

News Release from Dripping Springs ISD



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DSISD RECEIVES STATE RATINGS UNDER NEW SYSTEM

DRIPPING SPRINGS, Texas—Dripping Springs ISD and all five of its campuses “Met Standard” in accountability ratings released today (August 8) by the Texas Education Agency under a newly designed system. This year, schools were either designated as “Met Standard” or “Improvement Required,” based on several factors: student achievement on State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) tests administered last spring, student progress (improvement), success in closing performance gaps, and post-secondary readiness (for districts and high schools only). If any one or more of the targets are missed, the district or campus would have received a rating of “Improvement Required.”

Campuses had the possibility of earning “distinctions” in three categories: Academic Achievement in Reading/ELA, Academic Achievement in Mathematics, and Top 25 Percent Student Progress. Rather than being compared with all schools statewide in determining if distinctions were earned, campuses were compared with similar campuses, and had to be ranked in the top quartile.

Dripping Springs High School earned all three possible distinctions, one of just 759 schools at all levels in the state to do so. Walnut Springs Elementary earned two of three distinctions (Achievement in Math, Top 25 Percent Student Progress) and Dripping Springs Elementary earned one (Achievement in Reading/ELA). Distinctions are not awarded at the district level.

“We measure the progress of our students in many ways, both formally and informally, and state ratings are one tool for us to use as we move forward,” said Superintendent Bruce Gearing. “School districts are learning how to use the data provided by the initial assessment under new system.

“We applaud the effort and achievement of our students and the commitment of our staff to create a learning environment where every child attains his or her individual potential,” he continued.

Accountability reports for all district and schools statewide can be accessed at the TEA website: <http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/perfreport/account/>.

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