

MEDINA VALLEY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



"Proud of our past, dedicated to the present, committed to the Future"

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – 8/3/09

Medina Valley ISD Makes Historic Gains to Achieve "Recognized" Status School District Among Elite in South Texas

For the first time in the 50-year history of Medina Valley ISD, the school district has been named "Recognized" by the Texas Education Agency (TEA.) The official State accountability results, which were released July 31st, listed Medina Valley ISD as one of the top school districts in Texas.

The results published by TEA are based mostly upon the academic performance of schools on the state-mandated TAKS tests. In addition, factors such as dropout rate, student attendance and student graduation rates are also factored into the final results.

Out of 73 school districts in the San Antonio area, only 4 Class 4A districts (Medina Valley, Floresville, Boerne, Eagle Pass) and one Class 5A district (Northside) achieved such high marks.

"This is a testament to the hard work of many people in our school district," said MVISD Superintendent, James Stansberry. "This historic accomplishment is something we will build upon for the future and it will drive us to do even more for the children in our community. We couldn't reach this point without the support of the Board of Trustees and the hard work of our staff."

Texas is made of 1,025 school districts and the ratings include; Academically Unacceptable, Academically Acceptable, Recognized and Exemplary. Medina Valley ISD schools, which educate more than 3,250 students a year, received the following ratings: Castroville Elementary, "Exemplary;" LaCoste Elementary, "Exemplary;" Potranco Elementary, "Recognized;" Medina Valley Middle School, "Academically Acceptable;" and, Medina Valley High School, "Academically Acceptable."

"It is our mission to become the premier school district in South Texas," Stansberry added. "Because of the hard work of our students and staff, we are excelling in all areas. We understand that the school is the heart of any community and we value that. We want to strive to give our students the best possible education and school experience that we can."

In order to achieve the "Recognized" status, a campus must have all students score 75% or better on all TAKS tests. In order for a campus to achieve the "Exemplary" title, all students must score 90% or better on all TAKS tests.

"Not many school districts can say that all their elementary schools are as outstanding as ours," said, Mike Nesbit, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction. "Not only that, not many districts can say that their secondary schools are doing as well as ours either. We are fortunate that our planning, testing and assessments are helping our students achieve great success."

MVISD Board of Trustees President, Roland Ruiz, echoed similar sentiments.

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“This truly is a significant milestone for the Medina Valley community,” he said. “But, more rewarding than the status of being recognized is the deeper meaning behind the ranking. It signifies a high level of commitment and hard work on the part of the students, teachers, parents and administrators. Being recognized demonstrates, once again, how very fortunate we are to have a tremendous partnership of educational leaders in the district and in the community that not only value high standards of achievement, but always have our kids’ best interest at heart.”

In addition to the academic rating, Stansberry also eluded to the success that all programs have had in Medina Valley. He also mentioned he was grateful for the support that the community has given the school.

“We are in the midst of some of the greatest days Medina Valley has ever seen,” he said. “We are winning championships in all academic, athletic and fine arts area. Our middle school students are some of the best in Texas and our elementary programs are like no other. We are growing, building, and becoming a school district that others will look to as an example. We are excited in knowing that this is only the beginning of great things to come.”