

**For immediate release:**

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**Plano ISD earns high ratings from Texas Education Agency**

(Plano, Texas—July 31, 2009) In preliminary school district accountability rating information released from the Texas Education Agency (TEA) today, the Plano Independent School District rated Exemplary on 19 and Recognized on 6 of the 25 academic indicators.

The “all students” group continues to show overall improvement and moved all five content areas (Reading – 97%, Writing – 97%, Social Studies – 98%, Mathematics – 93% and Science – 90%) to the Exemplary level. At the school level, 32 schools received an Exemplary rating and 24 received a Recognized rating.

“I commend the achievement growth of our students and the hard work of our staff,” said Dr. Doug Otto, superintendent of schools. “These statistics provide an opportunity to celebrate the academic achievement of our students. Within the accountability measures, we met benchmarks that indicate a great deal of student progress and focused staff effort. We are very proud of these accomplishments.”

Dr. Otto continued, “As a district, we do know that we have challenges to address and will continue to ensure that all Plano ISD students are improving and achieving at their highest levels.”

Board of Trustees president, Lloyd “Skip” Jenkins, said, “Plano ISD focuses on individual student growth and their academic success. I am pleased that our students made strides in our rigorous academic environment.”

TEA will submit the final accountability report to the district in October. District and school ratings are computed by the Texas state accountability model that uses standards and guidelines established by TEA. Ratings are based on student performance on state tests, dropout rates and high school completion rates. The district anticipates a rating of “Academically Acceptable” for the 2008-09 school year. District and campus information is available at the TEA website at this address:

<http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/perfreport/account/2009/index.html>.

The Plano Independent School District (Plano ISD) – <http://www.pisd.edu/> – endeavors to foster the highest level of student learning. The mission of Plano ISD is to provide an excellent education for all students. Plano ISD is located 20 miles north of Dallas, Texas and serves the residents of approximately 100 square miles in southwest Collin County, including 66 square miles in the city of Plano, northern portions of the cities of Dallas and Richardson and parts of the cities of Allen, Parker and Murphy. Plano ISD employs 7,000 faculty and staff members who serve more than 55,000 students in 70 schools and 11 service facilities. Participating in Plano ISD schools enables students to adapt to new learning opportunities throughout their lives, collaborate with, and contribute to, the global community and to be creative and disciplined in their thinking.

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