



TEAMWORK FOR EXCELLENCE

P L A N O
Independent School District

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Plano ISD Board of Trustees Named Outstanding Board

Plano ISD's Board of Trustees has been named the outstanding board in the Region 10 Education Service Center area, comprising 80 public school districts, 31 charter schools and numerous private schools within nine north Texas counties. Members of the Texas Association of School Administrators chose Plano ISD to represent the area in the state competition.

Plano ISD Superintendent of Schools Richard Matkin stated, "The privilege of working with these dedicated trustees can now be shared with others as an example of productive, quality and sincere leadership. I cannot convey enough my appreciation to them as my board, and am pleased that these special people have been recognized with this honor by others who can identify exceptional leaders."

The current members of the Plano ISD Board of Trustees are in their fourth year of working collectively as a team. During their tenure together, the board has overseen the selection of a new superintendent of schools, conducted a five-year revision of the Plano ISD Strategic Plan and created a new superintendent appraisal instrument.

Under this board's leadership, Plano ISD opened three student-choice academy programs for ninth and tenth grade students for the 2013-14 school year, which will grow to include eleventh and twelfth graders in subsequent years. The Academy Programs of Plano include Plano ISD Academy High School, Health Sciences Academy and International Baccalaureate (IB) World School at Plano East Senior High School.

The Plano ISD Board of Trustees has led the district through difficult financial issues and leadership changes. Among the trustees' biggest accomplishments was passing a full Tax Ratification Election (TRE). Plano ISD is the largest district in the state to pass a 13 cent TRE.

Additionally, the Plano ISD Board oversaw the formation of a Community and Student Engagement Accountability System (CSEAS) district committee and sub-committee. Since inception, thirty school districts in Region 10 have adopted the Plano ISD engagement model. The board has also managed the development of an instructional leadership model, implemented a comprehensive security program and served as presenters at NSBA, TASB and TASA.

In the award application submission, Superintendent Matkin emphasized, “I feel like I can reach out to each trustee or to my entire board in an honest, candid and forthright manner. As we have coalesced into a Team of Eight, we realized that we needed to spend some time together to become aware of our group’s strengths, weaknesses and to create a unified approach to boardsmanship. Everyone has held to the tenets of the commitment to teamwork. As a result, we have accomplished major goals such as maintaining fiscal focus, passing a Tax Ratification Election, launching an aggressive academy program with three new learning environments while also having all of our incumbents re-elected in the past election. I could not be more proud of these seven individuals and teammates.”

The Texas Association of School Administrators (TASA) created the School Board Awards Program in 1971 to recognize school boards whose dedication and ethical service have made a positive impact on the schoolchildren of Texas.

TASA’s School Board Awards Committee, appointed by the president of TASA, will review the regional winners and select not more than five boards to be named and recognized as Honor Boards for the year. The School Board Awards Committee will interview each of the Honor Boards at the TASA/TASB Annual Convention prior to selecting the Outstanding School Board, which will be named during the convention, to be held Sept. 26-28 in Dallas.

About Plano Independent School District

The Plano Independent School District (Plano ISD) (www.pisd.edu) endeavors to foster the highest level of student learning. The mission of Plano ISD is to provide an excellent education for each student. 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 more than 6,500 staff members who serve more than 55,000 students in 72 schools and 11 service facilities. Plano ISD schools empower students to be able to adapt to new learning and career opportunities throughout their lives, collaborate with, and contribute to, the global community and to be disciplined and creative in their thinking.

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