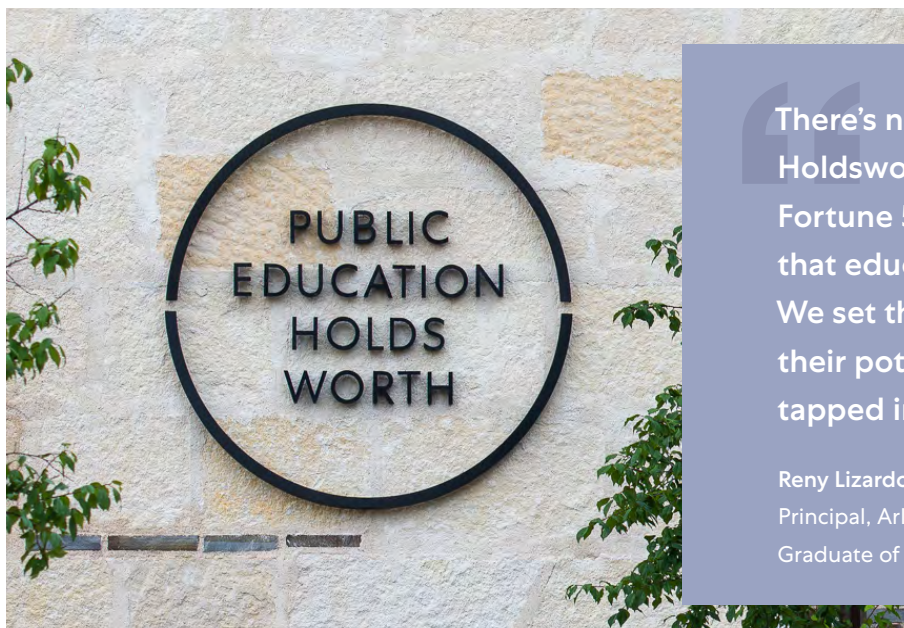
Cohort 1 (2017 - 2022) - Arlington ISD, Grand Prairie ISD, Klein ISD, Lamar CISD, Pharr-San Juan-Alamo ISD, Round Rock ISD, Southwest ISD

Cohort 2 (2019 - 2024) - Aldine ISD, Harlingen CISD, Judson ISD, Lockhart ISD, Mesquite ISD, Spring ISD

Cohort 3 (2021 - 2026) - Cedar Hill ISD, Dallas ISD, East Central ISD, Garland ISD, Laredo ISD, Victoria ISD

By the end of 2021, Holdsworth will have reached **850 leaders** since its founding in 2017 and is projected to serve **4,500 leaders** in the 5-year partnership alone by 2028.

By September 2021, **20 new school districts** will join Holdsworth through the launch of new programs.



“There’s no organization doing what Holdsworth does. We are treated like Fortune 500 CEOs. You could argue that educators make those CEOs. We set them on that path to realize their potential, but no one has really tapped into ours until Holdsworth.”

Reny Lizardo
Principal, Arlington ISD
Graduate of the Campus Leadership Program

Our goals for every district

Grow individual leaders and deepen their capacity to lead themselves, lead others and lead change

Design systems that will produce a strong principal in every school by building a deep bench of talent poised to fill leadership vacancies as they arise

Build strong principal, teacher and overall staff engagement that creates emotional commitment to the mission of educating all children, demonstrated by stability and retention of the workforce

Meaningfully improve student achievement, measured not only by state ratings but also by student engagement and social emotional learning

How we know we’re making an impact

96 percent of leaders say they developed new and beneficial mindsets and behaviors as a result of the Holdsworth experience.

Districts are improving their ratio of candidates who are ready for the principalship relative to the number of principal vacancies.

Since 2017, **70 Holdsworth leaders** have been promoted to new roles with increased responsibility, four to superintendent, 11 to principal and 55 to other roles.

100% of districts who started the partnership in 2017 reported an improvement in their school leader pipeline.

97 percent of leaders say the model has influenced their focus on achieving excellent and equitable outcomes for students.

