

Comal Independent School District

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Kari Hutchison
830-221-2045

Release Date: May 22, 2007

Improvements on the TAKS continue; commended levels increase as well

Student performance continues to improve in the Comal ISD as measured on the annual Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) tests. In fact, Comal ISD students continue to outperform their peers across the state on every test at every grade level.

The biggest gain was on the social studies test where there was a four-percentage point jump over last year. In addition, the percentage of students reaching the commended level surpassed 2006 numbers in every content area. To be commended, students could not miss more than a few questions on a test (the number varies by test).

Preliminary TAKS scores were released the week of May 7 by the Texas Education Agency on exams that were more rigorous, included larger numbers of special education students, and had higher mastery standards.

"We are pleased with the results," says Dr. Marc Walker, superintendent. "Our teachers and students continue to represent the best of the best in Comal County. They work so hard and go above the state TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills) curriculum which means they can easily exceed the expectations on the annual TAKS tests."

When all grade levels taking a test are summed together, the following are the preliminary results for each content area. Typically, all content area scores increase 1 to 2 percent points after the October PEIMS data "cleanup."

- **Math** — 84 percent passed (includes 1st administration of 5th grade math; 2nd administration given this past week) compared to 84 percent in 2006 (final)
- **Science** — 83 percent passed compared to 82 percent in 2006 (final)

- **Reading/English Language Arts** — 93 percent passed compared to 91 percent in 2006 (final)
- **Writing** — 95 percent passed compared to 94 percent in 2006 (final)
- **Social Studies** — 94 percent passed compared to 90 percent in 2006 (final)

Dr. Vickie Pursch, executive director for Curriculum & Instruction, reports that the percentage meeting expectations on the exam given to special education students (the SDAA II) increased 16 percentage points from 74 percent to 90 percent in 2007.

“We are excited about our improvement and we are anxiously awaiting our school and district ratings which we will receive this summer,” states Pursch.

-CISD-

Comal ISD Passing Rate — All Students

	READING	WRITING	MATH	SCIENCE	SOCIAL STUDIES
3 rd	97		90		
4 th	90	95	92		
5 th	94		90	90	
6 th	95		87		
7 th	89	94	84		
8 th	93		76	82	93
9 th	92		70		
10 th	92		77	74	93
11 th	96		85	86	97