

DATE: October 15, 2018

DSE NAMED LIGHTHOUSE SCHOOL OF ACADEMIC DISTINCTION

Dripping Springs Elementary has been selected as a 2018 Leader in Me Lighthouse School of Academic Distinction. The Lighthouse School of Academic Distinction was created to recognize Leader in Me schools that "both met the rigorous requirements necessary to achieve and maintain Lighthouse School Certification and shown exemplary academic growth or proficiency as measured by state accountability standards." To meet the academic proficiency standard, a school must be at or above the 85th percentile for the state's combined proficiency standards. To meet the academic growth standard, the school must be at or above the 50th percentile and have shown a 5 percent growth from the previous year's percentile ranking.

"We are so proud of our learners for becoming great leaders, compassionate friends, responsible citizens, and positive contributors," said DSE Principal Kellie Raymond. "Leader in Me has provided an effective framework to teach life lessons to children every day and we appreciate the national recognition that this honor brings."

DSE received Lighthouse Certification in March of 2018; this designation in itself is a highly regarded standard set by Franklin Covey Education that recognizes schools that have produced outstanding results in school and student outcomes, has implemented the Leader in Me process with fidelity and excellence, and has an extraordinary impact on staff, students, parents, and the greater community. Dripping Springs Elementary first implemented Leader in Me in 2014. Of the nearly 4,000 schools that have adopted Leader in Me, only about 300 schools have achieved Lighthouse certification.

Leader in Me is a whole-school transformation model and process—developed in partnership with educators—that empowers students with the leadership and life skills they need to thrive in the 21st Century. Students learn how to become self-reliant, take initiative, plan ahead, set and track goals, do their homework, prioritize their time, manage their emotions, be considerate of others, express their viewpoint persuasively, resolve conflicts, find creative solutions, value differences, and live a balanced life.