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DSHS PRINCIPAL ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT AT END OF SCHOOL YEAR

Dripping Springs High School Principal Joe Burns has announced his plans to retire at the end of the 2018-19 school year. Mr. Burns is in his sixth year as the DSHS principal after serving as the district's Curriculum Coordinator for two years. He started his career in DSISD as a counselor, then assistant principal at DSHS.

During Mr. Burns' tenure at DSHS, the school has expanded opportunities for students during a time of extensive enrollment growth. The dual enrollment program was introduced in 2013 and has grown to include 14 Austin Community College courses and seven OnRamps courses with the University of Texas. College and Career Academies were created and courses have been added in recent years that provide students with real-life skills in areas like real estate, health science, and engineering. The Cornerstone Experience for students has evolved into an opportunity for students to showcase their talents. Dozens of student organizations have been created, allowing students to pursue their personal interests. Students and faculty members have received numerous statewide recognitions, including state championships as well as national honors.

"I am very excited about the 2018-19 school year and could not be more proud of our students' and staff members' accomplishments thus far," said Mr. Burns in an email to parents. "We have many more goals to achieve and I am confident our students and staff will strive to make the 2018-19 school year one for the record books." "Joe Burns has provided outstanding, student-centered leadership at Dripping Springs High School," said Superintendent Bruce Gearing. "He has built strong relationships with staff and students, and has empowered those around him to develop their potential. We are grateful to him for his years of service and are committed to finding a new principal who will continue his team's outstanding work."

Mr. Burns has spent 31 years in public education, including multiple administrative and teaching positions in Uvalde ISD.

The position will be posted in December and the process to hire a new principal will begin after the first of the year.