

**Recognition  
Board of Trustee Meeting  
February 14, 2023**

**Counseling staffs at three Denton ISD schools earn statewide award**

Three Denton ISD counseling staffs were recipients of the Texas School Counselor Association's (TSCA) CREST Award, which annually recognizes the top counseling staffs in the state.

Counseling staffs at McNair Elementary, Sam Houston Elementary and Rodriguez Middle School received the prestigious honor – marking the 12<sup>th</sup> consecutive year that at least one or more Denton ISD campus has received a CREST Award. Each of the recipients was honored at the CREST luncheon, which is part of the annual TSCA Conference in San Antonio.

“I am so proud of these counselors and their commitment to implementing quality counseling programs that meet the academic, personal and career development of their students,” Denton ISD Director of Counseling Services Amy Lawrence said. “They truly go above and beyond, and they are always looking for ways to improve their programs.”

The Rodriguez Middle School counseling staff consists of Lead Counselor Stephani Mohon and Impact Counselor Michael Rooney. McNair Elementary's counseling staff consists of Counselor Deanne Harrup, and Sam Houston Elementary's counseling staff consists of Counselor Lacy Fraser.

The CREST Award was introduced by the Texas School Counselor Association in 2005 to recognize excellence in school counseling.

CREST stands for Counselors Reinforcing Excellence for Students in Texas and is a program focusing on ten areas where school counselors have the greatest impact on the achievements, career aspirations, personal gains and social aspects of students' lives. The program helps counselors evaluate their current counseling guidelines and techniques, while also promoting their services to students and parents.

*Carly Rogers is the principal of Rodriguez Middle School; Dejanane Bolton is the principal of McNair Elementary and Tiffany Gonzalez serves as principal of Sam Houston Elementary.*

**Denton ISD Director of Counseling Services wins statewide award**

Amy Lawrence, Denton ISD's Director of Counseling Services, was a recipient of The Council of Women School Executives (TCWSE) Bravo Award, which is given to exemplary practitioners, innovative programs and initiatives that promote community and parent involvement. Mrs. Lawrence received the award at the annual TCWSE conference in Austin last month.

Mrs. Lawrence was the Bravo award recipient for ESC Region 11. Last year's Region 11 recipient was Mansfield ISD Superintendent Dr. Kimberley Cantu.

“I am humbled and honored to be recognized as the Region 11 Bravo recipient,” Mrs. Lawrence said. “I am so grateful to work alongside people who encourage and support me in my leadership endeavors.”

## **Board Spotlight**

As a second-year teacher at Ginning Elementary, Marin Woodard found her life's passion in teaching after a career in the corporate world. She strives every day to make math and science exciting for her fourth-grade students. Ms. Woodard's innovative teaching style engages her students, "planting seeds" for each of them to explore opportunities and careers in the STEM field.

As a new educator, we wish to celebrate her dedication to her students and her chosen calling.

*Dr. Claudia Calvo-Montes serves as the principal of Ginning Elementary.*