

News from Dripping Springs ISD

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WSE's Pryor Is Finalist for H-E-B Elementary Principal of the Year

Julie Pryor, principal of Walnut Springs Elementary, is one of five statewide finalists for the H-E-B Excellence in Education Elementary Principal of the Year Award. Mrs. Pryor was surprised at a school assembly as representatives of H-E-B visited her campus with flowers and balloons to make the announcement. She also was presented with a \$1,000 check and another \$2,500 check for WSE.

H-E-B's Excellence in Education is the largest monetary awards program for educators in Texas, and among the largest in the nation. Mrs. Pryor was nominated for the honor, then asked to fill out an application that included information about professional experiences, educational philosophies and achievements both in and out of the classroom. Judges reviewed the applications, narrowing the field to semi-finalists, then finalists. The finalists in each category will travel to Houston the first weekend in May for the awards ceremony.

Mrs. Pryor is in her ninth year as the principal of Walnut Springs Elementary and her 20th as a school administrator. She was the principal at three different elementary schools in Austin ISD before coming to DSISD.

In recent years Dripping Springs ISD has been recognized multiple times in the H-E-B Excellence in Education awards program. The district was a finalist for District of the Year for three consecutive years (2014-2015-2016), then last spring the DSISD Board was honored as a finalist for School Board of the Year. In addition, two years ago former DSHS teacher Rachel Foreman was a finalist for Rising Star Teacher of the Year.

