



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

June 16, 2009

CONTACT:

Tina Veal-Gooch
Director of Public Relations
903.794.3651 ext. 1013

**WAKE VILLAGE ELEMENTARY AND HIGHLAND PARK ELEMENTARY
GET NEW LEADERSHIP FOR 2009-10 SCHOOL YEAR**

Texarkana, TX – During their Tuesday, June 16, 2009, regular session, Texarkana Independent School District Board of Trustees named Mindy Gennings to the position of Principal of Wake Village Elementary School and Rae Ann Patty to the position of Principal of Highland Park Elementary School, effective immediately.



Mrs. Gennings is currently Principal of Highland Park Elementary School and has been a member of the Tiger Family since 1998. She began her career in education in 1997 as an Intern and then a Resident Teacher with Crestview Elementary School for New Boston ISD. In 1998, she joined TISD as a Pre-Kindergarten Teacher at Spring Lake Park Elementary followed by third and fourth grade teaching positions at Highland Park Elementary School from 1999-2003. Gennings became an Administrative Intern at Highland Park Elementary in 2003 and in 2004 moved into the position of Curriculum Intern at Texas Middle School. She took on the role of 6th Grade Principal at Texas Middle School in 2005 and returned back to Highland Park Elementary School as Principal in 2006, where she has remained. Gennings holds a Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies and a Master of Educational Administration from Texas A&M University - Texarkana.

“Although I will miss the staff and students at Highland Park Elementary, I am very excited about the opportunity to move to Wake Village Elementary,” said Gennings. “Wake Village Elementary has been the forerunner for TISD in integrating technology throughout the curriculum and I look forward to not only learning more about technology integration but all the new challenges that lie ahead. I am most excited about getting to know and working with the parents and families of Wake Village Elementary students.”

-MORE-



Rae Ann Patty holds a Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies and a Master of Educational Administration from Texas A&M University – Texarkana. She started her career in education in 1997 as a Special Education teacher at Kennedy Elementary School. From 1999-2001, she was a 4th Grade Teacher at Highland Park Elementary followed by a teaching position held at Windsong Intermediate School with Friendswood ISD from 2001-2003. She returned back to the Tiger Family in 2003 as a 4th Grade Teacher at Highland Park Elementary where she remained until 2005. Patty held the position of Elementary Curriculum Coordinator with the TISD School Improvement Department from 2005-2008. During the 2008-09 school year, she served as 8th Grade Assistant Principal for Texas Middle School.

“I am so glad to be going back to the campus where my teaching career began and having the opportunity to work with Highland Park Elementary students, staff and the community,” commented Patty. “I look forward to getting back to a smaller neighborhood campus and will enjoy being part of the historic preservation area of the Highland Park community. My hope is to also take the school to the next level in terms of innovative teaching concepts and to grow the technology instruction available for students.”

###