



School Priority Month

Objectives:

- To foster public engagement and promote public schools locally and across Texas
- To acknowledge a valued partnership with all elected officials of government
- To exhibit a shared responsibility about public education

Vision: A shared vision where every school campus in Texas invites elected officials from every level of government to visit and experience firsthand the great work taking place in our local public schools.

When: ‘School Priority Month’ is to take place during the month of October every other year prior to a legislative session. This 2016 event will mark the inaugural ‘School Priority Month’.

Who: All publicly elected individuals representing every level of government within our federal, state, county, and city structure – such as county sheriffs, judges, commissioners, city councils, mayors, legislators and more will be invited to visit a school campus. Fostering partnerships between elected leaders and our public schools is a priority.

What: School districts will have the opportunity to share positive experiences with elected officials based on classroom visits, student and teacher conversations, and administrative debriefs as part of their campus tours.

How: School districts will have the flexibility to schedule and showcase their local schools. Consider utilizing students at every level; from invitations to conversations with our elected officials.

Suggestions:

- Publically announce participation by adopting the ‘School Priority Month’ resolution
- Promote engagement, partnership, and a shared responsibility
- Involve and showcase students and educators at the campus level
- Invite elected officials from every level of government
- Regarding shared elected officials, coordinate with other neighboring school districts
- Ask school organizations (PTO’s/PTA’s) to assist in planning and hosting tours
- Provide a debrief opportunity for Q&A
- Include the community, media, and promote your successes

The Coalition for Public Schools, Pastors for Texas Children, Texas Association of Community Schools, Equity Center, Association of Texas Professional Educators, Friends of Texas Public Schools, Texas Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association, Texas Rural Educators Association, and others support fostering public engagement with public schools.

Working Together for All Students in Public Education
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