



Superintendent Tom Weeaks

Parents and students:

Welcome to the 2011-2012 school year at Dew I.S.D. I am beginning my 4th year as Superintendent/Principal and I have enjoyed my time here working with you, your child, the faculty/ staff, and the Dew community.

As most of you have either read about in the news, seen on T.V. or heard from someone else in discussion, public school budgets have been cut by 6% over the last year and will be decreased again next school year by 8% or more. Our school board has had to make some tough decisions about where budget cuts were made, but in all cases, they kept the goals of our school in mind so we could continue to offer a sound education to all students that attend our school.

We have assembled an outstanding staff of educators who are all "highly qualified" as teachers and who will work with all students in our school to make an impact on their education. We have some "new faces" you will see around campus this fall beginning with Mrs. Allison Best (Secretary, Nurse Aide, Assistant Business Manager); Mrs. Elizabeth Daniel (Coach, PE Teacher); and Maggie Thurmond (Part- time custodial). We have also made some teaching position changes. Mrs. Lancaster will move up and teach 4th grade. Mrs. Till will move from 1st grade to 3rd grade. Ms. Lewis will be moving from Kindergarten to 2nd grade, and Mrs. Roark will move down from 2nd grade to 1st grade this fall.

Over this past spring and beginning of summer, our faculty/ staff, site base committee, and our school board worked cooperatively to make some changes in school policy that you need to be aware of. Please see the Dew I.S.D. website for an update of the changes that were made. We believe that these changes are necessary to clarify the goals and mission of the district.

Another new "change" that you will see beginning this fall is the Texas Education Agencies new accountability system for school districts. The old system (TAKS) is almost completely gone and will be replaced by a new system called the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR). This new system will be phased in over the year. Standards for passing have not been set so Dew I.S.D. will have an accountability rating of "Exemplary" over the next (2) years. Students in grades 3-8 will still be tested, but the assessment system will not be implemented until the 2012-2013 school year.

As you can see, we have made a few changes in personnel and we have made some changes in policy. The state has made some changes in the way that we test students, as well as, how they fund schools. All of these changes we have either already dealt with or will deal with in the near future. Please let me be clear, we have not changed our goal of educating each student that passes through our doors nor will we cut corners to provide the best resources for our teachers to educate our students.

As always, I look forward to another great year and thank you for allowing me to be your leader. I invite you to get involved with your child and the school in some way. You can join the PTO, volunteer to be on a committee of the Dew Community Foundation (which we now have), or serve in some other capacity. If you have questions about how to get involved, please call me and ask. I will help you get started. I invite you to come by any time as a guest of the district. I can be reached at 903-389-2828. I hope you and your child/ children have a great year and a great experience this year at Dew I.S.D.

Tom Weeaks- Superintendent/ Principal

DEW ISD- Rt 2 Box 60- Teague, Texas 75860 | Phone: 903-389-2828 | Fax: 903-389-5104

David Fowler Board President
Chuck Lopez Vice President

Kim Massey Board Secretary
Clyde Allen Board Member
Eric Simpson Board Member

Laurie Lane Board Member
Lisa Webb Board Member