



## Message from the Superintendent

Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District



July 31, 2008

Dear Key Communicator:

**CFISD has been named a 'Recognized' school district for 2008.**



Cypress-Fairbanks ISD earned the status of the largest "Recognized" school district in Texas with the release of the Texas Education Agency's 2008 accountability ratings today.

This rating is the result of the last four years of continuous improvement by our students. Teachers, staff members and parents have worked tirelessly so that our students' success rate increased each year in an environment of rising academic standards and state mandates.

Several factors contributed to CFISD's "Recognized" rating this year:

- 70 percent of our campuses (49) received either "Exemplary" or "Recognized" ratings in 2008, versus 36 of 67 campuses in 2007 (54 percent);
- TAKS scores increased in all five subject areas (Reading/English/Language Arts, Math, Writing, Social Studies and Science) and all subgroups (African American, Hispanic, White and Economically Disadvantaged) compared to 2007;
- CFISD employed numerous successful preparation strategies, including the analyzing of benchmark results each six weeks to guide re-teaching efforts; math and science camps; content-area professional development geared to district assessment results; specially designed materials for Saturday Schools and matching struggling students with strong teachers; and
- CFISD's culture of engaging students, teachers, staff, parents and the community to work together toward a common goal—student success.

Even though the 2007-08 school year was one filled with potential distractions created by an inequitable state finance system, our staff members and students worked with incomparable resolve to achieve success in student performance. Our gains were across the board and in all areas of academic measurement. There are not enough accolades for the work and the results of our staff members; they truly focused on the success of their students with great passion and compassion.

Thank you for being a community that engages in the education of our students. This rating is evidence of the synergy in Cy-Fair that continually propels us forward for the sake of our students.

Sincerely,  
David Anthony, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools