

**NEWS  
RELEASE  
FROM:**

*Dripping Springs*

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



**For More Information:**

Dale A. Whitaker  
Director of Communications  
512.858.3082

**For Immediate Release**

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**DRIPPING SPRINGS ISD HIRES THREE PRINCIPALS**

DRIPPING SPRINGS, Texas – At the June 27 meeting, the Dripping Springs ISD Board of Trustees approved Superintendent Bruce Gearing’s recommendation to hire new principals for Dripping Springs Middle School, as well as the elementary school and middle school being constructed on Sawyer Ranch Road. Jason Certain is the new principal at Dripping Springs Middle School, Dan Diehl will lead the new middle school, and Dru Robinett will head up the new elementary school. The principals for the new schools will start later this summer and spend the upcoming year planning for the schools’ 2017 opening – including staffing, hiring, and facility set-up – while working closely with existing campuses and getting to know the Dripping Springs community.

“We are thrilled with the quality of leaders we have found for these three schools,” said Dr. Gearing. “These are forward-thinking educators with proven track records and a true passion for doing what is best students. We believe they will fit in perfectly with our district as we embark on our new strategic plan.”

**Dripping Springs Middle School:**

**Jason Certain**, principal at Carpenter Hill Elementary in Hays CISD, will be the new principal at Dripping Springs Middle School. Mr. Certain has been at Carpenter Hill since it opened in 2011; previously he spent three years as an assistant principal at Dahlstrom Middle School. He started his career in education as a secondary teacher and coach, including stints in Flower Mound ISD and Lewisville ISD. Mr. Certain earned a bachelor’s degree in Economics from Austin College and a master’s degree in Educational Administration from Sul Ross University.

**New Middle School:**

**Dan Diehl** will be the principal at the middle school that is currently under construction. He has been the principal at Bedichek Middle School in Austin ISD since 2008. This past spring, Mr. Diehl was a finalist for the H-E-B Excellence in Education Secondary Principal of the Year. Prior to his tenure at Bedichek, Mr. Diehl was co-principal at Costa Mesa High School for one year and TeWinkle Middle School for three years, both in Newport Beach, Calif. He also spent three years as an assistant principal in San Juan Capistrano, Calif. Mr. Diehl earned his bachelor's degree from Texas Tech University (Physical Education) and his master's degree from Cal State-Fullerton (Education Administration).

**New Elementary School:**

**Dr. Dru Robinett** has been the principal at Clayton Elementary in Austin ISD since it opened in 2006. Previously she spent two years as the principal of Zavala Elementary (Austin ISD), and three years as an assistant/associate principal at elementary schools in Round Rock ISD. Dr. Robinett started her career as an elementary bilingual teacher. She earned her bachelor's degree from Tulane University (Spanish/Political Science), and both her master's and Ph.D. in Educational Administration from the University of Texas at Austin.

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