

**NEWS
RELEASE
FROM:**

Dripping Springs

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



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DSISD BOARD SELECTS NAMES FOR NEW SCHOOLS

DRIPPING SPRINGS, Texas—At the Jan. 23 Board meeting, DSISD trustees selected the names Sycamore Springs Elementary School and Sycamore Springs Middle School for the new schools under construction on Sawyer Ranch Road. The schools will open in August of 2017.

Sycamore Springs is an actual natural springs located south of 290 near the central part of Dripping Springs. All DSISD schools -- Dripping Springs (Elementary, MS, HS), Walnut Springs Elementary and Rooster Springs -- are named after existing springs in the district. Historical references state that property near Sycamore Springs was conveyed to the public school trustees in the late 1800s to be used for education of neighborhood children.

The decision followed a recommendation from the New Schools Naming Committee that included representation from students, staff, community members, and parents. The committee reported to the Board on Dec. 12 with three (unranked) recommendations: Sycamore Springs, Kirby Springs, and Sawyer Springs. Sycamore Springs and Kirby Springs represented existing springs; Sawyer Springs was a reference to the location of the new campus.

The schools are connected to achieve efficiency in areas like mechanical systems and kitchen, to minimize the building's footprint, and to allow for collaboration between the two schools. They also share a Center for Learning and Innovation, although elementary and middle school students will use different floors. Separate entrances, instructional areas, cafeterias, gyms and offices will exist for the two schools.

Dr. Dru Robinett is the principal for Sycamore Springs Elementary and Dan Diehl will lead Sycamore Springs Middle School. After attendance zones are determined in February, the district will begin assembling staffs for both schools. The faculties will be a combination of new hires and teachers transferring from existing campuses.

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