

Board Recognition

December 9, 2025

Braswell High School Ensembles Earn National Honors in the Mark of Excellence Awards

Denton ISD is proud to recognize Braswell High School's Legacy One Jazz Orchestra and Wind Symphony have been named National Winners in the Mark of Excellence competition sponsored by The Foundation for Music Education. The Mark of Excellence project honors outstanding performance among student music ensembles across the country.

This annual project invites bands, choirs, and orchestras to submit performance recordings for professional adjudication, with only the top ensembles nationwide recognized. These two Braswell groups ranked among the top 25% of entries from across the United States in their classification, demonstrating exceptional musicianship, preparation, and performance quality.

These achievements reflect the talent and dedication of Braswell's student musicians and the strong leadership of Head Director Aaron Snipes, Assistant Directors Taylor Sitzman and Matt Sawyer, and Percussion Director Alan Miller. Their commitment to excellence continues to elevate Braswell's music program and bring pride to the Denton ISD community.

Denton ISD congratulates all participating students for this national recognition and for representing the district with distinction.

Braswell High School Percussion Ensemble Earns Recognition in International Competition

Denton ISD is proud to recognize the Braswell High School Percussion Ensemble for its invitation to perform at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention (PASIC) in Indianapolis, November 12-15, 2025. The Braswell Percussion Ensemble entered a performance recording in the PAS International Percussion Ensemble Competition and only the top three high school entries are invited to perform at the annual PAS convention – the largest percussion convention in the world. The international ensemble competition encourages and rewards musical excellence among middle school, high school, collegiate, and independent percussion ensembles, with adjudication based solely on unedited live performances.

Braswell's ensemble performed an outstanding concert at PASIC on November 14 and was recognized for its outstanding musicality, precision, and artistry. This accomplishment reflects the ensemble's exceptional dedication and the high standards upheld by the program.

Denton ISD celebrates the hard work of Braswell's percussion students and the leadership of Percussion Director Alan Miller, whose expertise and commitment

continue to elevate Braswell's nationally recognized percussion program. The district congratulates all student performers for this remarkable achievement and for representing Denton ISD with excellence on an international stage.

Mac and Cheese Fest Donates \$17,000 to Support Denton ISD Students

Denton ISD is proud to recognize the organizers and sponsors of the sixth annual Denton Mac and Cheese Fest, held on November 9, 2025, for their generous support of the district's Child Nutrition Department. Founded and organized by John Williams and his management team, the event brings together local businesses and community members each year for a celebration that blends fun, friendly competition, and charitable giving.

This year's festival featured 23 teams from local establishments, with 600 attendees casting votes for "Best Mac and Cheese" and "Best Table Design/Display." Through ticket sales and community participation, the event raised \$17,000 to help reconcile school lunch debt for Denton ISD students.