

Comal Independent School District

NEWS RELEASE

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“Recognized” rating for Comal ISD; 13 schools receive one of two top ratings

Comal ISD is once again a TEA (Texas Education Agency) “Recognized” district. The rating is based on student performance on the 2008 TAKS (Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills), the completion rate, and dropout rate. The last time the district achieved the Recognized rating was from 2000 to 2003.

In addition, all 10 elementary schools in Comal ISD achieved one of the two highest ratings and three of the middle schools are Recognized. Four schools are “Exemplary” and nine schools are Recognized.

“Congratulations to our students, teachers, and staff on their success,” said Dr. Marc Walker, superintendent. “It took a lot of hard work and commitment from everyone to make this happen. We couldn’t be prouder of them and Comal ISD!”

The four **Exemplary** schools are:

Bill Brown Elementary

Hoffmann Lane Elementary

Rebecca Creek Elementary

Specht Elementary

The nine **Recognized** schools are:

Comal Elementary

Freiheit Elementary

Goodwin Frazier Elementary

Rahe Bulverde Elementary

Startzville Elementary

Arlon Seay Intermediate (now Arlon Seay Elementary)

Canyon Middle

Church Hill Middle

Spring Branch Middle

The remaining five schools — Canyon High, Canyon Lake High, Memorial High, Smithson Valley High, and Smithson Valley Middle — are “Acceptable” campuses.

To be Exemplary a campus must have at least 90 percent or more of its students, and each student subgroup (White, Hispanic, African-American, and Economically Disadvantaged) pass each TAKS test given. Those tests include math, writing, reading/English language arts, science, and social studies.

To be Recognized a campus must have at least 75 percent or more of its students, and each student subgroup pass each TAKS test given.

The Acceptable rating is earned with at least a 70 percent passing rate achieved by all students and each student subgroup in reading/ELA. At least 65 percent must pass writing and social studies. At least 50 percent must pass math and at least 45 percent must pass science.

“The percentage of Comal ISD students passing was higher than the state passing percentage on all tests and that says a great deal,” said Walker. “We go above and beyond the state curriculum to make sure our students can be successful.”

The following list shows the percentage of all Comal ISD students, summed across grade levels, that passed each test in 2008.

Comal ISD Percentage Passing Rate — All Students

READING	95
WRITING	96
MATH	88
SCIENCE	86
SOCIAL STUDIES	96

In addition to meeting passing standards on the TAKS, high schools also are rated on completion rates for the class of 2007. To be Exemplary, 95 percent of all students and each student subgroup had to complete high school; 85 percent had to complete for Recognized status; and, 75 percent had to complete high school for Acceptable status. The overall completion rate for Comal ISD's class of 2007 was 94 percent, one percentage point higher than in 2006.

The annual dropout rate is another rating indicator used by the state. Middle schools can have no more than a 2 percent dropout rate from 2006-07 (all students and each student subgroup) for any of the three ratings. Comal ISD's dropout rate for 2006-07 was 0.2 percent.

Ratings and data tables for individual districts and campuses are available at <http://www.tea.state.tx.us> and will be posted on the district's website at www.comalisd.org in the next few days.