



December 4, 2025

Dear Families and Staff,

Thank you to everyone who joined us yesterday for the community meeting about the future of Carvajal Elementary School. We want to share this information with families and staff who were not able to attend.

We explained that the district will recommend to the Board of Trustees that Carvajal Elementary close at the end of this school year. If the Board approves this recommendation:

- Students' home campus in 2026-27 would be **Barkley-Ruiz** (a B-rated school).
- Students choosing to continue the dual language program will have the opportunity to attend **De Zavala** (a C-rated school).

These are the schools the district is recommending, but **you are free to choose any school you believe is the best fit for your child.**

We will present this recommendation and the feedback from the community meeting at the **December 15 Board meeting**. The Board may vote on this recommendation at the **January 12 meeting**.

Families are welcome to attend either or both meetings, and you may also watch the meetings online. Below is the information about the meetings.

This recommendation is very difficult, and we want to explain the reasons behind it.

- **Several years of low academic performance:** Carvajal has received an F rating for the last three years. If the school is rated F this year, the district is in danger of state intervention. As the enrollment of the school continues to decline, it will decrease staff allocations making it much more challenging to improve academic outcomes. With fewer staff allocations, more grade levels will have to combine (for example, combining a 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class with one teacher) which is extremely challenging for our teachers to manage and for students to achieve at grade level.
- **Very small bilingual program:** The bilingual program is also unsustainably small, with only 75 students across seven grade levels: an average of 10 students per class. Some classes have as few as 5 or 9 students.
- **Low enrollment:** Carvajal's enrollment has continued to decline and is now at 314 students, which is 88 fewer than two years ago.

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We also want to assure you that no employees will lose their jobs for the 2026–27 school year in the event of a closure. We will work closely with staff to help them secure new assignments. If the Board approves the closure, the district will fully support families and staff through the transition and ensure that students move smoothly to their new campuses.

**Feedback**

We encourage families and staff to continue sharing their feedback on this [form](#): <https://bit.ly/carvajal2025>. You may also email [rightsizing@saisd.net](mailto:rightsizing@saisd.net) or call (210) 554-2660.

**Board Meeting Information**

Monday, December 15, 5:30 p.m. (Recommendation and Discussion)

Monday, January 12, 5:30 p.m. (Board Action)

SAISD Board Room, 514 W. Quincy St., 78212

Online streaming is available at [www.saisd.net/page/videos-school-board-meetings](http://www.saisd.net/page/videos-school-board-meetings)

*A link to the streamed meeting will appear once the proceeding begins.*

We are here to support you and your family.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Shawn Bird  
Deputy Superintendent