



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 31, 2011

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## **Lake Travis Elementary School receives nomination for National Title I Distinguished School Program**

It's official. Lake Travis Elementary (LTE) has been named a 2011 National Title I Distinguished School, a project that honors schools across the country for their innovation in helping students achieve high educational standards.

Sponsored by the National Title I Association, the National Title I Distinguished School Program provides an opportunity for Title I schools from every state to be publicly recognized for their positive educational achievements. LTE was lauded for its progress toward closing the achievement gap between student groups. The Texas Commissioner of Education nominated LTE and one other campus from the more than 6,000 Title I schools in the state for the prestigious recognition.

The nomination process included a campus visit from a peer review team consisting of volunteers from regional Education Service Centers and educators from various Texas school districts who examined LTE's effectiveness in a number of areas including teaching and learning based on the approved state curriculum, opportunities provided for all students to achieve, and established partnerships with parents, families, and the community.

"The application process proved to be intense, but I knew this was an incredible opportunity for our staff and school community," said LTE principal Karen Miller-Kopp. "It also provided a great opportunity for us to reflect on the many wonderful things that have occurred at our campus during the last couple of years. I thank our District administration for its support and guidance, and I also applaud our teachers and parents for their participation and dedication to this initiative. This is very much a community award."

To be considered for nomination, schools must meet the following criteria:

- Campus is designated as a Federal Title I, Part A Campus for 2009-2010, 2010-2011 and 2011-2012; Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act provides financial assistance to local educational agencies and schools with high numbers or high percentages of children from low-income families to help ensure that all children meet challenging state academic standards
- Campus poverty level is 40% or greater in 2011-2012
- Campus meets AYP in 2010 and 2011; AYP—or Adequate Yearly Progress—is a requirement under the No Child Left Behind legislation for schools and districts to show annual improvement towards federal goals in a number of areas

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- Campus is Exemplary in Spring 2011; Exemplary is the highest rating attainable from the Texas Education Agency based on student performance on the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS)
- Campus is Exemplary or Recognized in Spring 2010 and greater than or equal to 37% Commended Performance in Reading and Math; Commended Performance requires at least 25% of all students taking the Reading and Math TAKS score at least 2400
- Campus is Academically Unacceptable or Academically Acceptable in Spring 2009

Selected schools, including LTE, will be honored at the annual National Title I Conference scheduled for January 21-24, 2012 in Seattle, WA.

For more information, contact the Lake Travis ISD Office of Communications at (512) 533-6046.

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A TEA Exemplary District, 2010-2011

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*In 1981, Lake Travis Independent School District was formed in a move to build an educational program which would better meet the needs of the students from the Lake Travis area. More than 7,300 district students are serviced by eight campuses: Lake Travis High School; Lake Travis and Hudson Bend middle schools; and Lakeway, Bee Cave, Lake Travis, Lake Pointe, and Serene Hills elementary schools. For more information, visit [www.ltisdschools.org](http://www.ltisdschools.org).*