

TAKS

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According to a report presented to the Board of Trustees during its regularly scheduled June Board meeting, the challenge faced by tremendous student enrollment growth did not impede the district's TAKS success.

The total number of students in grades 3-11 who were tested during the 2007-2008 school year, but not tested in CFISD during the 2006-2007 school year, was 7,166.

Despite the influx of new students who took the TAKS, the quality instruction provided by CFISD has resulted in a high percentage of students mastering the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS), the statewide curriculum. Still, the district expects the percentages for TAKS math and reading to increase after the third administration is given to third-, fifth- and eighth-grade students in reading and fifth- and eighth-grade students in math.

Under the Student Success Initiative (SSI), the state has mandated that third-, fifth- and eighth-grade students pass the reading and/or math TAKS tests in order to be promoted to the next grade.

This was the first time that eighth-grade students were included in the SSI requirement—but the third time this same group of students has been required to meet promotion requirements under the SSI. They were the first class to be required to pass the third-grade reading exam and the fifth-grade reading and math TAKS tests in order to move to the next grade.

Results from the second administration of the eighth-grade math exam indicated an 87-percent passing rate and a 97-percent rate in reading. The final testing opportunity for those students

TAKS

Spring 2008

Percent of All Students Meeting Standards by Grade Level

	Grade	Reading/ ELA	Math	Writing	Science	Social Studies
Elementary	3	93	88			
	4	85	92	92		
	5	93	94		88	
Middle School	6	94	82			
	7	90	79	93		
	8	97	87		79	95
High School	9	89	69			
	10	91	75		77	94
	11	94	86		86	97

who were still trying to master the exams was on July 1.

Additionally, 95 percent of eighth-grade students passed the social studies TAKS while 79 percent passed the science TAKS. These figures include results from both the standard TAKS and TAKS-Accommodated, which is a form of TAKS for students served by special education who meet the eligibility requirements for specific accommodations. TAKS-Accommodated, as required by federal law, tests students served by special education on material at the grade level in which they are enrolled. The reported test results include both TAKS and TAKS-Accommodated results.

CFISD serves students with disabilities

The Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District Special Education Department provides educational services to more than 7,760 students throughout the district.

Approximately 1,520 teachers, instructional aides, speech pathologists and related service personnel provide instruction and related services to students who have a disability. Students are eligible for special education services from ages 3 to 21. Students who have hearing and vision disabilities may receive services from birth.

To be eligible for special education services, students must meet eligibility requirements such as a student with an orthopedic impairment, other health impairment, auditory impairment, visual impairment, diagnosis of deaf/blind, mental retardation, emotional disturbance, learning disability, speech impairment, multiple disabilities, autism, non-categorical early childhood or traumatic brain injury.

CFISD instructional arrangements for elementary school-aged students include in-class support, co-teach, resource classes and speech/language services. Preschool Programs for Children with Disabilities (PPCD), adaptive behavior and LIFE Skills classes are offered at selected campuses.

Co-teach, in-class support, resource classes, LIFE Skills, adaptive behavior and speech/language services are available at all secondary level campuses.

As part of the Northwest Harris County Cooperative for the Hearing Impaired, services for students who have auditory impairments are offered at Birkes and Hancock elementary schools, Campbell Middle School and Cypress Ridge High School.

Parents can contact the Special Education Department at 281-897-6400 if they have concerns about their pre-school (3-5 years) or school-aged child regarding the child's physical, speech and/or emotional development.

7-Period Day

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year, high school students will now have a total of 28 class periods during their four-year high school experience, allowing students on the RHSP to earn the required 26 credits plus two optional electives.

The 2008-2009 sophomore class will be the first group of students to graduate under the new 26-credit RHSP graduation requirement.

Sample Bell Schedule for 2008-2009

Periods/Lunch	Time
Period 1	7:25 - 8:15
Period 2	8:21 - 9:14
Period 3	9:20 - 10:10
Period 4	10:16 - 11:06
Lunch	11:12 - 11:42
Period 5	11:48 - 12:38
Period 6	12:44 - 1:34
Period 7	1:40 - 2:30

CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

Cypress-Fairbanks ISD offers career and technology education programs in trade and industrial education, drafting, computer-aided design, welding, ag-science, office administration education, health occupations, apprenticeship, family consumer science, culinary arts and Business Computer & Information Systems. Admission to these programs is based on student interest, age and grade requirements specified by the Texas Education Agency. It is the policy of Cypress-Fairbanks ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its vocational programs, services, activities and employment as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. Cypress-Fairbanks ISD will take steps to ensure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission to and participation in all educational and vocational programs. For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact Nadine Fidler at 281-897-6416 or Teresa Hull at 281-897-4030.

ACBM REMOVAL AND COMPLIANCE

In accordance with Environmental Protection Agency 40 CFR 765 regulations, all parents and district employees are hereby informed that a six-month inspection of asbestos containing building material (ACBM) in Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District facilities was recently completed.

This inspection confirmed that the district's buildings are in compliance, and that the district continues to provide a safe environment for its staff and students. The individual building re-inspection reports are on file in the Management Plan books located in facility administration areas.

Additionally, during the past twelve (12) months, ACBM was removed from: Frazier Elementary School, Yeager Elementary School, Cypress Creek High School, Cy-Fair High School, Langham Creek High School, and the Alternative Learning Center/Adaptive Behavior Center. For more information contact Martin Anding, Senior Director of Special Services, at 281.897.4065

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