



## Aransas Pass Independent School District

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*Purpose, Passion, Pride*

Beginning with the 2013-2014 school year, Texas campuses and districts are required by House Bill 5, Section 46, to engage in self-evaluation of Community and Student Engagement by gauging the effectiveness of nine areas of performance: fine arts, wellness and physical education, community and parental involvement, the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Workforce Development program, the second language acquisition program, the digital learning environment, dropout prevention strategies, educational programs for gifted and talented student, and the record of district and each campus regarding compliance with statutory reporting and policy requirements.

The law states that the evaluation must result in assigning the district and each campus a performance rating of exemplary, recognized, acceptable, or unacceptable for each individual evaluation factor and for overall performance. Furthermore, the Texas Education Agency determined that there may be instances where a campus or district may report “not applicable” for a particular category of performance and that the campuses and districts will evaluate their record regarding compliance with statutory reporting and policy requirement with a “yes” or “no.”

The law also states that districts must determine the membership of the evaluation committee. In Aransas Pass ISD, we utilized the following stakeholders in our evaluation team: Site-Based Decision Making (SBDM) committees at the campus level, administrators, and the District Leadership Team (DLT), which consists of administrators, teachers, and community members. The law states that the criteria used to rate each program area must be developed locally. It is important to note that Community and Student Engagement ratings cannot be compared across school districts because there are no state criteria. Each district determines its own evaluation criteria. A program rating of “exemplary” in one district may be based on dramatically different criteria than that of another district. The accountability ratings assigned to campuses and districts each year by the Texas Education Agency are based primarily on student performance on STAAR, a standardized test. While STAAR results provide a snapshot of one day in the lives of our students, evaluation of Community and Student Engagement provides a unique opportunity to engage in authentic identification of priorities, successes, and needs in program areas that support student achievement as measured by STAAR. In Aransas Pass ISD we utilized a team of administrators who examined the state law requirements and our own priorities to put together a wide continuum of criteria on which to rank each of the campuses in each of the nine areas of performance.

If you are a parent, please complete the survey for each campus that applies to you. If you are a community member with no students currently attending Aransas Pass ISD, please choose one survey to complete. We encourage all parents and community members to participate in the Community and Student Engagement survey so that the results are meaningful and truly represent the perceptions of our stakeholders.