



North East Independent School District

8961 TESORO DRIVE - SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78217

Contact: Veronica Lawson
210-407-0040

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEISD schools earn money for healthy eating *NEISD is the only district in the city recognized by the USDA*

December 3, 2010 – 18 North East ISD schools have been recognized as certified award-winning schools by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Healthier US School Challenge (HUSSC). **NEISD is the only district in San Antonio to earn this distinction.**

These schools are awarded for making healthy eating and physical activity choices. The HUSSC encouraged schools to take a leadership role in helping students make healthier eating and physical activity choices that will last a lifetime.

The following elementary schools earned a Silver level of distinction: Camelot, Castle Hills, Clear Spring, Colonial Hills, El Dorado, Larkspur, Longs Creek, Oak Grove, Royal Ridge, Walzem, Wetmore, Wilshire, and Woodstone. Bronze level awards were named to these elementary schools: Canyon Ridge, Hidden Forest, Huebner, Oak Meadow, and Stone Oak.

All of these schools have 1) served school lunches that reflect the *Dietary Guidelines for Americans*; 2) restricted the availability of foods and beverages at school to those that meet healthier guidelines of lower fat, added sugars, and sodium; 3) offered nutrition education for students to learn to make healthy choices; 4) provided physical education and opportunities for students to be physically active during the school day; and 5) have a school wellness policy.

Schools awarded will receive a monetary incentive (Bronze \$500, Silver \$1,000), an award plaque signed by a USDA official, a banner to display in their school, and their name listed on the Team Nutrition Web site.

The Healthier US School Challenge (HUSSC) is a voluntary initiative established in 2004 to recognize those schools participating in the National School Lunch Program that have created healthier school environments through promotion of nutrition and physical activity.

View this online at <http://www.neisd.net/ComRel/MediaCenter.html>.

###

About NEISD:

North East ISD has more than 70 schools and magnet programs with an expected fall 2010 enrollment of more than 66,000 students. NEISD employs more than 9,000 people. It is the second largest public school district in the San Antonio area and the eighth largest in the state. Under the Texas accountability system, 87 percent of NEISD schools are rated Exemplary or Recognized. The district earned Recognized for the third year in a row. More information about NEISD can be found at www.neisd.net.