



News Release
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Region One ESC Selects Regional Superintendent of the Year ***Donna ISD Superintendent Receives Top Honor***

Dr. Hafedh Azaiez, Superintendent of the Donna Independent School District has been selected as the Region One 2021 Regional Superintendent of the Year. As a regional winner, Dr. Azaiez will represent the Region One area in the statewide *Superintendent of the Year Award Program*. Under the direction of the Texas Association of School Boards, the Superintendent of the Year Program recognizes exemplary superintendents for excellence and achievement in educational leadership.



Dr. Azaiez has served the Donna ISD community for the past three years and is credited with turning the district around in the short time he has served as the district leader. Dr. Azaiez launched a *Listening and Learning Tour* that included visiting campuses and engaging with employees, students, parents, residents, business owners, and media representatives to share his vision for Donna ISD. Within a short five months after joining the Donna ISD district, he initiated a rebranding effort, “New Beginnings” campaign including a new academic logo touting the district as “Donna ISD-THE DISTRICT.” As shared in Dr. Azaiez’s nomination essay submitted by the Donna ISD Board of Directors, “...members of our staff expressed gratitude for Dr. Azaiez’s efforts to bring positive change to the district.”

“The Donna ISD community should be extremely proud of Dr. Azaiez for receiving this honor; it is recognition not only for Dr. Azaiez as the district’s educational leader but for the Donna ISD community, as well,” says Region One ESC Interim Executive Director, Dr. Eduardo Cancino. “Dr. Azaiez is a model educational leader who is worthy of this recognition. We are proud to have him represent our region in the State Superintendent of the Year program.”

Nominations for the regional award were submitted to Region One Education Service Center and reviewed by a select committee consisting of Region One School Board members who completed Leadership TASB training. The selection of the Superintendent of the Year honor is based on a superintendent’s dedication to improving educational quality, ability to build effective employee relations, and a commitment to public involvement in education.

Superintendents from any of the state’s 1,024 local school districts are eligible for nomination by their school boards. The State Superintendent of the Year Committee will select five state finalists from the nominations submitted by regional education service centers and the Superintendent of the Year will be

announced during the annual joint convention of the Texas Association of School Boards and Texas Association of School Administrators on September 24-26.

NOTE: Dr. Azaiez has since been named the Superintendent at the Round Rock ISD and will take on his new role on July 5, 2021. His name will still be submitted as the Region One ESC nomination.