



SWISD Board Recognitions

September 16, 2025

Zayden Venancio	Student of the Month ▾
Big Country Elementary ▾	
<p>Zayden was our first Golden Bear Buck recipient for 2025-2026. Zayden is always doing something nice to help someone else, because he cares. He earned the Golden Bear Buck by rushing to help a classmate when they spilled all of their supplies on the floor. We are proud you are a part of the Big Country Family. Way to go, Zayden!</p>	

Osiria Rodriguez	Student of the Month ▾
Bob Hope Elementary ▾	
<p>Osaria aspires to become an educator when she grows up. She already demonstrates the qualities of a great leader through her role as a safety patrol. She is always willing to help her peers, shows kindness to everyone around her, and is truly an all-around outstanding student.</p>	

Harlowe Rodriguez	Student of the Month ▾
McAuliffe Middle School ▾	
<p>Harlowe Rodriguez is the McAuliffe Student of the month because she exemplifies what it means to be a Rocket and models the Rocket Way in all she does. Harlowe is respectful, kind, and always looking for the positive in every situation. Harlowe is a member and featured vocalist in the McAuliffe Mariachi Dulce Alegria, an active mentor in the Penguin Project, Secretary of the National Junior Honor Society, and President of the Junior Thespians. Additionally, Harlowe is a multi-sport athlete who currently excels in volleyball and also excels academically. We are proud to recognize Harlowe for being Rocket Strong!</p>	



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Yelina Oraliya	Student of the Month ▾
CAST STEM High School ▾	
<p>CAST STEM High School is proud to recognize Yelina Oraliya, an 11th-grade student at our campus. Yelina is being celebrated for the impressive growth she has demonstrated during her time at CAST STEM. She has consistently shown a strong work ethic and a willingness to take on challenges. In the classroom, Yelina is deeply committed to her studies, often going above and beyond to complete assignments with diligence. This year, she continues to push herself academically by enrolling in dual credit classes at Palo Alto College and is currently taking 10 college credit hours. Beyond academics, Yelina has a natural artistic talent. Last year, she entered a costume design contest and was unanimously awarded 1st place. Her work was both creative and admired by her peers. Yelina is an exceptional student, and her growth has been inspiring for all of us. We are truly fortunate to have her as part of our school community!</p>	

Multiple Students	Rising Stars ▾
Multiple Campuses	
<p>Our SWISD Rising Stars have shown incredible growth, making positive changes and improving attendance. We are confident that their hard work will continue to have a positive impact on their entire school experience at Southwest ISD. The winners are:</p> <p>Israel Sepulveda - Indian Creek Elementary</p> <p>Joevanni Moreno - Resnik Middle School</p> <p>Na’Zaria Washington - Southwest High School</p>	



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Samuel Magruder

Academics ▾

Southwest Elementary ▾

We're so proud to announce that Samuel Magruder, a current 4th-grade student at Southwest Elementary, has been selected as a National Math Star!

Chosen from thousands of students across the country after a rigorous assessment of their unique abilities, Samuel will receive 10 years of support for advanced educational opportunities. These include mentorship, advanced math programs, STEM, coding, competitions, and more - all free to families and communities! This award is worth \$100,000.

Way to go, Samuel! You're showing us all what's possible with talent, curiosity, and hard work.

Fine Arts Department

Fine Arts ▾

Southwest ISD has been honored with the Best Communities for Music Education designation from The NAMM Foundation for its outstanding support and commitment to music education. Now in its 26th year, the Best Communities for Music Education designation is awarded to districts that demonstrate outstanding achievement for providing music access and education to all students.

Two awards are presented each year: the Best Communities for Music Education (BCME) for school districts and the Support Music Merit Award (SMMA) for individual school sites. Both reach K-12 schools and districts throughout the U.S. and offer opportunities to increase awareness and support for music programs. Over 1,000 districts and individual school sites (public, private, charter, parochial) were recognized for having the highest commitment to producing exceptional music programs.

To qualify for the Best Communities designation, SWISD answered detailed questions about funding, graduation requirements, music class participation, instruction time, facilities, support for the music program, and community music-making programs. Responses were verified by school officials and reviewed by the leading arts educational research firm, Wolf Brown.

The NAMM Foundation is the charitable arm of the National Association of Music Merchants. The foundation works to remove systemic barriers that limit access to music-making and career pathways in the music industry.