

Welcome to Dripping Springs!

2018-19 GUIDE FOR NEW TIGER FAMILIES

VISION:

We inspire and equip students to be life-long learners and positive contributors to the world.

MISSION:

We partner with students, parents and the community to provide a personalized and exceptional education for every student.

Colors: Maroon & Gold (SSMS uses silver accent color)

Mascot: Tigers

DSISD Schools

The DSISD Administration Building is located at 510 W. Mercer St., just off Highway 290, across from City Hall.

Dripping Springs High School



Grades 9-12
940 Highway 290 West, about 1 mile west of RR12
Phone: 512.858.3100
Projected Enrollment: 1,942
Principal: Joe Burns



Dripping Springs Middle School

Grades 6-8
111 Tiger Lane, just off Highway 290
Phone: 512.858.3400
Projected Enrollment: 799
Principal: Jason Certain

Sycamore Springs Middle School



Grades 6-8
14451 Sawyer Ranch Rd., 1 mile south of Highway 290
Phone: 512.858.3600
Projected Enrollment: 806
Principal: Dan Diehl

Dripping Springs Elementary



Grades PreK-5
29400 RR12, about 2 miles north of Highway 290
Phone: 512.858.3700
Projected Enrollment: 804
Principal: Kellie Raymond



Rooster Springs Elementary

Grades PreK-5
1001 Belterra Dr., in the Belterra subdivision
Phone: 512.465.6200
Projected Enrollment: 889
Principal: Mandy Sargent

Sycamore Springs Elementary



Grades PreK-5
14451 Sawyer Ranch Rd., 1 mile south of Highway 290
Phone: 512.858.3900
Projected Enrollment: 813
Principal: Kristen Ray



Walnut Springs Elementary

Grades PreK-5
300 Sportsplex Dr., just north of Highway 290
Phone: 512.858.3800
Projected Enrollment: 730
Principal: Julie Pryor

Our Brand

Dripping Springs ISD is all about Personalized Learning for the students and adults in our district. The district logos represent the concept of the "Signature Education" that students receive at DSISD. The athletics logo is a maroon paw with a gold "DS" in the center (SSMS uses silver accent). Schools within the Dripping Springs "Tiger Nation" have different versions of a tiger that are used on websites and school items.

Dripping Springs

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



Our Strategic Plan

Dripping Springs ISD implemented a five-year strategic plan in 2016. The plan was the result of a comprehensive planning process that involved stakeholders from all levels: students, parents, community members, business leaders, teachers, and administrators. The plan – through four main sections – clarifies the intent and commitment of Dripping Springs ISD to personalize learning for students while striving to meet the district's mission every day.

The "**Village**" refers to community partnerships, relationships built on trust, communication and a sense of connectivity among campuses.

The "**Operations**" section refers to the functions that occur behind-the-scenes so that schools run smoothly and can serve students' needs. Operations includes Transportation, Facilities, Child Nutrition and Business Services.

"**Life Changers**" refers to having effective staff in place district-wide. The district recognizes that not only is it important to get the right employees in the right positions, but that they must be given an opportunity to develop and grow professionally over time.

At the top of the pyramid is "**Personalized Learning**" – which includes supporting students instructionally in an environment that allows them to pursue their passions and be involved in creating their own educational goals.

For more information on the strategic plan, visit: www.dsisdtx.us/strategicplan.



Enrollment Tips

School attendance zones are determined by the student's street address. Please see our Interactive Map/Address Lookup tool (see "Our District," then "Attendance Zones") to confirm what school (s) correspond with an address.

Beginning with the 2018-19 school year, Dripping Springs ISD is using an online system to enroll/register new students.

Student registration consists of three steps:

- 1) **Enroll online:** Parents/guardians should use the online system to fill out registration information for any student who is new to the district.
- 2) **Required document submission and registration completion:** After the online process is complete, parents/guardians will need to visit the student's new campus on a specified registration date to submit required documents. Once the campus has received the necessary documents, the enrollment process is complete.
- 3) **Annual enrollment verification:** Student information verification is an annual process that allows parents/guardians to check and update contact, emergency, and health information and to complete required yearly forms online. Parents also must acknowledge receipt of some information annually.

A list of documents needed for initial enrollment can be found on the DSISD website (See "Parents and Students," then "Registration").

Opportunities to be Involved

PTAs/Booster Clubs: All schools have Parent-Teacher Associations that offer opportunities for parental involvement and volunteerism while supporting programs and events on campuses. In addition, at the secondary level, parents with children in specific activities (band, cheerleading, athletics, theater, etc.) are involved with Booster Clubs that support those groups.

Campus/Classroom: Schools have opportunities for parents to volunteer in areas such as the library and teacher workroom, as well as classrooms.

District: There are opportunities for parents to be involved on a district-wide basis through committees and advisory teams. For more information, see <http://www.dsisdtx.us/committees>. Parents are encouraged to attend district forums, board meetings and other events, which are listed in advance on district and campus websites, and calendars.

Security at Campuses

Check-In: Campus visitors must show a driver's license to receive a Visitor's Badge and be entered into a database that cross-checks a national sex-offender registry. Visitor badges should be displayed while on campus and turned into office upon departure. For major school events, parents should allow enough time to check in.

Background Checks: Campus volunteers who will be working in classrooms or around children are required to have a background check completed. A form can be filled out to authorize the check, which remains valid for two years.

Access Control: Visitors to campuses must enter through the front doors. All other doors are locked during the school day, although teachers have access cards. It is important not to breach building security by propping open doors.

Video Cameras: All schools have security cameras positioned around campus. Video cameras also are in place on all buses and can be reviewed for disciplinary issues.

School Resource Officers: Dripping Springs ISD has two full-time school resource officers who are Hays County Sheriff's Office deputies.

Tiger Trivia

Dripping Springs ISD served Lake Travis students until 1981, when Lake Travis ISD split off as a separate district.

Communication Methods

Communication with parents and other stakeholders using a variety of methods is a priority in Dripping Springs ISD. More information regarding these methods is available in the "Parents and Students" section of the DSISD website (see "Communication Tools").

These key methods of communication are used:

Skyward Family Access: This on-line tool is used as a depository for annual registration documents and health records, and features grades, assignments, attendance and other student information. Administrators and teachers can send e-mail blasts or post messages to reach a particular campus or class. Family Access data is used for automated phone calls in time-sensitive or emergency situations.

Websites: Teachers have websites that include class schedules, course requirements, class syllabi, links to resources and more. Many also use Google Classroom as a tool for sharing information with students. Campus websites (www.dsisdx.us/schoolabbreviation) include school news, events, a staff directory, and information. The DSISD website (www.dsisdtx.us) features district information, news, events, sign-up for notifications, menus, bus information, publications, podcasts, a staff directory, and has links to Family Access and on-line payments.

E-mail: Parent e-mail blasts are sent from the district, campus and classroom levels. Elementary teachers aim to make weekly contact, while secondary teachers generally e-mail in conjunction with key projects and deadlines. District blasts (coming from DSISDnews@dsisdtx.us) are used for news and updates.

Notifications: For emergency or time-critical announcements (like school closings) and attendance alerts, DSISD uses an automatic telephone notification system that delivers a recorded message to contact numbers in Family Access, in conjunction with e-mail and text messages. Parents can set their own notification settings; instructions are provided upon registration.

District App: DSISD has a free app that is available through iTunes or Google Play. The app is customizable for parents, depending on which campuses students attend.

E-News: The district updates a news blog called "Inside DSISD" every Monday (<http://dsisdnews.wixsite.com/tigers>). Schools, elementary grade-level teams and PTAs also may post newsletters to update parents on campus happenings.

Social Media: The district has a Facebook page and Twitter account where news and updates are posted. DSISD has a YouTube channel to showcase video clips and podcasts and also will have a presence on Instagram beginning in the fall of 2018. Campuses and classrooms use multiple platforms to share information.

Tiger Trivia

Until 1985, all Dripping Springs students (K-12) attended school in what is now the Administration Building.

Mark Your Calendar!

Annual school calendars generally are approved well in advance. Currently, calendars for the 2018-19, 2019-20, and 2020-21 school years are available online at www.dsisdtx.us/dsisdcalendar. Spring Break typically is set to align with the University of Texas calendar.



Event calendars are available on the school websites as well as the DSISD website. PTA newsletters also share information on organizational and campus events.

Major Fall Events: Fall sporting events including varsity football games with marching band performances, Homecoming parade (Wednesday before game), some elementary fairs, middle school theatre productions, elementary UIL academic competitions, holiday concerts, and the first part of winter sports seasons

Major Spring Events: High school musical, second part of winter sports seasons, Dripping Springs Education Foundation Gala, spring sports seasons, "Walnutpalooza" (WSE fair), secondary UIL academic competitions, spring concerts, awards ceremonies, graduation/Project Graduation. Founders Day in April is a major community event.

Tiger Trivia

The high school used to be the middle school and vice versa; the campuses were "swapped" in 2010.

DSISD Community Services

Dripping Springs ISD's Community Services Department offers many programs and services benefitting students, parents and other adults in the community. Some examples are:

- After-school (elementary) and before-school (middle school) care
- Elementary enrichment programs (after-school classes in sports, art and more)
- Summer camps
- Pre-school classes
- Adult education classes

For more information, call 512.858.3021 or go to the "Community Services" page on the DSISD website.

DS Education Foundation

Founded in 1992 to support academic achievement, the Dripping Springs Education Foundation supports the district in many ways including grants to teachers for classroom enrichment, encourages and supports excellence in teaching, and fosters student participation in special projects that otherwise would not be funded in the district budget.



DRIPPING SPRINGS
EDUCATION
FOUNDATION

The Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. For more information, to donate or to volunteer to help, please visit the DSEF website at: <http://www.dsefoundation.org>.

For information on Dripping Springs schools, see: www.dsisdtx.us.

Key Contact Numbers

DSISD Administration	512.858.3001
Dripping Springs Elementary Receptionist	512.858.3700 512.858.3711
Rooster Springs Elementary Receptionist	512.465.6200 512.465.6211
Sycamore Springs Elementary Receptionist	512.858.3900 512.858.3911
Walnut Springs Elementary Receptionist	512.858.3800 512.858.3811
Dripping Springs Middle School Receptionist	512.858.3400 512.858.3411
Sycamore Springs Middle School Receptionist	512.858.3600 512.858.3611
Dripping Springs High School Receptionist	512.858.3100 512.858.3111
Athletics	512.858.3037
Business Operations	512.858.3006
Child Nutrition	512.858.3048
Communications	512.858.3082
Community Services	512.858.3021
Learning and Innovation (Curriculum)	512.858.3010
Special Services (Special Education)	512.858.3066
Facilities and Construction	512.858.3013
Superintendent's Office	512.858.3002
Technology	512.858.3045

Board of Trustees

Carrie Fontana Kroll, President
Barbara Stroud, Vice President
Ron Jones, Secretary
Mary Jane Hetrick, Board Member
Shannon O'Connor, Board Member
Jon Thompson, Board Member

Board meetings are held the fourth Monday of the month, starting at 6:00 p.m., with an agenda review meeting the previous Monday. See: www.dsisdtx.us/trustees. *NOTE: One Board position was vacant at time of printing (June 2018).*

From the Superintendent



Welcome to one of the finest communities and most outstanding school districts in Texas!

Dripping Springs ISD offers a personalized education to every student. Teachers, support staff, and administrators work hard to help each child connect with his or her interests and passions so that learning is engaging. Our students consistently excel in many areas – academics, performing arts, athletics, graphic

arts, speech and debate, and more.

While DSISD has a long and proud tradition of educational excellence, we do not rest on our laurels. Our district is transforming education so that our graduates will be prepared for a quickly changing world.

Dripping Springs schools are known to have a high level of parental involvement and support, one of many reasons that our students are successful. This community has always valued the quality of its schools and taken pride in the success of its young people. From its rural roots to its steady growth, Dripping Springs is a gem of a place to live and raise children.

We invite you to jump right in as a new parent. Get to know campus and district staff. Attend events at your child's school and other campuses as well. Be sure you have accurate contact information in our Family Access system so that you will receive information and notices. Read about all the wonderful things happening around the district. In short, embrace your new community and make it a true home. I know I have.

Sincerely,

Bruce Gearing, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Dripping Springs ISD

Thanks to our New Tiger Guide Sponsors:

**SECURITY STATE
BANK & TRUST**
The Hill Country's Bank Since 1941

In Person ♦ Online ♦ On the Go
We're Here for You

1500 Hwy 290 West ♦ (512) 858-2900
ssbtexas.com ♦ SSB&T Mobile App

Member FDIC

Kwik Kar of Dripping Springs

We offer:

- Mechanical Repairs
- 30/60/90K Scheduled Services
- Air Conditioning Service
- Brake Repair
- Engine Light Diagnostics & Repair
- And Oil Changes too

Independently owned and operated by DSISD parents.

Kwik Kar of Dripping Springs
13518 Hwy 290 W
512-436-9693

ASE CERTIFIED