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DRIPPING SPRINGS HS INCLUDED ON U.S. NEWS LIST OF TOP SCHOOLS

DRIPPING SPRINGS, Texas – Dripping Springs High School is featured on the *U.S. News & World Report* list of the nation’s top high schools, earning the designation of “Silver Medal” for the third time (DSHS earned a Gold Medal in 2014). This year, DSHS is ranked 82nd in the state of Texas and #724 on the national list.

U.S. News & World Report evaluated more than 29,070 high schools and awarded 500 gold medals, 2,027 silver medals, and 2,688 bronze medals to the top-performing schools. In Texas, 1,664 high schools were analyzed for the publication’s “Best High Schools” 2015 rankings and 59 earned Gold Medals.

To produce the 2015 Best High Schools rankings, U.S. News & World Report partnered with North Carolina-based RTI International, a global nonprofit social science research firm. RTI implemented the U.S. News comprehensive rankings methodology, which is based on these key principles: that a great high school must serve all of its students well, not just those who are college bound, and that it must be able to produce measurable academic outcomes to show it is successfully educating its student body across a range of performance indicators. The survey uses data on student/teacher ratio, college readiness as indicated by success on AP exams, and proficiency in math and English based on state assessments.

The *U.S. News* ranking is the second that has been released recently. The *Washington Post*’s annual “High School Challenge” ranking listed Dripping Springs at #1,365 nationally and #134 in the state of Texas. That ranking is based on an index formula that is a ratio of the number of Advanced Placement tests given divided by the number of seniors who graduated that year. This year’s index is based on data from 2014.

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