



EANES INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Nola H. Wellman, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools

601 Camp Craft Road • Austin, Texas 78746 • (512) 732-9001 • FAX (512) 732-9005 • www.eanesisd.net

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Dear Parents and Guardians:

The U.S. Department of Education (USDE) has established new guidelines regarding the collection of data on race and ethnicity for public school students and staff, and has asked for our assistance acquiring this information. The information that is collected will be used for state and federal accountability reporting.

This new method is intended to provide a more accurate picture of the nation's diversity. Individuals now may be identified in both ethnic and racial classifications and in more than one racial category if applicable. In the past, enrollment forms allowed individuals to be identified in only one category.

Parents may recall having filled out similar information during the back-to-school process. The Department of Education is requiring us to **collect this information again**, using the new format. Beginning in 2010–11, this information will be collected only once, using the revised reporting categories.

The survey for collecting this information can be accessed for each child through Skyward Family Access accounts. It will automatically appear when you log onto your account beginning Monday, October 12, 2009. Parents also may obtain a printed copy of the form from each campus' front office (Spanish version also available).

Eanes ISD is asking parents to complete surveys by October 22, 2009, so that we can submit district data before the U.S. Department of Education's deadline.

Thank you for taking a few minutes to complete this requirement at a very busy time of year.

Sincerely,

Nola H. Wellman, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools