

## **Board Recognition**

### **March 25, 2025**

#### **Denton ISD Named District of Distinction by Texas Art Education Association**

Denton ISD has been named a District of Distinction by the Texas Art Education Association (TAEA) and the Visual Art Administrators of Texas. The award honors school districts that are leading the way in visual arts and is given to districts for outstanding leadership in promoting the arts in their district and community.

Less than 110 school districts across the state of Texas earned the distinction, which is judged by a committee of TAEA members and administrators from across Texas.

*Denton ISD's Director of Fine Arts is Eddy Russell. Several art teachers from across the district will also be in attendance for this recognition, including Stacy Bzdok - Cross Oaks Elementary, Jennifer Diaz - Pecan Creek Elementary, Brett Moore - Harpool Middle School, Angelia Ford - Braswell High School.*

#### **Denton ISD Earns Texas Thespians Premiere Communities for Theatre Education Award, Exemplary District of Distinction and Exemplary High School of Distinction**

Denton ISD has earned the Texas Thespians Premiere Communities for Theatre Education Award, which recognizes school districts that make outstanding contributions to raising the standards for theater education.

In addition, the district also received the Exemplary District of Distinction and Exemplary High School of Distinction for Braswell High School.

Denton ISD was one of only 20 districts statewide to receive the Exemplary District of Distinction award, which is the highest distinction possible. Districts that earn this award provide theatre programs with the resources to achieve above standard, as rooted in the Educational Theatre Association's Opportunity to Learn Standards, Texas Theatre Knowledge and Skills for Fine Arts (TEKS), and support of International Thespian Society Troupe involvement.

Texas Thespians, an affiliate chapter of the Educational Theatre Association (EdTA), is the largest chapter in the nation. The Texas Thespians chapter provides local, state, and regional support for adult members, Thespians, and Junior Thespians.

*Denton ISD's Director of Fine Arts is Eddy Russell. Several theatre teachers from across the will also be in attendance to receive this recognition, including Kristen Ray Deal - McMath Middle School, Andrea Hinojosa - Harpool Middle School, Amanda Hirsh - Harpool Middle School, Jennifer Brockett - Myers Middle School, Michelle Greene - Braswell High School and Ben Parker - Braswell High School.*

### **Two Denton ISD Students' Artwork Recognized at Youth Art Month**

Artwork by two Denton ISD students was selected to be featured in the Spring Exhibition at the Bullock Texas State History Museum in Austin.

Karissa Theile from Denton High School and Kahira Mora-Delgado from Stephens Elementary were two of only 100 students from across Texas to have artwork selected for this prestigious recognition.

*The art teacher at Denton High School is James Rosin. The art teacher at Stephens Elementary is CreaShunee Greene. The principal of Denton High is Joel Hays. The principal of Stephens Elementary is Emily Manning. Denton ISD's Director of Fine Arts is Eddy Russell.*

### **Board Spotlight**

### **Ryan High School Girls Basketball Team Wins Class 5A Division I State Championship**

The Ryan High School girls basketball team won the Class 5A Division I state championship on March 1.

Behind a 24-point performance from Kaylin Jackson, the Lady Raiders beat San Antonio Wagner 58-47 to win the title – becoming the first girls basketball team in Denton ISD history to win a state championship.

Kaylin was named the MVP of the title game. In addition to her 24 points, Kaylin also tallied eight rebounds.

Ryan ended its season on a 13-game winning streak, with the Lady Raiders' impressive defense paving the way to them hoisting the trophy. Ryan held its opponents to just 40.1 points per game in the playoffs.

*The head coach of the Ryan girls basketball team is Monesha Allen. The principal of Ryan High School is Vernon Reeves. Denton ISD's Director of Athletics is Joey Florence.*

### **Guyer High School Boys Basketball Team Wins Class 6A Division II State Championship**

The Guyer High School boys basketball team won the Class 6A Division II state championship on March 8.

The Wildcats defeated Katy Jordan 48-47 behind a 20-point performance from Silas Rodriguez. Silas was named MVP of the title game, making the winning 3-pointer with less than 30 seconds left.

Guyer ended the season on an 11-game winning streak, finishing the year with a 34-7 overall record.

*The head coach of the Guyer boys basketball team is Grant Long. The principal of Guyer High School is Dr. Shaun Perry. Denton ISD's Director of Athletics is Joey Florence.*