

NEWS RELEASE



Eanes Independent School District
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EANES ISD BEGINS WORK ON ADULT TRANSITION SERVICES BUILDING

Building will support program for young adults with special needs

AUSTIN, Texas – The Eanes Independent School District began the first phase of constructing an Adult Transition Services (ATS) building Monday with the demolition of a former fitness building and clearing of land located near the Walsh Tarleton and Bee Caves Rd. intersection.

The facility, which is expected to be completed in the next several months, will serve the District's young adults with special needs during their transition from post-high school to the adult world. The program focuses on assisting these young adults in developing vocational and independent living skills.

"We are excited to get this project going and thankful to our community for approving it with bond funds," said Molly May, Assistant Special Education Director. "Our students will benefit the most from this facility, which makes it even more special for us."

Accessible kitchen and laundry facilities, a computer lab, classrooms and group work areas will enhance instruction in vocational, independent living and recreational skills.

"This facility was designed to support services for students to gain independence in all aspects of adult living," said Cindy Martin, Special Education Director. "We will be able to do so much more to provide quality services to this growing population with a facility designed for this purpose."

The existing space for ATS students is in a portable classroom on an elementary school campus. The new facility provides an age-appropriate adult environment to accommodate increases in this adult student population.

The \$2.2 million project is being financed through funds from the May 2011 bond program. It also includes funding to replace life skills equipment used in the ATS program.

The Eanes Independent School District spans 31.2 square miles of scenic Texas Hill Country in Travis County and serves approximately 7,700 students. Schools in Eanes ISD are Westlake High School, Hill Country Middle School, West Ridge Middle School, Barton Creek Elementary, Bridge Point Elementary, Cedar Creek Elementary, Eanes Elementary, Forest Trail Elementary and Valley View Elementary. In 2011, the District and eight campuses were named Exemplary by the Texas Education Agency.

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