



# PRESS RELEASE

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**TISD BOARD OF TRUSTEES HEAR DISTRICT REPORTS ON  
STATE ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE INDICATOR SYSTEM;  
TISD TEACHERS RECEIVE E-Z MART EDUCATIONAL GRANTS**

**Texarkana, TX** – During their Thursday, December 16, 2010 regular session, the Texarkana Independent School District Board of Trustees were updated on the recently received Academic Excellence Indicator System (AEIS) report from Texas Education Agency.

Student performance results for the 2010 Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) testing in all subject areas give TISD five elementary campuses at the Exemplary status – Highland Park Elementary, Morriss Elementary, Nash Elementary, Spring Lake Park Elementary and Wake Village Elementary. Dunbar Elementary, Theron Jones Early Literacy Center and Westlawn Elementary campuses remained at the Recognized level with Texas Middle School, Texas High School and OPTIONS Academic Alternative campuses at Acceptable.

“Our Tiger Family of students and staff worked exceptionally hard this past year in increasing scores in all subjects. We earned Exemplary level scores in three subject areas (Reading/ELA, Writing and Social Studies) and Recognized scores in two subject areas (Mathematics and Science) on the 2010 TAKS testing,” commented Autumn Thomas, Deputy Superintendent. “

Additionally, TISD schools received nineteen Gold Performance Acknowledgements from the Texas Education Association for high performance in math, writing, science and reading.

“TISD is extremely pleased with the improvements that we are seeing in every subject area that our students are tested on,” stated James Henry Russell, Superintendent of Schools. “The nineteen Gold Performance Acknowledgements

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from the Texas Education Agency reflect a strong achievement and high marks in science which we are quite proud of and are a direct result of the successful academic performance from our students and the outstanding teaching efforts of our TISD staff.”

In additional business, E-Z Mart Corporation presented TISD teachers \$12,699 in education grants from the E-Z Mart Jim Yates Foundation.

The E-Z Mart Jim Yates Foundation Education Grant program allocates funding for school systems located in the communities in which E-Z Mart operates. The purpose of these grants is to assist educators in acquiring the tools necessary to instruct and lead children to higher levels of learning with the most current instructional methods. In the four year history of the program, E-Z Mart has awarded more than \$132,000 to various teachers and school districts.

TISD teachers receiving education grants for this year along with their grant program name are:

**Christy Adair** (Texas High School) - ***“Public Art Maquette”***

**Sonia Brown/Roslyn Keeton** (Texas Middle School) - ***“iWorld Travel Agency”***

**Belinda Carpenter** (Texas High School) - ***“Switch It On”***

**Angela Coston** (Nash Elementary) - ***“Books For All”***

**Ann Drummond** (Wake Village Elementary) - ***“Wrap Up in a Good Book”***

**Sonya Freeze** (Nash Elementary) - ***“Who Wants to be a Scientist”***

**Cindy Gore** (Nash Elementary) - ***“Carnival of the Animals to Engage  
4<sup>th</sup> Grade Composers”***

**Donna Hunt** (Texas Middle School) - ***“Developing 21<sup>st</sup> Century Engineers”***

**Terri McMaster** (Texas Middle School) - ***“Loose in the Lab”***

**Emily Ransom** (Texas High School) - ***“Graphic Novel  
Collection Development”***

**Kelly Rowland** (Texas High School) - ***“Real-Life Forensics”***

**Rosemary Russell** (Texas Middle School) - ***“How Green Am I”***

**Kinsey Sipes** (Wake Village Elementary) - ***“Learn Through Apps”***

**Alisha Taylor** (Theron Jones Early Literacy Center) - ***“Singing Math  
Time Away”***

**Nathan Upchurch** (Texas High School) - ***“Tigers Accelerating at THS”***

**Waydean Waller** (Nash Elementary) - ***“Backpack Science”***

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Other local teachers receiving E-Z Mart Jim Yates Foundation Education Grants are:

**Jessica Bilbo** (College Hill Elementary) - ***“Cultural Connections”***

**Welda Cook** (New Boston High School) - ***“Accuracy in Measurements”***

**Lara Herring** (Liberty Eylau Primary) - ***“Students High and Low All Learn with Mimio”***

**Charlotte Hueter** (Pleasant Grove Elementary) - ***“Piano Lab”***

**Lisa Hurst** (Pleasant Grove Middle School) - ***“Crossing Over”***

**Pat Larsen** (Pleasant Grove Middle School) - ***“Loose in the Lab”***

**Jeanna Morris** (Pleasant Grove Middle School) - ***“It’s a Hoot”***

**Loree Saffel** (Atlanta Elementary) - ***“Kindle Students’ Desire to Read”***

**Melinda Shumaker** (Pleasant Grove Middle School) - ***“The Trouble with History”***

**Eliza Simmons** (Ashdown Junior High) - ***“Classroom Library”***

**Mary Beth Womack** (Pleasant Grove Intermediate) - ***“Bill Nye the Science Guy”***

**Rebecca Young/Lori Wilson** (Pleasant Grove Intermediate) - ***“TEKSas Target Practice”***

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