

Eanes Independent School District 2010 Annual Report to the Community

Destination: Success



It has been an exciting semester, and I have enjoyed visiting with community members at numerous events and presentations. I always value the opportunity to talk to the community

about the successes of the District and share our goals for the school year and beyond. And, of course it is always rewarding to visit the campuses observing the students and staff learning and working with such enthusiasm.

This progress report of the Eanes Independent School District is an opportunity for the District to boast its accomplishments, show how we rank across the state and nation and what we plan to do in our quest to constantly improve.

Although the recent school district bond election did not pass, I want to assure you that we will move forward to keep our District at the forefront of academic excellence. The staff in Eanes ISD will continue to work hard to provide a high-quality education and the best possible learning opportunities for our students.

It is imperative that our students not only experience a great deal of academic success, but they reach for their potential in other activities outside of the classroom that teach them valuable skills such as teamwork and allow them to maximize their talents.

It is this directive that pushes Eanes ISD towards a successful destination. It is a destination dreamed by most, but a reality for few.



Thank you for helping us to achieve this reality every day.

Sincerely,

Nola Wellman, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools

District on Top Workplaces List

Eanes ISD was named as one of the Top Workplaces in Austin in a list compiled by the Austin American-Statesman. Eanes ISD ranked number three on the list of large employers (400+ employees) and was the only area school district to make the list.

"This is such an honor and speaks volumes to the great environment Eanes ISD fosters," said Superintendent of Schools Dr. Nola Wellman. "It is wonderful to see that our employees feel appreciated, motivated and valued which then translates into motivating our students for success."

The Top Workplaces list was based upon feedback from anonymous employee surveys from 118 companies in the Austin area. Employees rated their employers on issues such as leadership and direction, ethics and values and how well employees are treated.

In addition, Eanes ISD received a special award for Best Career Development. Employees commented on the District's commitment to learning new teaching methods and implementing new technologies in which to use them.



Michael Vivio, publisher of the Austin American-Statesman presents the Top Workplaces Award to Dr. Wellman and Trustees Jim Strickland (l) and Kal Kallison (r).

District Goals 2010-11

1. More students achieving higher levels of performance than the previous year as measured by multiple indicators.
2. Learning opportunities that prepare students for the future and inspire them to realize their highest personal and educational potential.
3. A safe, secure and supportive learning environment that allows students to be productive, creative and successful.
4. Exemplary employees who are actively committed to and supported in improving their practice.
5. An effective and efficient allocation of resources to meet the district's prioritized needs.
6. The engagement of the community in meaningful ways.

District Honors and Awards

All-Around Exemplary

All nine schools in Eanes ISD and the District were named "Exemplary" by the Texas Education Agency this year. This is the highest classification in the ratings and the second consecutive year both the District and all nine campuses received such high honors.

Statewide, 239 (19.3 percent) districts were Exemplary; however, only 72 districts (5.8 percent), including Eanes, earned the Exemplary rating by meeting the absolute standards. Some districts received improved ratings by using the Texas Projection Measure.

Statewide, 31.1 percent of all schools statewide were designated as Exemplary. Only 11.4 percent of high schools statewide received an Exemplary designation with Westlake High School as one of the largest. At the middle school level, 20.1 percent of schools statewide were Exemplary, including EISD's Hill Country Middle School and West Ridge Middle School.

The ratings are based primarily on the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) and State-Developed Alternative Assessment (SDAA) test results and include five subject areas (Reading/Language Arts, Writing, Social Studies, Mathematics, Science). At least 90 percent of the students in a school and in every sub-population with enough representation to qualify must "Meet Standard" on the test for a school to be rated Exemplary.

Schools Make Honor Roll

Barton Creek Elementary School, Hill Country Middle School and West Ridge Middle School have earned recognition on the 2010 Texas Business and Education Coalition (TBEC) Honor Roll. Of the more than 8,000 Texas public schools less than four percent achieve this honor.

For West Ridge, this is the fifth consecutive year to make the honor roll.

The TBEC Honor Roll is the most prestigious award for sustained, academic excellence in Texas. It recognizes schools that have demonstrated three years of consistent, high performance in all subjects compared to other schools serving similar student populations.

TBEC Honor Roll schools have the highest percentage of students performing at the state's most rigorous standard – commended – in every subject.

Gold Performance Honors

Eanes ISD and its nine schools all earned multiple Gold Performance Acknowledgements (GPA) as recently released by the Texas Education Agency. The Gold Performance system recognizes campuses and districts for high performance on multiple indicators including Commended Performance for TAKS test results.

As a district, Eanes ISD earned Gold Performance Acknowledgements in 12 of 13 possible categories. The district met the requirement to earn GPAs in the following areas: Advanced Placement Results, Reading/ELA, Mathematics, Writing, Social Studies, Science, College Readiness, Advanced Courses, SAT/ACT Results, Recommended High School Plan, Texas Success Initiative-ELA and Texas Success Initiative-Mathematics.

Eanes ISD is one of only two districts in Texas to earn 12 or more GPAs.

Individual Staff Honors

Eanes Elementary Math Teacher Elizabeth Hudgins was selected as a state-level finalist for the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. This is the highest recognition that a mathematics or science teacher may receive for exemplary teaching the U.S. Ms. Hudgins is a fifth grade math teacher and has been teaching for eight years.



West Ridge Middle School Principal Karl Waggoner and Gifted & Talented Teacher Carol Reese

West Ridge Gifted & Talented teacher Carol Reese was selected as the State Teacher of the Gifted

for 2010, awarded by the Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented.

Westlake High School Golf coach Callan Nokes was selected to coach Team Texas in the 2011 Texas-Mexico Cup to be played in late June of 2011. The annual match pits a team of All Stars from Texas versus the Mexican National Team in Ryder Cup style matches. Mr. Nokes will be in charge of compiling a team and coaching both the boys and girls teams in the three-day matches.

Athletic Director and Westlake Head Football Coach Darren Allman was selected to coach the 2011 United States' Under-19 National Team in football. Mr. Allman will lead Team USA in the "Team USA vs. The World" game that will be played at Westlake High School in February 2011. This annual international friendly matches USA Football's Under-19 National Team – composed of graduating high school seniors – against a "World" team composed of athletes spanning as many as four continents.



Athletic Director and WHS Head Football Coach Darren Allman

Eanes ISD Board of Trustees

Paul Stone, President
Ellen Balthazar, Vice President
Dr. James Kallison, Secretary
Robert Durkee
Dr. Colleen Jones
Clint Sayers
Jim Strickland

Eanes ISD Administration

Dr. Nola Wellman, Superintendent
Bill Bechtol, Asst. Superintendent,
Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment
Larry Keiser, Asst. Superintendent, Business Services
Lester Wolff, Asst. Superintendent, Human Resources

Points of Pride

- Westlake High School is the only 9th-12th grade comprehensive 5A high school in Texas to attain an Exemplary rating each of the past three years.
- Westlake is ranked 58th by Newsweek's 2010 list of the top 1,300 schools in America and has been included on the list every year it has been published.

National Merit Finalists (Top 1/2 of one percent on 11th grade PSAT)

2006: 19
 2007: 20
 2008: 25
 2009: 28
 2010: 32
 2011: 47 semi-finalists

- Westlake has had one senior selected as a U.S. Presidential Scholar each of the past three years.
- The number of National Merit Finalists increased dramatically from 32 in 2010 to 47 semi-finalists for the 2010-2011 school year. This marks the highest number in school history and puts WHS

as #1 in the state and # 3 in the country.

- Another 35 students were designated as Commended in the National Merit Scholarship Program.

- Westlake has seven National Hispanic Recognition Program Finalists. Four of these students are Scholars and three are Honorable Mention. These students are being recognized by the National Hispanic Recognition Program (a part of the College Board) for their outstanding PSAT/NMSQT scores and their GPAs.
- Westlake also had a semifinalist in the 2011 National Achievement Scholarship program, an academic competition for Black American high school students.
- Three Westlake students earned a perfect composite score of 36 on the ACT



Members of the 47 National Merit Semi-finalists

college entrance exam. On average, less than one-tenth of one percent of all test takers earn the top score.

- The Austin Chamber of Commerce recognized Eanes ISD as having the highest direct to college enrollment rate in Central Texas with 87 percent. This is the third consecutive year for this honor.

By the Numbers

Westlake High School:

Number of Advanced Placement tests given last spring: 3,002 (2,711 in 2009)

Number of students taking AP tests last spring: 1,165 (1,066 in 2009)

75% of test results were 3 or above

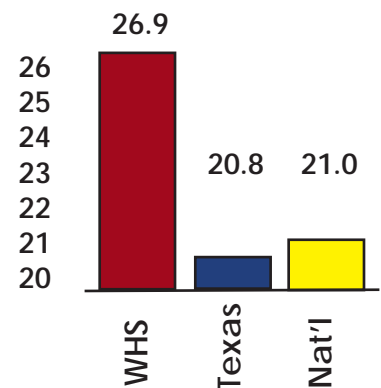
College Admissions: 99%
 85% attend 4-year institution
 14% attend 2-year institution
 1% Armed Services/employment/other

Enrollment:

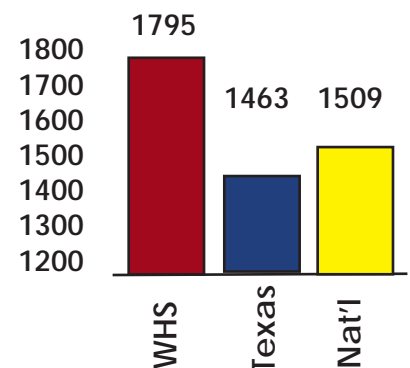
For the third consecutive year, district enrollment has experienced a slight increase. Enrollment at all schools is 7,699 – up from 7,474 students in 2009-10 and 7,342 students in 2008-09.

The average class size for Kindergarten through fifth grade is 21.1 students. At the middle school level, average class size for core classes is 24.6 students. Westlake High School's average class size (core classes) is 25.6.

2010 ACT Scores



2010 SAT Scores



Academic Programs

Strong instructional programs in core subject areas are complemented by a wide variety of elective options. Specialized programs meet student needs and allow students to reach their highest potential.



- **Curriculum** at Eanes ISD is based on the concept of “vertical alignment,” which coordinates curriculum from grade level to grade level. This “12 through K” approach considers what skills and knowledge a graduate needs to succeed in college and career, then

challenges teachers to provide students with the tools needed to succeed at each grade level leading to graduation.

- **Instruction** prepares students for challenges they will face in a fast-paced world influenced by forces such as multiple information sources, globalization and advancing technology. High school courses supporting this focus include Chinese, Robotics, Health Science Technology and Film Production. An Independent Mentorship course also allows students to gain real-world experience.

- Westlake High School students may choose from numerous **Advanced Placement** courses, as all but one AP course is offered. All students are encouraged to take AP exams to potentially earn college credit.

- Eanes ISD provides specially designed instructional supports for students with disabilities who are eligible for **Special Education** services. This full range of supports, provided in the least restrictive environment possible, are available for grades 12-K on every campus.

- Special Education students who have completed the required credits and graduate under an Individual Education Plan, but need additional instruction to transition to adult living, may attend the **19+ program**. Students spend the majority of their instructional day in work or independent living activities.

- Elementary students who require a higher level of challenge are provided differentiated instruction to meet their needs. The Eanes ISD **Gifted and Talented** program offers opportunities for students to maximize their creative and intellectual abilities throughout elementary and middle school. Secondary students take Advanced Placement or Pre-AP courses.

- Through **Early Intervention** services, campus staff implement instructional supports to help students with skill deficits in Reading or Math. The purpose of these services is to avoid students falling behind their peers and to reduce the need for Special Education services in later grades.

Academic Success

- On 2010 state assessments, 97 percent of Eanes ISD students district-wide met or exceeded the state standard in every content area. District-wide, 100 percent of students met the standard in Social Studies and Writing while 99 percent met the standard in Reading. In Math and Science, 98 percent hit the bar (all results are rounded to the nearest percentage).

- The percentage of Eanes students scoring at the TAKS Commended level on all tests except Science exceeded the state average by more than 30 percentage points. The Commended result in Science exceeded the state by 21 percent.

- The percentage of students with Commended scores on the TAKS increased on 11 of 27 subtests between 2009 and 2010.

- Westlake High School has had a student in the accepted applicant pool at every Ivy League school for the past two years.

EEF Funds Teacher Positions

The Eanes Education Foundation’s Teacher Fund has proven to be a significant benefit to the District. Last year’s campaign surpassed previous years with an incredible \$1.10 million. This generous donation helped to fund 19 teacher positions for the 2010 school year

The “20 in 2011” theme captures one of EEF’s long-term goals, which is to consistently fund 20 teacher positions year after year.

A teaching position costs approximately \$50,000.



Members of the Eanes Education Foundation present a generous check to the District

Helping Here and Abroad

Eanes ISD students are known for their commitment to community service and efforts to help those in need. A few examples are listed below.

- World Food Day was a success, as Cedar Creek Elementary families collected 1,299 pounds of food to donate to the Austin Area Food Bank!
- Forest Trail Elementary collected 2,802 items in a recent food and diaper drive supporting the Capital Area Food Bank. This included 75 packages of diapers (the most requested non-food item), \$17.08 in cash donations that students donated in spare change at the Forest Trail School Store and 3,357 pounds of food. This equals 4,196 meals to feed the hungry around Austin.
- The Eanes Elementary Student Council Fundraiser raised \$1,073 cash, \$50 in Gift Cards and five bins of items for Austin Children's Shelter.
- Valley View Elementary students made flower pens and pencils and sold them,

collecting \$650 for the Mahiga School Project in Kenya.

- Hill Country Middle School students contributed 1,978 pounds of food which translates into 1,582 meals for hungry people all over Texas! Furthermore, Hill Country students collected 103 coats to help needy families in our community stay warm. Lastly, Hill Country families donated an additional \$180 to be used by Capital Area Food Bank in the most critical areas of need.
- West Ridge Middle School and Hill Country Middle School students are combining forces to establish a relationship with the Mahiga Hope School in Kenya and the Nobility Project. The schools are more than halfway to their goal to raise \$10,000 for classroom novels, textbooks, and library books for the students of Mahiga Hope School.
- West Ridge collected more than 3,800 t-shirts during the Open Arms T-shirt Drive, which helps refugee women who have relocated to Austin from Africa.

The t-shirts are made into book bags, scarves, rugs and wall hangings then sold, with proceeds benefitting the women to help them build a new life.

- On Passionately Pink for the Cure day, the Westlake High School Student Council raised more than \$1,200 in one day for the Susan G. Komen Foundation.

Did you know?

Eanes ISD teachers have an average of 14 years of experience.

Approximately one-third of teachers have advanced college degrees and all teachers hired since 2008 are required to obtain master's degrees within eight years.

Extra-Curricular Success

- Students from West Ridge Middle School won the National Gold Medal in the American Scholastic Achievement League competition. They recorded the highest combined score of any school in the country in this on-line competition.
- Westlake High School finished second in the 2009-10 Lone Star Cup standings for the second consecutive year. The Lone Star Cup is based on statewide success in athletic and academic competitions.
- The Westlake Volleyball team finished 10-0 in District, and advanced to the Regional Finals. They ended an exceptional season with an impressive 44-3 record.
- The Westlake Football team finished 4-1 in District and advanced to the Bi-District playoffs.
- The Chaparral Tennis team won a district title for the 12th year in a row.
- The Girls Cross Country team placed first in District competition.
- The Westlake Band finished in the top 10 at State competition.
- Westlake received multiple honors at the Texas Association of Journalism Educators Conference. El Paisano and The Featherduster both received First Place Best of Show in their respective contests. In addition, 15 students earned individual honors in photography, yearbook and newspaper design, writing, advertising, and video/PSA.
- The Westlake Robotics team placed fourth at the Texas BEST regional competition, which had the top 48

teams from Texas, New Mexico and Oklahoma. The team now advances to the BEST Robotics National Championships in Orlando, Florida in April. Only the top 24 robots/teams out of 800 teams across the nation qualify for this event.

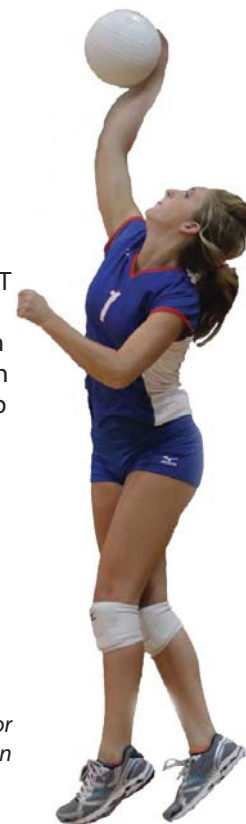


Photo by senior Nathan Kallison

MISSION OF EANES ISD

The Eanes community is vitally committed to educational excellence that prepares and inspires all students for life-long success by engaging each student in rigorous academic experiences and enriching opportunities.

Financial Summary

Eanes ISD faces the ongoing challenge of funding the high-quality education expected in the Eanes community. Operating costs rise each year as a result of inflation and cost-of-living adjustments, yet the district's revenue from the state is capped at a level that does not take these factors into account.

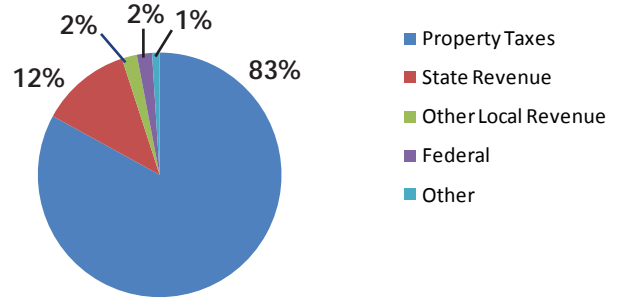
Eanes ISD continues to have more than half of its tax revenue recaptured by the state. District priorities have included preserving instructional programs, maintaining a competitive position with teacher and staff salaries, and reducing class size when possible. Action taken during the last legislative session provided some extra funding per student, but also required districts to provide a raise to most employees.

Eanes ISD has received the highest rating possible of "Superior Achievement" in the state's financial accountability system (FIRST).

Support also comes from within the Eanes community. Booster Clubs/Parent Teacher Organizations help address material needs at individual campuses. The Eanes Education Foundation provides financial support for staffing on a district-wide level. In 2010, EEF's grant of \$1.1 million will help fund teacher positions, as well as the Partnership for Teacher Excellence Program that reimburses half of tuition costs to teachers seeking master's degrees.

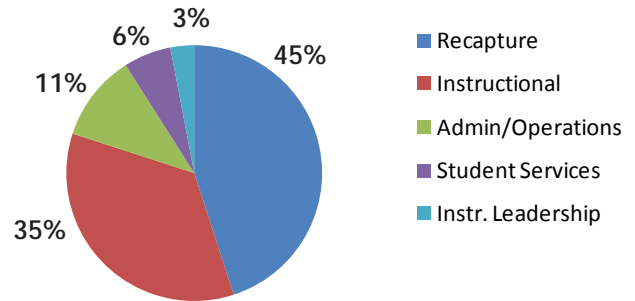
The Eanes ISD property tax rate has decreased 36 cents per \$100 value since 2006-07. The General Fund rate dropped by 33 cents as a result of legislative action and a three-cent reduction has occurred in the Debt Service rate. The property tax rate of 1.2025 has remained the same for several years.

2010-11 Budgeted Revenues



Property Tax Revenue	95,637,123
State Revenue	14,207,827
Other Local Revenue	2,909,500
Other Resources	630,000
Federal Revenue	1,962,929
TOTAL	\$115,347,379

2010-11 Budgeted Expenditures



Recapture Payment	53,238,651
Instructional	41,895,177
Administration & Operations	13,492,376
Student Services	6,714,436
Instructional Leadership	4,296,739
TOTAL	\$119,637,379

Non Profit Org.
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Permit N. 2501
 Austin, Texas

Eanes Independent School District
 601 Camp Craft Rd.
 Austin, TX 78746

