



Board Agenda Item

08-18-2025

Reports of the
Superintendent
☐

Action
Item
☐

Consent
Agenda
☐

Reports,
Routine Monthly
☐

Other
☒

Subject:

IV. COMMUNICATIONS
A. RECOGNITIONS
1. Texas Art Education Association (TAEA) District of Distinction

**Presenter or Contact
Person:**

Kristen Escovedo, Interim Chief of Communications

Policy/Code:

Not applicable.

Summary:

Cedar Hill ISD earned the TAEA District of Distinction for the third consecutive year. The qualifications for the programs include TAEA participation through membership, exhibitions, contests, and community engagement. Some examples are field trips, community service, and collaboration with non-art areas. More than 1,200 districts in Texas were eligible, but only 109 – including CHISD – were presented with the honor. A CHISD district representative is invited to receive the award during a ceremony at the TAEA fall conference, Friday November 21, 2025.

Attachments:

Article that will be shared with our community announcing this honor.

Recommendation:

Not applicable.

Recommended Motion:

Not applicable.

Cedar Hill ISD Earns TAEA District of Distinction for Third Consecutive Year

(Cedar Hill, Texas) Until three years ago, Cedar Hill ISD Visual Art Coordinator Danielle Grays-Johnson was not aware of the Texas Art Education Association's District of Distinction program.

Since she learned about it, the district has received it each August.

Cedar Hill ISD has been doing the work for several years, but now they have been formalizing it in an application, which ensured the annual honor.

More than 1,200 districts in Texas were eligible, but only 109 – including CHISD – were presented with the honor.

"Most of us on the team have done it before, and we helped the new people when they came in," said Grays-Johnson, the reigning Cedar Hill High School Teacher of the Year and the CHHS art teacher. "The 14-point rubric stays the same. We make sure to go above and beyond what the rubric includes."

The qualifications for the programs include TAEA participation through membership, exhibitions, contests, and community engagement. Some examples are field trips, community service, and collaboration with non-art areas.

For Cedar Hill ISD, that includes the CHHS field trip to Meow Wolf, an interactive art exhibit in Grapevine, and the annual Art Day program, led by Bessie Coleman Middle School's art department.

A statement from the TAEA noted that the District of Distinction is "a designation to be proud of as your district is providing students with a well-rounded education rich in creative opportunities that ensure success for all."

A CHISD district representative is invited to receive the award during a ceremony at the TAEA fall conference, Friday, November 21.