

Board Recognition
Oct. 10, 2023

W.S. Ryan Elementary Named National PTA School of Excellence

W.S. Ryan Elementary has been named a 2022-2024 National PTA School of Excellence, an honor which aims to provide a framework for PTAs to identify and implement best practices in family engagement to strengthen family-school partnerships.

W.S. Ryan Elementary was one of only 72 schools in Texas to earn the distinction for 2022-2024. Less than 400 schools nationwide received the honor.

The National PTA's School of Excellence program supports and celebrates partnerships with PTAs and schools that work to improve the educational experience and school environment for every child. In order to become a School of Excellence, a school's PTA and administrative team must work together to welcome all families, communicate effectively, support student success, speak up for every child, share power and collaborate with the community.

Members of the W.S. Ryan PTA and leaders from the Denton ISD PTA Council will be on hand to receive the recognition. Nicole Poole is the principal of W.S. Ryan Elementary.

Community Spotlight - Interfaith Ministries

Each year, the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) honors businesses and organizations for their support and exceptional advocacy of public schools. This statewide honor, as part of "Stand Up for Texas Public Schools," recognizes local businesses and community organizations that partner with school districts, making a difference in the lives of public-school students.

Interfaith Ministries, formerly known as the Apple Tree Project, is a coalition of local Denton churches which, through various faith-based organizations, donors and grants, help serve over 3,000 people annually in northern Denton County. This year, Interfaith Ministries was instrumental in helping Denton ISD provide free backpacks to students during both of the district's annual Back-to-School Fairs.

Interfaith Ministries donated nearly 2,000 backpacks to Denton ISD, which were distributed to students at both of the district's Back-to-School Fairs. For the unique way

they have assisted our district, students and staff, we wish to thank Interfaith Ministries for their continued support.

The director of Interfaith Ministries is Keri Caruthers.