

Comal Independent School District

NEWS RELEASE

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Comal ISD meets Adequate Yearly Progress for the sixth year in a row; all schools meet AYP

For the sixth year in a row, the Comal ISD has met the “Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)” standards established by the federal government under the No Child Left Behind Act. In addition, 100 percent of the district’s schools also met AYP for the second year in a row. Statewide, 75 percent of the schools met the accountability standard.

The federal AYP system is different from the Texas Education Agency’s accountability system that rates schools either Exemplary, Recognized, Acceptable, or Not-Acceptable. Comal ISD has four Exemplary schools — Bill Brown, Hoffmann Lane, Rebecca Creek and Specht elementary schools. The nine Recognized schools are — Canyon Middle, Church Hill Middle, Comal Elementary, Freiheit Elementary, Goodwin Frazier Elementary, Rahe Bulverde Elementary, Arlon Seay Elementary, Spring Branch Middle, and Startzville Elementary.

“Our students continue to exceed the standards established by the state and federal governments,” says Dr. Marc Walker, superintendent. “The dedication of our students and teachers continues to pay off.”

The schools’ AYP ratings are based on various indicators — performance on state assessments in reading/language arts and math at grades 3—8 and 10,

participation rate on those two state tests, and either the high school graduation rate or the attendance rate at the middle and elementary school levels.

At least 95 percent of the students have to be tested on each test and at least 60 percent of the students have to pass the reading/language arts test. In math, the percentage having to pass is 50 percent.

Data for all students, as well as African American, Hispanic, white, economically disadvantaged, special education, and limited English proficient are analyzed.

Comal ISD had 100 percent participation rates on both tests. Comal ISD students, as a group in grades 3—8 and 10, exceeded the required passing standards with 93 percent of all of students mastering the TAKS tests in reading/language arts (93 percent last year) and 88 percent mastering the TAKS math tests (86 percent last year).

The graduation rate in Comal ISD was 90 percent in 2007, up from 88 percent. The required federal standard is 70 percent. The required federal standard for attendance at the middle and elementary school level is 90 percent at each campus. All Comal ISD middle and elementary schools exceeded the standard.

The AYP system imposes sanctions on schools and districts that miss AYP for the same reason for two or more years in a row. No Comal ISD schools fall into this category.

To review all of the AYP reports for Comal ISD and its schools, visit <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/ayp/> or http://www.comalisd.org/About_Us/Student_Performance.asp.