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NEWS RELEASE

Recognized, again!

JULY 29, 2011—Despite a higher standard applied this year for campus and district ratings, Comal ISD remains a recognized district under results of the state’s accountability system released today.

“This demonstrates that our students and teachers continue to perform at high academic levels,” said Tammy Lind, director of staff development and accountability. “We are all very proud of the work they’ve done.”

Five campuses—Garden Ridge Elementary, Hoffmann Lane Elementary, Arlon Seay Elementary, Specht Elementary and Timberwood Park Elementary—earned “exemplary” banners. Twelve campuses—Bill Brown Elementary, Clear Spring Elementary,

Freiheit Elementary, Goodwin Frazier Elementary, Johnson Ranch Elementary, Morningside Elementary, Oak Creek Elementary, Rahe Bulverde Elementary, Rebecca Creek Elementary, Church Hill Middle, Smithson Valley Middle and Smithson Valley High School—earned a “recognized” designation. Seven schools were rated academically acceptable—Startzville Elementary, Canyon Middle School, Mountain Valley Middle School, Spring Branch Middle School, Canyon High School, Canyon Lake High School and Alamo Colleges-Memorial Early College High School.

“This is clearly the result of hard work and focus on the part of our students and our teachers,” said Dr. Marc Walker, superintendent of Comal ISD. “We appreciate our parents’ support of high student performance and we are very proud of all of our campuses.”

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) added a commended performance criteria this year, meaning a “recognized” designation requires 15 percent of all students and 15 percent of all economically disadvantaged students reach the “commended” level on the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS). Exemplary requires 25 percent commended from both student “subgroups.”

“That requirement impacted many of our campus ratings,” Lind said.

All seven of the “academically acceptable” campuses were “recognized” last year and six of the “recognized” campuses were “exemplary” last year. The majority of the campuses missed the higher rating by two or three of the 16-20 performance indicators.

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