

## **Evaluating Community and Student Engagement**

The state has added a new component to its accountability system: evaluating Texas school districts and individual campuses on how well they engage the community and students.

Under this system, which is based on District-developed criteria, NISD earned an overall rate of Recognized for the 2017-2018 school year.

### **About the new system**

- The 83rd Texas Legislature, through House Bill 5 (HB 5), added Section 39.0545 to the Texas Education Code (TEC).
- This section requires school districts to evaluate performance in community and student engagement, as well as in compliance with state reporting requirements, for the District as a whole and for each of its campuses.
- For the evaluation, districts must use criteria developed by a local committee and must assign an overall rating and a rating for each criteria at both the District and campus levels.
- Ratings must be publicly reported no later than Aug. 8 of each year.

### **Factors used in the evaluation**

The following factors were used in evaluating NISD's performance in community and student engagement:

1. Community and parental involvement
2. Fine arts
3. Wellness and physical education
4. 21<sup>st</sup>-century workforce development programs
5. Second-language acquisition programs
6. Digital learning environment
7. Dropout prevention strategies
8. Gifted & talented programs
9. History of compliance with statutory reporting requirements

### **What are the ratings categories?**

There are five possible ratings a District and individual campuses can receive for Factors 1-8. They are: Exemplary, Recognized, Acceptable, Unacceptable or Not Applicable.

A rating label of Yes or No will be assigned for Factor 9, history of compliance with statutory reporting requirements.

## **How were the criteria for these ratings developed?**

The legislation mandated the criteria for evaluation must be developed by a committee. In Nordheim ISD, the local committee consisted of an elementary teacher, secondary teacher, para-professional, principal, superintendent, community member, and parent.