



News Release

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Region One ESC Selects School Board of the Year

McAllen ISD Board of Trustees Takes Top Honor

The Region One Education Service Center has announced the selection of the McAllen Independent School District's Board of Trustees as the 2020 Regional School Board of the Year. As a regional winner, Region One ESC will submit McAllen ISD's nomination in the Texas Association of School Administrators "Outstanding School Board of the Year" program. The program recognizes school boards across the state that have demonstrated outstanding dedication and rendered ethical service to the children of Texas. TASA is the professional association for Texas school superintendents and other administrators.

Members of the nominated 2019-2020 Board of Trustees are Marco Suarez, *President*; Sam Saldivar, Jr., *Vice-President*; Conrado Alvarado, *Secretary*; Debbie Crane Aliseda, *Trustee*; Larry Esparza, *Trustee*; Tony Forina, *Trustee*; Daniel Vela, *Trustee*.

Texas school superintendents who are TASA members may submit nominations to their respective education service centers for the state recognition. Submitted nominations to the Region One Education Service Center were reviewed by a committee of Region One school superintendents. The criteria used to evaluate nominated school boards includes evidence of the board acting as a policy-making body, the board's adherence to adopted board policies, demonstrated support for educational performance of state-established standards, support for educational improvement projects and school transformation initiatives, a commitment to a code of ethics, provision of financial support for the school system, participation in workshops and other performance improvement programs, placement of the welfare of children served by the school system above personal or political motives, public relations efforts, including community awareness, and maintenance of harmonious and supportive relationships among board members.

"The McAllen ISD Board of Trustees has demonstrated through its actions and leadership how a school board should effectively function within a school district. We congratulate the McAllen School Board members on this prestigious award and are proud to have them represent the Region One area," said Dr. Cornelio Gonzalez, Region One ESC Executive Director.

Region One Education Service Center (www.esc1.net) serves over 439,000 students and educators in eight counties in south Texas including Brooks, Cameron, Hidalgo, Jim Hogg, Starr, Webb, Willacy and Zapata counties. Region One works to assist school districts in improving student performance, assist districts to operate more efficiently and economically, and implement initiatives assigned by the legislature or the Commissioner of Education.

Five school boards from the state's twenty education service centers will be selected and recognized as Texas Honor Boards by the Texas Association of School Administrators in August. The five boards will be interviewed by the TASA School Board Awards Committee and the winner of the Texas Outstanding School Board will be announced at the joint conference of the Texas Association of School Administrators/Texas Association of School Boards (TASA/TASB), in early-October.

McAllen ISD was last named a Regional School Board of the Year in 2012; that year the McAllen ISD School Board was also awarded the Outstanding School Board of the Year award.

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