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SERVING THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR SINCE 1947

August 18 - 24, 2022

BREAKING NEWS!

Biden signs massive climate and health care legislation

By ZEKE MILLER and SEUNG MIN KIM



WASHINGTON (AP) — President Joe Biden signed Democrats' landmark climate change and health care bill into law on Tuesday, delivering what he has called the "final piece" of his pared-down domestic agenda, as he aims to boost his party's standing with voters less than three months before the midterm elections.

The legislation includes the most substantial federal investment in history to fight climate change — some \$375 billion over the decade — and would cap prescription drug costs at \$2,000 out-of-pocket annually for Medicare recipients. It also would help an estimated 13 million Americans pay for health care insurance by extending subsidies provided during the coronavirus pandemic.

The measure is paid for by new taxes on large companies and stepped-up IRS enforcement of wealthy individuals and entities, with additional funds going to reduce the federal deficit.

In a triumphant signing

President Joe Biden signs the Democrats' landmark climate change and health care bill in the State Dining Room of the White House in Washington, Tuesday, Aug. 16, 2022, as from left, Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer of N.Y., House Majority Whip Rep. James Clyburn, D-S.C., Rep. Frank Pallone, D-N.J., and Rep. Kathy Castor, D-Fla., watch. (AP Photo/Susan Walsh)

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Black America Should Gain Huge Benefits After Biden Signs Inflation Reduction Act

By Stacy M. Brown

President Joe Biden on Tuesday signed the historic \$750 billion Inflation Reduction Act into law, a major accomplishment for the administration and a Democratic Party that's now looking with more optimism toward November's crucial midterm elections.

The bill represents the most significant climate investment in U.S. history.

It includes strengthening critical provisions of the Affordable Care Act, providing Medicare with authority to negotiate certain prescription drug costs, and administration officials anticipate it will create jobs with family-sustaining wages.

Additionally, the law will reduce the national deficit.

Biden said new taxes

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Beto O'Rourke responds to heckler over Uvalde with expletive

By PAUL J. WEBER



Delcia Lopez/The Monitor via AP

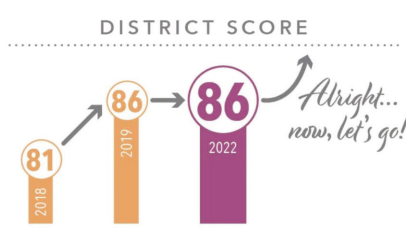
AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Democrat Beto O'Rourke responded to a heckler at a campaign stop with an expletive after the Texas gubernatorial candidate heard a cackled laugh while criticizing the ease with which the Uvalde elemen-

tary school gunman legally purchased an AR-15-style rifle.

By Thursday, video of O'Rourke's exchange at a town hall in rural Mineral Wells had drawn millions of

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District Grade



Dallas ISD makes significant gains earns B rating

BY THE HUB

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WELLS
FARGO

Darlene Goins on Financial Inclusion

Too many communities this year, it seems, have traded pandemic worries for a fresh new set of concerns – rising inflation, more expensive groceries, and higher gas prices, to name a few. To those who are outside of the financial mainstream, the headlines are even more worrisome.

Black and African American, Hispanic, Latino, Native American and Alaska Native families, account for more than half of the 7 million unbanked households who don't have access to a mainstream checking account and often use high-cost alternatives to banking such as payday loans and check cashing services. Being left out of the banking system and deemed financially underserved is, simply, a problem.

I am personally passionate about finding real solutions. As the leader of Wells Fargo's Banking Inclusion Initiative, I'm dedicated to our 10-year commitment to accelerate unbanked individuals' access to affordable, mainstream accounts and help unbanked communities have easier access to low-cost banking.

This initiative has moved forward by working with a network of organizations that have deep-rooted connections to the diverse communities that are disproportionately unbanked.

Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. Member FDIC.

Addressing the structural barriers that stand in the way of people becoming banked, and breaking them, are the first steps to financial inclusion. It is expensive to be marginalized in this country; and we know there is a real disparity in who has open pathways to economic advancement.

It is also evident that financial education and guidance, and an individual's sense of inclusion and trust, are important factors in bringing more people who are unbanked into the formal banking system.

The good news is that many in our industry and communities have already started working together in finding solutions that make it easier for people to lead positive and healthy financial lives—like the ones explored through the Banking Inclusion Initiative:

- Teaming with Operation HOPE to offer free financial education workshops and provide one-on-one coaching for unbanked individuals and households.
- Expanding our support for Black-owned Minority Depository Institutions to increase access to mainstream financial services.
- Supporting financial wellness programs at historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) and minority-serving institutions (MSIs).

We know our work doesn't stop here. There are so many opportunities for us to reimagine what our society looks like as it pertains to financial inclusion that will lead to positive and impactful change right now and in the future.

You can find more information on our Banking Inclusion Initiative at: www.wellsfargo.com/bankinginclusion.



Meet Darlene Goins

Darlene Goins is EVP and head of Banking Inclusion Initiative for Wells Fargo, responsible for the overall strategy and direction of the program. Goins joined Wells Fargo in 2016 as head of Hands on Banking®, and previously served as head of Financial Health Philanthropy for the Wells Fargo Foundation. An active community leader, Goins currently serves on the boards of several nonprofits to accelerate financial inclusion.

Continued **Biden** Page 1

event at the White House, Biden pointed to the law as proof that democracy — no matter how long or messy the process — can still deliver for voters in America as he road-tested a line he will likely repeat later this fall ahead of the midterms: “The American people won, and the special interests lost.”

“In this historic moment, Democrats sided with the American people, and every single Republican in the Congress sided with the special interests in this vote,” Biden said, repeatedly seizing on the contrast between his party and the GOP. “Every single one.”

The House on Friday approved the measure on a party-line 220-207 vote. It passed the Senate days earlier with Vice President Kamala Harris breaking a 50-50 tie in that chamber.

“In normal times, getting these bills done would be a huge achievement,” Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said during the White House ceremony. “But to do it now, with only 50 Democratic votes in the Senate, over an intransigent Republican minority, is nothing short of amazing.”

Biden signed the bill into law during a small ceremony in the State Dining Room of the White House, sandwiched between his return from a six-day beachside vacation in South Carolina and his departure for his home in Wilmington, Delaware. He plans to hold a larger “celebration” for the legislation on Sept. 6 once lawmakers return to

Washington.

The signing caps a spurt of legislative productivity for Biden and Congress, who in three months have approved legislation on veterans' benefits, the semiconductor industry and gun checks for young buyers. The president and lawmakers have also responded to Russia's invasion of Ukraine and overwhelmingly supported NATO membership for Sweden and Finland.

With Biden's approval rating lagging, Democrats are hoping that the string of successes will jump-start their chances of maintaining control in Washington in the November midterms. The 79-year-old president aims to restore his own standing with voters as he contemplates a reelection bid.

The White House announced Monday that it was going to deploy Biden and members of his Cabinet on a “Building a Better America Tour” to promote the recent victories. One of Biden's trips will be to Ohio, where he'll view the groundbreaking of a semiconductor plant that will benefit from the recent law to bolster production of such computer chips. He will also stop in Pennsylvania to promote his administration's plan for safer communities, a visit that had been planned the same day he tested positive for COVID-19 last month.

“In the coming weeks, the President will host a Cabinet meeting focused on implementing the Inflation Reduction Act, will travel across the country to highlight how the bill will help the American people, and will host an event to celebrate the enactment of the

bill at the White House on September 6th,” the White House said in a statement.

Republicans say the legislation's new business taxes will increase prices, worsening the nation's bout with its highest inflation since 1981. Though Democrats have labeled the measure the Inflation Reduction Act, nonpartisan analysts say it will have a barely perceptible impact on prices.

Senate Minority Whip John Thune, R-S.D., on Tuesday continued those same criticisms, although he acknowledged there would be “benefit” through extensions on tax credits for renewable energy projects like solar and wind.

“I think it's too much spending, too much taxing, and in my view wrong priorities, and a super-charged, super-sized IRS that is going to be going after a lot of not just high-income taxpayers but a lot of mid-income taxpayers,” said Thune, speaking at a Chamber of Commerce event in Sioux Falls. The administration has disputed that anyone but high earners will face increased tax scrutiny, with Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen directing the tax agency to focus solely on businesses and people earning more than \$400,000 per year for the new audits.

The measure is a slimmed-down version of the more ambitious plan to supercharge environment and social programs that Biden and his party unveiled early last year.

Biden's initial 10-year, \$3.5 trillion proposal also envisioned free prekindergarten, paid family and medical leave, expanded

Medicare benefits and eased immigration restrictions. That crashed after centrist Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., said it was too costly, using the leverage every Democrat has in the evenly divided Senate.

During the signing event, Biden addressed Manchin, who struck the critical deal with Schumer on the package last month, saying, “Joe, I never had a doubt” as the crowd chuckled.

Though the law is considerably smaller than their initial ambitions, Biden and Democrats are hailing the legislation as a once-in-a-generation investment in addressing the long-term effects of climate change, as well as drought in the nation's West.

The bill will direct spending, tax credits and loans to bolster technology like solar panels, consumer efforts to improve home energy efficiency, emission-reducing equipment for coal- and gas-powered power plants, and air pollution controls for farms, ports and low-income communities.

Another \$64 billion would help 13 million people pay premiums over the next three years for privately bought health insurance under the Affordable Care Act. Medicare would gain the power to negotiate its costs for pharmaceuticals, initially in 2026 for only 10 drugs. Medicare beneficiaries' out-of-pocket prescription costs would be limited to \$2,000 annually starting in 2025, and beginning next year would pay no more than \$35 monthly for insulin, the costly diabetes drug.

Continued **Black** Page 1

would pay for the bill, including a 15% minimum tax on large corporations and a 1% tax on stock buyback.

Overall, it's projected that the measure would result in the government raking in more than \$700 billion over ten years while spending about \$430 billion to help reduce carbon emissions and securing the extension of subsidies in the health care law.

“This legislation is a game changer. It will create jobs, lower costs, increase U.S. competitiveness, reduce air pollution, and, of course, tackle the climate crisis,” former Vice President Al Gore told The Climate 202.

“We have crossed a major threshold, and it's going to have significant impacts on international climate action,” said Gore, long a crusader of environmental justice and a Nobel Prize winner for climate activism.

The new law should primarily assist African American families.

According to a study published by the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, Black households are more exposed to inflation fluctuations than their white peers.

Researchers concluded that if prices paid by white households increase by 7 percent over a year, calculations suggest that one may expect them to increase by 7.5 percent for Black families.

“In our research, we examine how this informs the trade-off between inflation and unemployment sta-

bilization for White and Black households,” the study authors explained.

“The result implies that when evaluating trade-offs between inflation and unemployment, one ought to keep in mind that the costs of inflation may be borne disproportionately by the more disadvantaged group.”

With gas, food, and other prices rising, the authors concluded that necessities such as groceries, electricity, and wireless phone service make up a larger share of Black families' budgets.

The study said that Black households also spend a more significant portion of their income on goods and services with prices that change more often.

The result, according to researchers, isn't a mystery: “Black families will suffer the worst effects of rising inflation because they lag behind their White counterparts in income, wealth, financial savings and home ownership.”

“Black families, especially those without an employed college graduate, are affected the most by inflation compared with all the other demographics,” said Ellie Walters, the CEO of Findpeoplefaster.com.

“Necessities like groceries, accommodation, gas, electricity bills and phone bills eat up most of their income, leaving them with fewer savings since most of them fall within the low-income groups,” Walters stated.

She said Black families are affected by even the slightest increase in price, and with the rising

Continue **Black** Page 4

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2510 E. Ledbetter, Dallas, Texas 75216
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Pastor Daryl R. Carter

Sunday School - 8:30 a.m.
Early Worship - 9:30 a.m.
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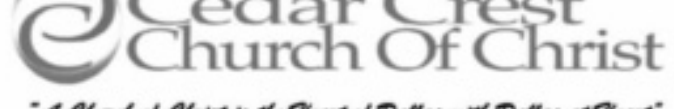
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Ben Myers
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Elders:
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Raymond Hart
Otis Idlebird, Jr.
Jason Moseley
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Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
Bible Classes 5:00 p.m.
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THE THIRD MISSIONARY JOURNEY OF PAUL CONTINUED

ACTS 20:1-38

By Rev. Johnny Calvin Smith



As chapter 20 opens, Paul goes into Macedonia and came into Greece, primarily where he revisits Athens and Corinth (v. 1-2). As Paul went through Greece and Macedonia, he visited all the churches which he had founded there. During Paul’s three-month stay in Greece, there was a plot against his life (v. 3). The men-

tion of the seven men in verse 4 suggests that the men joined Paul in the collection efforts for the saints in Jerusalem. According to verses 5-12, at Troas, Paul preached a prolonged message, and Eutychus, being a listener, and falling asleep, falls from the third loft! Paul restores Eutychus to life and then goes on with his

message until daylight! Yes, Paul raised Eutychus from the dead; moreover, Simon Peter raised Dorcas from the dead! This was a special gift that belonged to the apostles. In our day, we do not have anyone who has the ability to raise anyone from the dead! After the canon of Scripture was established, the sign gifts

were not manifested – they vanished from the church. The miracle of Paul raising Eutychus brought great excitement, for verse 12 says: “And they brought the young man alive, and were not a little comforted.” When Dr. Luke, the writer of Acts, writes that they “were not a little comforted,” he really means that they were really

thrilled or excited that Eutychus had been raised from the dead and was back in their midst. In some of our churches, there are many complaints directed to Pastors who preach ten or even five minutes longer than usual! This church listened to Paul all night! These believers simply want to hear a word from the Lord. From verses 13-15, Dr. Luke relates that he and others of the group sailed to Assos, but Paul traveled on foot, and finally picking up Paul at Miletus. Dr. Luke and others of the group sailed from Assos to

Mitylene, Chios, Samos, and Miletus. From verses 16-38, Paul was unwilling to take time to revisit Ephesus and sends messengers to have the elders of that city meet him as he passes by. Paul reviews his ministry with them (vv. 17-21) and shares that he is compelled by the Spirit to go to Jerusalem, aware that danger, imprisonment, and hardship await (vv. 22-31). Paul commits these believers to the Lord, sure that they will never see one another again (vv. 32-38).

May God Bless!



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Keller school officials order 41 books including the Bible and an Anne Frank adaptation off of library shelves

A new policy scraps community recommendations from last fall that some books that had been questioned should remain on shelves.

By **Brian Lopez**
 (texastribune.org)

Ahead of the first day of school, the Keller Independent School District is removing all books that were challenged last year within the school district, including the Bible, "The Bluest Eye" by Toni Morrison and a graphic novel adaptation of Anne Frank's "The Diary of a Young Girl."

"Attached is a list of all books that were challenged last year. By the end of today, I need all books pulled from the library and classrooms. Please collect these books and store them in a location. (book room, office, etc.)," Jennifer Price, executive director of Keller ISD's curriculum and instruction, wrote in an email sent to principals, obtained by The Texas Tribune.

The direction to remove all 41 books surprised some local residents because a school district committee made up of members of the public met last year and recommended that some of the books now being removed — including Morrison's "The Bluest Eye" and "Anne Frank's Diary" — remain in student libraries.

Continued **Black** Page 2

of Black community members, are trapped by an economic cycle that seems rigged against them."

Ronda Brunson, an expert in financial planning and credit restoration at Project Restore Bmore, agreed that Black households would continue to feel the impact of rising inflation.

"Most Black homes with car notes are paying double-digit interest rates, same for credit cards. Yet, we are not conditioned to go for better but to be grateful for whatever

recession, many might have to live without most of these necessities.

"A large number of Black families live paycheck to paycheck and cannot easily escape the constantly increasing wealth gap between them and the other demographics, especially the white," Walters remarked.

"Inflation often makes this dilemma worse, since during inflation, wages are cut, and workers are laid off. These low-income earners, largely made up

approval without contesting," Brunson asserted.

"If I am already paying three times more than you for the same vehicle, then of course, when inflation occurs, I'm going to feel it first."

According to the Brookings Institute, the median wealth of a white household is \$188,200, which is 7.8 times more than the average Black household at \$24,100.

Two years ago, the homeownership rate for white Americans was about 73% compared to 42% for Black Americans.

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7	6	1	4	9	2	5	8	3
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But since that committee met and recommended keeping some challenged books, three new conservative school board members, all recipients of a Christian political action committee's donations, were elected to the district's seven-member board of trustees. And according to the school district, all 41 challenged books are now to be reviewed again by campus staff and librarians to see if they meet a new board policy approved last week, according to Bryce Nieman, the Keller ISD spokesperson.

Nieman said the school board, with its three newest members elected last spring, unanimously approved a new policy for acquiring and reviewing books.

"This story has been edited for length."

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views on social media, becoming the latest instance in which O'Rourke has gotten attention for his calls for stricter gun laws following one of the deadliest classroom shootings in U.S. history.

O'Rourke on Wednesday was railing against how the 18-year-old gunman in Uvalde was able to legally purchase a weapon "originally designed for use on

the battlefields" and take it into a classroom of fourth-graders. When a person in the crowd laughed, O'Rourke paused and pointed in their direction.

"It may be funny to you, (obscurity), but it's not funny to me," O'Rourke said.

Supporters stood up and cheered. Video shows a small number of people in the crowd were holding signs for Republican Gov. Greg Abbott, O'Rourke's

opponent in November, though it does not show who O'Rourke was specifically addressing.

Chris Evans, a campaign spokesman, said the town hall continued without any further encounters.

Nineteen children and two teachers were killed in the May massacre. O'Rourke, who has called for raising the age to legally purchase AR-style and other such high-powered guns in the U.S. to 21 years old, interrupted a news conference

led by Abbott in Uvalde after the shooting and accused the two-term governor of not taking action. Gun violence has been one of O'Rourke's most animated issues as a candidate, including during his run for president in 2019, when he said, "Hell yes, we're gonna take your AR-15" on a debate stage. He has sought to give a more moderated message on firearms during his run for governor in gun-friendly Texas.

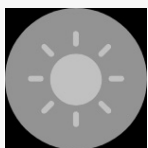
SPORTS/NEWS PAGE

Day Weather Forecast for DFW

Thursday, Aug. 18

H - 83°
L - 73°

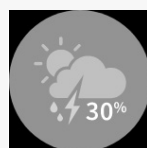
Friday, Aug. 19

H - 91°
L - 76°

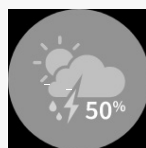
Saturday, Aug. 20

H - 93°
L - 79°

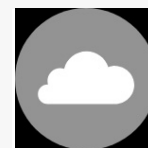
Sunday, Aug. 21

H - 93°
L - 80°

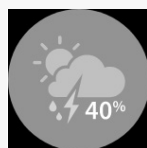
Monday, Aug. 22

H - 88°
L - 77°

Tuesday, Aug. 23

H - 84°
L - 76°

Wednesday, Aug. 24

H - 85°
L - 76°

Rangers fire manager Chris Woodward short of his 500th game

By STEPHEN HAWKINS



Texas Rangers third base coach Tony Beasley smiles as he listens to a question during a news conference after being announced as interim manager of the baseball team, in Arlington, Texas, Monday, Aug. 15, 2022. The Rangers fired manager Chris Woodward on Monday. (Eliás Valverde II/The Dallas Morning News via AP)

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — The Texas Rangers fired fourth-year manager Chris Woodward on Monday, a move made in hopes of building momentum toward next year, when the team has long expected to win again after a seasons-long rebuilding effort.

The Rangers are on pace for their sixth consecutive losing season since their last AL West title in 2016. While better than last year's 102-loss team, they haven't made the desired progress this year, or even had a win-

ning record at any point since spending a half-billion dollars last winter to sign shortstop Corey Seager and second baseman Marcus Semien.

"We did not come into this season thinking we had put together a championship roster. We thought we'd taken a major step forward in talent from where we were a year ago," said Jon Daniels, the team's president of baseball operations. "We've certainly had aspirations maybe to overachieve some and still do have those,

but we were, and continue to be, realistic about where we are. ... That said, we did think that we'd be better than our record, and better than the way that we've played at times."

After peaking at 24-24 at the end of May, Texas lost its next three games and five of six. The Rangers, who were 6-24 in one-run games under Woodward, beat Oakland 2-1 on Monday night in third base coach Tony Beasley's first game as interim manager. Texas improved to 52-63 and has

won three straight for the first time in two months.

Woodward, the fourth big league manager to be fired this season, was two games shy of managing his 500th game for the Rangers. He finished with a 211-287 record, which came during the extended rebuilding process that also included the pandemic-shortened 2020 season and the MLB lockout last winter after the Rangers had signed Seager and Semien.

Philadelphia's Joe Girardi was replaced by Rob

Thomson on June 3, the Los Angeles Angels' Joe Maddon by Phil Nevin four days later and Toronto's Charlie Montoyo by John Schneider on July 13.

Daniels, who was the general manager when Woodward was hired, and current GM Chris Young both spoke about making the managerial change now to start addressing items such as how the team prepares and its style of play.

"I think it's just the overall structure, the environment. It's not necessarily the content of the preparation, but the way it's utilized," Young said. "The way we utilize meetings, the way we utilize different resources throughout the day, creating a structure that's really tailored towards winning a game every single day when we come in, and we felt like at times that got a little loose."

Woodward, who was the third base coach for the Los Angeles Dodgers before landing his first managerial job, was under contract through next season. The team held an option for 2024.

Seager spent his first seven big league seasons with the Dodgers, and was the National League rookie of the year in 2016, the first of Woodward's three seasons as the third base and infield coach in Los Angeles. Seager was reunited with Woodward after signing a \$325 million, 10-year contract last December.

"Obviously, he was a really important person in my career and in my life. He was around me at a really pivotal point in my career. And I don't have anything bad to say. I have the utmost respect for him," Seager said on the field before Monday's game. "It's one of those things I just wish we could have played a little better and maybe outcomes would be different."

Along with Seager and Semien (\$175 million, seven years), the Rangers also last winter signed right-hander Jon Gray (four-year, \$56 million) to be at the top of their rotation. Gray was in his best stretch of the season before a left oblique injury earlier this month that could potentially sideline him the rest of the year.

Beasley is in his eighth season with the Rangers, and is the longest-tenured member of their big-league coaching staff. He previously was on the major league staffs with Washington (2006) and Pittsburgh (2008-10), and had a 590-472 record in eight seasons as a minor league manager in those organizations.

"He has all the attributes that we're looking for. He has the respect of the staff, the respect of the players," Daniels said. "He's an intelligent baseball veteran, who's won at the minor league level, performed in a variety of roles, both here and elsewhere. ... He's the right person for us as we move forward."

Ex-NFL star Aqib Talib's brother turns self in after slaying



Yaqub Salik Talib
(Photo Credit/Dallas County Sheriff's Department via AP)

LANCASTER, Texas (AP) — The brother of retired NFL cornerback Aqib Talib turned himself

in to authorities Monday after police identified him as the suspect in the shooting death of a coach at a youth football game in Texas.

Police said that a murder warrant was issued for Yaqub Salik Talib, 39, in the fatal shooting on Saturday night of Michael Hickmon, 43, police in the Dallas-area city of Lancaster said.

According to witnesses, Talib pulled out a gun and shot Hickmon multiple times after a disagreement between the opposing coaching staff of two youth football teams over calls made by the officiating

crew led to a physical fight, police said.

Hickmon was later pronounced dead at a hospital. Police say no other injuries were reported.

Yaqub Talib is the brother of Aqib Talib, a five-time Pro Bowler who announced his retirement in 2020. Aqib Talib was named last month as a contributor for Prime Video's "Thursday Night Football."

Police said that after the shooting, Yaqub Talib fled, taking the firearm with him.

Talib's attorney, Clark Birdsall, told The Associated Press that his client "regrets the tragic

loss of life but self-surrendered this morning so that he may have the chance to say his side of the story." Birdsall declined to elaborate on what Talib's side of the story is.

Police said they were still investigating the circumstances leading up to the shooting. Several people, including children, were present when Hickmon was killed, police said.

Dallas TV station WFAA reported that the brothers are coaches for North Dallas United Bobcats, a youth football team. Hickmon was a coach with the youth team



Coach Mike Hickmon
(Photo Credit NBCTV)

D.E.A. Dragons, WFAA reported.

Dragons President Mike Freeman said the dispute began when Hickmon went to pick up a football and someone kicked it away.

"I don't know how to

explain it to the kids. That's the part that I'm stuck on right now. How do I explain it to them. Why?" Freeman said. "This is something that these kids will remember for the rest of their life."



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EDITORIAL PAGE

STOP RUNNING RED LIGHTS

My Day

By Dr. J. Ester Davis
Esterdavis2000@gmail.com



Dr. J. Ester Davis

How often do you see someone running a red light? Once a week? Everyday? Twice a month? What is your reaction? What is their hurry? "Red light running" is beyond ridiculous. I see it every day. A couple of week ago, I took an ad hoc poll and the agreement was unanimous. 'I see it every day' was the immediate answer from citizens I polled. There are several

groups around the nation taking notes, statistics and a National Stop-On-Red Week is celebrating their 3rd birthday. Several other opinion-sense writers and researchers have compared "red light running" to drunk driving. 'Red light running' is not as deadly yet, but it is also a new category with unkept secrets. "Red light running" is an aggressive driving behavior which puts motorists, passengers on the road at an increased risk of a crash every time it occurs. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) says that "red light running" attributed to over 12,000 deaths in 2018. AAA has placed a disturbing number to this recklessness. An unbelievable 31% increase in deaths and tens of thousands of injuries. Nationwide 4.2 million drivers failed to stop on red

in 2021. In addition, AAA Foundation now reports that we are experiencing a ten(10)year high in this most dangerous America trend. Some law partners have added a new department to their legal group, to-wit: Red Light Deaths. And some cities are documenting same with drones at highly trafficked intersections. How soon we forget. In the State of Texas, the Governor in 2019 banned red light cameras due to the outcry from drivers and municipalities that the cameras were faulty, not working properly and the fines too expensive. The system did not work and personally, I think, was installed prematurely. Around the United States, some red light cameras were redesigned, improved and witnessing a major decrease in accidents. Many American cities are in vari-

ous stages of implementation, rewind, set-to-go. So, if you are a "red light runner" be mindful that some cities near you do send you a ticket for 'running a red light'. Here are a few theories and advice for drivers. One piece of advice is stop at stop signs, too. Always anticipate a red light runner. . .count three(3)seconds before you proceed into an intersection. You should know that when the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety crash tests a vehicle, it sends them at 40 miles per hour (64 kilometers) into a barrier. Red light runners are traveling between 40 and 60 mph. Here is the ultimate question. Why can't we just stop. It's only a red light or a stop sign for goodness sakes. Just stop! Stop running red lights. It hurts all of us.

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Are You Raising one of the Next Generation of Hoodlums?

The Importance of Parental Expectations

By Dr. Joyce Teal

Parents: Research has shown that parental expectations for children's academic achievement predict educational outcomes more than any other measures of parental involvement. So please know that the expectations parents have for their sons' behavior also matter! The expectations parents have for their sons' school attainment influence their sons' expectations and achievement. Knowing that this is so, you'll want to make it clear to your son that you expect him to achieve and you expect him to behave appropriately. Parental expectations are more likely to affect children when parent-child relationships are characterized by closeness and warmth. Parental expectations influence children's outcomes through numerous pathways. Parental expectations directly affect the amount of parent-child communication about school. Additionally, families with high educational aspirations for their sons take the time to provide out-of-school learning opportunities for them. Students who say their par-

ents expect them to attend college have better attendance and more positive attitudes toward school, according to one study. Parental expectations also impact your sons' own aspirations and personal expectations. Studies suggest that parents' expectations for their children's academic attainment have a moderate to strong influence on students' own goals for postsecondary education. Further, both sets of expectations are moderated by characteristics of the parent, child, and community. Begin early in your sons' lives making them aware that you have expectations for them and assuring that they know what your expectations are. One of the main reasons many boys get off track in school is because their parents do not talk with them on a regular basis regarding what they expect. Many parents wait until their sons get in trouble, either behaviorally or academically, before they have a serious conversation with them about appropriate behavior and the importance of putting forth their

best efforts. They are seemingly reluctant to talk to their sons about what they, as parents, expect them to do and what they expect them not to do. Both are important! Summer is over for many children. The new academic year is imminent. No matter what grade level your young son, tween or teen is entering this new school year, provide him the opportunity to enter with your clear, parental expectations firmly fixed in his psyche. This is one of the best things you can do for your child! Make sure you are clear and specific and that your son understands that certain expectations are not negotiable, that you expect this to always happen. Specific, non-negotiable items should include:

- Respectful speech and attitude (most especially with adult authorities)
- All written communication sent by the school will be given to you promptly
- All homework and in-school assignments will be completed
- There will be no bully-



Dr. Joyce Teal

ing (ever)

- You will choose appropriate friends and associates and distance yourself from the opposite.

Parents: It is very important for your sons to know that you have expectations for them and also equally important that they know what your expectations are. Clarifying your expectations prior to the beginning of the new school year, and then providing frequent reminders to keep the expectations fresh on your sons' minds serves to help them maintain their focus.

Special note: Readers are invited to tune in to www.untealthen.com. to check out more of Dr. Teal's publications.

Dallas ISD presents safety plan to Trustees

BY THE HUB

Dallas ISD's Board of Trustees on Thursday received details regarding the district's plan to enhance school safety. Chief of Dallas ISD Police John Lawton presented the comprehensive plan, which was created with the help of students, parents, staff, community members, and safety and security experts.

"It takes all of us to keep our district safe," said Lawton. "The incident in Uvalde increased the level of anxiety among our families. We need to communicate what we are doing as a school district to keep our

kids, staff and facilities safe."

The plan follows a multi-layered approach to protecting schools, recognizing that one measure alone cannot ensure safety.

Some highlights include:

- Inspection of all campus access points, door locks, and monitoring and surveillance systems by the end of August. Emergency Safety teams will also conduct random safety checks throughout the year.

Dallas ISD Comprehensive Safety Plan



- Secure vestibules, upgraded and/or additional cameras, card access systems and other technology enhancements at campuses via the 2020 Bond. All multi-level campuses will also receive metal detectors.
- Student support, including continued safety drills, reimagined in-school discipline through "reset centers," mental health support, and reporting systems like Say Something and Campus Crime Stoppers.
- Investing in staff by expanding the dis-

trict's Emergency Management team, converting hall monitors to trained security personnel, and providing security awareness training for all staff.

- Campus Safety Committee creation at all schools to involve parents and the community in supporting our efforts to generate additional ideas to improve campus safety.

Learn more about Dallas ISD's Comprehensive Safety Plan at www.dallasisd.org/safeschools.

THE 2022 - 2023 SCHOOL YEAR HAS STARTED - PLEASE OBSERVE ALL SCHOOL ZONES -

Texas Department of Transportation

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

Things You Should Know

Your child is **70 times** more likely to get to school safely on a school bus than in a car.

Four to six children lose their lives every year to an accident involving a school bus.

Most of these incidents happen to children **four - seven** when they're outside the bus.

*According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)

Safety Tips for Drivers

♥ Drive slowly in school zones and bus stops.

♥ Be alert. Look for children running to the bus stop, especially without sidewalk.

♥ Double check for children when backing out of your driveway or garage.

Safety Tips for Parents and Children

Never walk behind a school bus.

10 feet away. When crossing in front of a bus, stay from the bus and make eye contact with the driver.

Wait for the driver to stop the bus and **give the 'ok'** for getting on board.

The bus stop is not for running around or playing.

- > **Flashing Lights** are the same as traffic lights at an intersection.
- > **Yellow lights** mean the bus is slowing down, so prepare to stop.
- > **Red lights** are used when the bus has stopped. A Stop-arm will also extend from the driver's side of the bus. It is illegal to pass a bus with red lights and the stop arm out.

School bus drivers do everything they can to keep children safe, but motorists are also responsible for driving safely around school buses.

Parents and caregivers can also prepare their children to be safe around school buses by sharing the tips for students listed below.

Tips for drivers sharing the road with school buses

- Follow at a safe distance, keeping in mind that school buses make frequent stops.
- Always remain alert for children around buses and remember that they may not always look for vehicles before crossing the street
- Stop for flashing red lights or a stop sign on a school bus regardless of which direction you're headed. Continue once the bus has moved, the flashing lights stop flashing or the bus driver signals it's okay to pass
- Violations can lead to a fine of up to \$1,250 for a first offense.

Tips for students

- Stand as far back from the curb as possible when you are waiting for a bus
- Wait until the bus has come to a complete stop and watch for the driver to signal that it's safe to board. Hold on to the handrail and find a seat quickly
- Listen to the bus driver and sit still to avoid distracting the driver
- After exiting the bus, cross only in front of the bus, never behind it. Make eye contact with the driver and wait for the driver's signal that it is okay to cross. Look left-right-left and safely cross when there is no traffic or vehicles that have stopped

Dallas ISD makes significant gains, earns B rating

BY THE HUB

Dallas ISD made significant gains despite COVID-19 challenges to learning and maintained its pre-pandemic score of 86. With the B grade from the Texas Education Agency, the district has a baseline for success as staff, students and families begin the 2022-2023 school year.

"These results clearly reflect the hard work and commitment of our staff and the innovation and versatility that drives Dallas ISD," said Superintendent Stephanie Elizalde. "The ratings provide encouraging data points that will map the programs and supports for this year. As I have told our schools, 'You got us here, preparing students during difficult circumstances, now, let's go!' We have work to do, but excellence is within our grasp."

The ratings from the Texas Education Agency are the first to be issued since 2019 due to two years of COVID-related pauses. TEA rated 1,195 districts and 8,451 campuses using grades A-C and a Not Rated designation, based on districts' and schools' data on student achievement, school progress, and closing the gaps.

Dallas ISD registered achievement gains in reading from 2021 results and often matched pre-pandemic levels in grades three through eighth across all three student groups—economically disadvantaged, African American, emergent bilingual. Significant progress was made in math but work still needs to be done to return to pre-pandemic achievement levels and to close the gap for all student groups.

Among African American students, Dallas made meaningful gains and stayed largely consistent in both reading and math in comparison with the state. In reading, achievement levels from third through eighth grade improved significantly from those during the pandemic, and in all cases met or exceeded pre-pandemic achievement levels. Reading gains from 2021 to 2022 were as high as +17 percentage points for this student group.

In math, results for African American students are up substantially at all grades and levels but are not at pre-pandemic levels. This is consistent with gains in math among other urban districts and the state.

Reading and math results are also similar among economically disadvantaged and emergent bilingual students—reading results show substantial gains

from 2021 for both groups to meet or exceed pre-pandemic levels while math results show improvement but mostly did not meet pre-pandemic levels. One exception were results in fifth grade reading among emergent bilingual students, which registered a decline from 2021 and pre-pandemic levels.

In addition to the district's grade, every campus is also rated. Including the local accountability ratings—which are more demanding than the state's—the district had:

- 26 campuses rated A (Accomplished)
- 123 rated B (Breakthrough)
- 59 rated C (Competing)
- 14 Not Rated (Developing)
- 8 Not Rated (Focus)

Of 227 schools, 68% had at least one distinction, 26% had at least four distinctions, and 9% had all seven out of seven distinctions. Some schools are not eligible for distinctions and not all schools are eligible for all seven distinctions, which acknowledge campuses for outstanding achievement based on the outcomes of several performance indicators. They are awarded for achievement in several areas and are based on performance relative to a group of campuses of similar type, size, grade span, and student demographics.

Dallas ISD's reading and math scores in grades third through eighth increased significantly across the board compared to 2021 results, and in many cases surpassed 2019 achievement levels. Compared to other districts with similar demographics, Dallas ISD matches the growth and leads in achievement levels in reading in third through eighth grade. In math across grade levels, Dallas ISD shows similar growth as the state and other districts but did not match pre-pandemic achievement levels—a trend that was true across the state and other urban districts.

In high school end of course results, Dallas students made greater gains than the state toward pre-pandemic levels in Algebra I, biology and U.S. history despite having registered a significant decline during the pandemic. In English I and II end of course exams, student progress was slightly greater or similar to state. Results in all end of course exams indicate more work needs to be done to continue closing the gap for these grades.



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