

Board Recognition
August 12, 2025

Hawk Elementary Students Perform with 2025 TCDA Elementary Honor Choir

Three Denton ISD students were selected to perform with the 2025 Texas Choral Directors Association (TCDA) Elementary Honor Choir, an elite ensemble featuring top vocalists from across the state. The choir is composed of approximately 150 outstanding students who have completed grades 4–6 and are chosen through a rigorous audition process involving hundreds of applicants statewide.

Lane Modica, Brilynn Shapiro, and Allison Talbot—all former fifth-grade students at Hawk Elementary and now sixth graders at Crownover Middle School—earned positions as sopranos in the prestigious ensemble. After auditioning and preparing throughout the school year, the students traveled to San Antonio from July 24–26 to rehearse and perform at the Henry B. González Convention Center under the direction of Fred Meads of the Los Angeles Children’s Chorus.

The students’ success was made possible through the dedication of **Hawk Elementary music teacher Christine Stratton**, who guided them through the preparation and audition process. **Hawk Elementary Principal Lauren Shapiro** also played a key role in supporting these students’ musical achievements.

This remarkable accomplishment reflects Denton ISD’s strong commitment to arts education and the cultivation of student talent at the highest levels.

Denton ISD Hosts Two Successful Back to School Fairs with Community Support

Thanks to the leadership of **Community Engagement Coordinator Chris Ice and Social Services Coordinator Lynn Charles**, Denton ISD welcomed over 7,000 families at two Back to School Fairs held earlier this month. The events took place at LaGrone Academy on August 2 and Braswell High School on August 9, providing essential services and resources to help students start the year with confidence.

Families attending the fairs had access to a range of offerings, including UIL physicals, vision screenings, backpacks filled with school supplies, and free haircuts for students. These services were made possible through the coordination of Mr. Ice and Ms. Charles,

as well as the generous support of community partners and dedicated volunteers who helped bring the events to life.

The success of these events reflects Denton ISD's ongoing commitment to meeting the needs of the whole child and ensuring every student has what they need to thrive—both in and out of the classroom. By connecting families with important resources in advance of the first day of school, the district continues to foster strong community partnerships and student readiness.