



SWISD Board Recognitions

October 20, 2026

River Leigh Crain	Student of the Month ▾
Elm Creek Elementary ▾	
River is a natural leader who consistently thinks with the end in mind and strives for excellence in everything she does. She never settles for less than her best and is always looking for opportunities to grow and improve. River challenges herself while also encouraging those around her to reach their full potential. Her empathy, compassion, and genuine care for others make her an outstanding role model and a wonderful example of what it means to be an Explorer.	

Paige Friesenhahn	Student of the Month ▾
McNair Middle School ▾	
McNair Middle School is proud to honor Paige Friesenhahn for Board Recognition as Student of the Month! Paige is a dedicated 7th grade student-athlete who represents McNair with pride. She is a dedicated member of our volleyball and cross-country teams and recently earned an impressive 4th-place finish at the conference cross-country meet. In addition to her athletic accomplishments, Paige maintains Honor Roll status, ranks among our Top 10 Challengers in Warrior Status, and serves on both the Student Athlete Leadership Team (SALT) and Student Council. Outside of school, Paige is equally committed to showing pigs through FFA. Her ability to balance academics, athletics, leadership, and outside responsibilities speaks volumes about her work ethic, discipline, and time management. Above all, Paige can always be counted on to do the right thing and lead by example. Her work ethic, character, and commitment make her truly deserving of this recognition!	



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Matteus Coronado

Student of the Month

Southwest High School

Matteus Coronado is the Southwest High School student of the month for October. Matteus is a standout junior in Southwest High School's theatre program, earning numerous accolades and taking part in this year's convocation performance. In addition to theatre, Matteus is a Varsity football player, participates in the Success Bound Brotherhood program, and is on the Destination Imagination team. Matteus does all of this while maintaining good grades and challenging himself with dual-credit coursework. After high school graduation, Matteus plans to attend college to work toward a degree in theatre and one day become a theatre teacher himself. Thank you, Matteus, for being an amazing model of what it means to say, "Southwest High School, where Dragons and Dreams Take Flight."

Multiple Students

Rising Stars

Amesty Frias - Big Country Elementary

Christian Sandoval - Hidden Cove STEAM Academy

Anabel Palacios - McAuliffe Middle School

Ivan Hernandez - Resnik Middle School

Cesar Contreras - CAST STEM High School

Keyhla Vega - SW Legacy High School

Our SWISD Rising Stars have shown incredible growth, made positive changes, and improved attendance. We are confident that their hard work will continue to have a positive impact on their entire Southwest ISD experience.



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SWISD Unified Athletics

Athletics ▾

Southwest HS & SW Legacy HS

Southwest HS and Legacy HS have been recognized as banner schools with Special Olympics North America. We just got the results, and SWHS is officially a national banner school, and Legacy is a State Banner School. This is an amazing accomplishment and a national honor for both schools.

SWHS was only 1 of 4 schools in TX to receive it, and the only school in SA to receive it.

Here is the full list from across the country and in TX.

A [Special Olympics Unified Champion School®](#) demonstrating commitment to inclusion by meeting 10 standards of excellence receives national banner recognition. A Special Olympics Unified Champion School has an inclusive school climate and fosters collaboration, engagement, and respect for all students and staff. A Unified Champion School that receives national banner recognition has demonstrated commitment to inclusion by meeting 10 national standards of excellence. A national panel of leaders from Special Olympics and the education community developed these standards.

The primary activities within these standards include: [Special Olympics Unified Sports®](#) (where students with and without disabilities train and compete as teammates), Inclusive Youth Leadership, and Whole-School Engagement. Banner Unified Champion Schools should also demonstrate they are self-sustaining or have a plan to sustain these activities into the future.

This recognition expects the 10 standards to be met continuously, year after year. To ensure this sustainability, schools reapply for banner status every 4 years.



SWISD Board Recognitions

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Distinction Designations for Campuses

Academics ▾

Multiple Campuses

Tonight, we are proud to recognize several Southwest ISD campuses for their achievements in the 2025–2026 state accountability ratings and distinction designations. These recognitions reflect the hard work of our students, teachers, staff, and campus leadership. We congratulate each campus on these accomplishments.

- **CAST STEM High School**
 - Earned an **A Statewide Rating** and a Distinction Designation in **Postsecondary Readiness**.
- **Big Country Elementary**
 - Earned a **B Statewide Rating** and Distinction Designations in **Academic Achievement in Reading** and **Postsecondary Readiness**.
- **McNair Middle School**
 - Earned a **B Statewide Rating** and Distinction Designations in **Academic Achievement in Reading, Academic Achievement in Math, Academic Achievement in Social Studies, Comparative Closing the Gaps**, and **Postsecondary Readiness**.
- **Southwest High School**
 - Earned a **B Statewide Rating** and Distinction Designations in **Postsecondary Readiness** and **Comparative Closing the Gaps**.
- **Southwest Legacy High School**
 - Earned a **B Statewide Rating**.
- **Southwest Elementary**
 - Earned a **B Statewide Rating** and a Distinction Designation in **Comparative Closing the Gaps**.
- **Sun Valley Elementary**
 - Earned a **B Statewide Rating**.
- **Indian Creek Elementary**
 - Earned a Distinction Designation in **Comparative Academic Growth**.
- **Sky Harbour Elementary**
 - Earned a Distinction Designation in **Comparative Academic Growth**.

Please join us in congratulating these campuses, their students, and their staff on their hard work and achievement.



SWISD Board Recognitions

October 20, 2026

MASBA Awards

Academics ▾

Southwest ISD is proud to celebrate three statewide honors received at the Mexican American School Boards Association (MASBA) Recognition of Excellence Awards!

SWISD was recognized with the Outstanding College Pathway Initiative for the Junior Summit, Outstanding Cultural Initiative for our Penguin Project, and Outstanding Special Education Initiative for Unified Sports.

These awards celebrate the incredible work happening across our district to create opportunities where every student can learn, participate, belong, and succeed. Congratulations to the students, staff, families, and community partners who make these programs possible.