

Comal Independent School District

NEWS RELEASE

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Specht Elementary's rating upgraded to Exemplary

Specht Elementary's accountability rating has been upgraded to Exemplary, from Recognized, by the Texas Education Agency.

"We appreciate that TEA listened to our appeal and rescored a fourth-grader's written composition," says Dr. Victoria Pursch, executive director for Elementary Education. "All it took was one writing exam to be graded higher. After review, the TEA wants to use the Specht writing exams across the state as examples of strong essays."

To be Exemplary, the highest rating possible, each student subgroup (i.e., Hispanic, African American, White, and Economically Disadvantaged) and all students tested had to have at least 90 percent pass each test taken. In addition, at least 90 percent of the special needs students taking the SDAA II tests had to pass the test.

"The staff, students, and Specht parents have worked so hard," says Pursch. "They earned the top rating!"

Specht is the only Comal ISD school to be rated Exemplary in the state's 2006 accountability system. Eight other schools received the second highest rating, Recognized. They are Bill Brown Elementary, Rahe Bulverde Elementary,

Spring Branch Middle, Rebecca Creek Elementary, Hoffmann Lane Elementary, Goodwin Primary, Frazier Elementary, and Canyon Intermediate School.

For details about each school's performance under the state's accountability system, view the TAKS (Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills) reports on the Comal ISD website at http://www.comalisd.org/About_Us/Student_Performance.asp.