## Elementary Level Performance Report

Austin
Independent School District
October 13, 2008

## Intellectual Development and Achievement

Includes:
Enrollment Snapshot
TAKS Performance
NAEP
ELL Proficiency - RPTE
Technology Literacy
Grade Level Promotion



Elementary Campuses

## Analysis of Underlying Data:

Passing percentages for TAKS Reading ranged from $64 \%$ to $100 \%$ for All students across schools, with $36 \%$ of schools ( $\mathrm{n}=28$ ) achieving a passing rate equal to or greater than the $90 \%$ standard for Exemplary status. Of the 28 schools, 12 were rated Exemplary due to consistently high performance across all subjects and student groups, 12 were rated Recognized because performance on other state accountability measures was not as consistently high as Reading performance for All students, and 3 were rated Acceptable for the same reason. Seven schools had Reading passing rates of $99 \%$ or 100\% for All students (Casis, Doss, Highland Park, Hill, Kiker, Lee, and Mills)

About one quarter of elementary schools ( $n=20$ ) had student passing rates below $80 \%$. Five schools did not achieve the state 2008 Acceptable standard of $70 \%$ for Reading (Becker, Hart, Langford, Norman, and Winn). Of those, 4 ultimately were rated Unacceptable (Becker, Hart, Norman, and Winn). The Acceptable standard does not change for Reading in 2009.
*Includes first two administrations at SSI Grades


Analysis of Underlying Data:
Passing percentages for TAKS Math varied more than those for Reading, ranging from $53 \%$ to $99 \%$ of all students across schools. Slightly more than half of all schools (56\%) achieved passing rates above $80 \%$ in Math, with $29 \%$ of schools ( $n=22$ ) at or above the Exemplary standard of $90 \%$. Of the schools with passing rates above $90 \%$, twelve were rated Exemplary and eight were rated Recognized by the state. Seven campuses achieved Math passing rates of $98 \%$ or $99 \%$ for all students (Bryker Woods, Casis, Doss, Highland Park, Hill, Kiker, and Mills).

All elementary schools surpassed the 50\% state Acceptable passing standard in 2008 for all students. For the district's elementary schools rated Unacceptable in 2008, Math passing rates for all students ranged from $67 \%$ to $76 \%$. All but one school (Govalle) achieved the 2009 Acceptable standard for all students in Math.



## Analysis of Underlying Data:

The range of passing percentages across schools was greatest for Science, with passing rates ranging from $40 \%$ to 100\%. Four schools (Barton Hills, Doss, Highland Park, and Reilly) achieved passing rates of $97 \%$ to $99 \%$, and nearly one quarter of schools attained passing rates at or above $90 \%(n=19)$.

Three schools (Hart, Norman, and Wooten) did not achieve the 2008 Acceptable standard of 45\% passing. Interestingly, two elementary schools rated Unacceptable by the state system had more than $70 \%$ of all students passing the Science test (Overton at $71 \%$ and Becker at $76 \%$ ). Six schools (Hart, Norman, Wooten, Allison, Winn, and Pleasant Hill) did not achieve the 2009 Acceptable standard.





## Analysis of Underlying Data:

Districtwide, passing percentages for each subject and grade level exceeded passing standards for both 2008 and 2009. Additionally, overall performance exceeded even the passing standard for Recognized performance ( $75 \%$ ) in all areas but Grade 5 Science.

Overall passing percentages were greatest for Grade 3 Reading (91\%) and Grade 4 Writing (90\%), and were lowest for Grade 5 Science (72\%) and Grade 4 Reading (79\%)
However, it should be noted that 4th grade students have only one opportunity to pass the Reading and Math tests.

Across all subjects and grade levels, the percentage of students scoring at the Commended performance level ranged from 27\% (Grade 4 Reading) to 38\% (Grade 5 Math).

[^0]

Source: 2007 and 2008 Estimated Accountabiilty Subset for Grades 3-5

* Includes first two administrations at SSI Grades



| Met AYP - 72: | All Campuses but those listed below. |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Missed AYP - 2: | Jordan $\downarrow$ | Norman $\downarrow$ |
| Needs <br> Improvement - <br> (NI) - 0: |  |  |
| Not Rated - New <br> Campus - 3: | Clayton <br> Read Pre-K | Perez |
| Not Evaluated: |  |  |
|  | ACES <br> Rosedale | Austin St. Hospital |

Met AYP:
Missed AYP:
Needs
Improvement -
(NI):
Not Rated - New
Campus:
Not Evaluated:


See following page for summary of performance.


Source: National Center for Education Statistics, TUDA 2007 Snapshot Report
Eleven urban districts voluntarily participated in the Trial Urban District Assessment (TUDA) of the NAEP 2007 Reading and Math Assessment. TUDA sampling within Austin ISD included: Grade 4 Reading - 1,617 students in 56 schools and Grade 4 Math - 1,908 s


## Analysis of Underlying Data:

Fourth graders scored at the National average in Math and Reading, and scored well above the Large Central City average for both subjects. Additionally, Austin fourth graders outperformed peers in all TUDA districts but one in Math (tied with Charlotte), and outperformed eight of the ten TUDA districts in Reading (tied with Charlotte and New York City). Each student group outperformed their peers acros the Nation and in Large Central Cities in Math. In addition, English Language Learners (ELLs) and Hispanic students outperformed their counterparts in Large Central City schools in Reading, and White students in AISD outperformed their peers both from across the Nation and from Large Central Cities in Reading

Comparing results from 2005 (not shown) to 2007, Austin's NAEP scores showed no significant change. However, more Students with Disabilities and English Language Learners were tested in 2007. In 2005, 10.4 percent of fourth grade students were excluded from testing in Math, but in 2007, only 5.1 percent were not tested

Spring 2008 RPTE Elementary Level (Grades 3-5)



## Analysis of Underlying Data:

Approximately two-thirds of all elementary students taking the RPTE scored at the Advanced or Advanced High level. Of those students, nearly one-half have been enrolled for four or more years in AISD schools. Of the $14 \%$ of elementary students scoring at the Beginning level, over $60 \%$ were in their first or second year of enrollment in AISD schools.
$8 \%$ (67 students) of those scoring at the Beginning level have been in AISD schools for 5 or more years; however, please note that as few as 1 day of enrollment is counted as a "year" according to the definition from the U.S. Department of Education (see footnote below).

Proficiency levels increased with grade level, where students in Grade 5 were least likely to score at the Beginning or Intermediate levels of proficiency in English

These results suggest that students indeed become more proficient in English with continued enrollment in AISD schools.

[^1]

## Analysis of Underlying Data:

In 2003 Austin ISD partnered with Learning.com to develop an assessment to examine technology skills and knowledge contained in the standards developed by the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) and the K-8 Technology Applications TEKS. The test is given online and contains a combination of multiple choice and interactive items. Findings are reported as a proficiency score. The proficiency score represents the minimum score a student needs to receive to be determined proficient in the areas tested. The minimum overall score for proficiency on the Technology Literacy Assessment (TLA) is 220 on a scale of 100 to 300.
In all $52 \%$ of 5th grade students received an Overall Proficient score in 2008 compared with $54 \%$ in 2007. The number of campuses where the school average met the standard decreased from 29 in 2007 to 27 in 2008. In all seven areas tested, the AISD district average was higher than the national average of the 62,989 students assessed. Student performance is strongest in Systems and Fundamentals, Word Processing and Telecom \& Internet. Students did not perform as well in the Spreadsheet, Multimedia \& Presentations, and Database skill areas. Students in higher income areas perform better on the TLA than students in low income areas.

Use of Learning.com/Easy-Tech, the adopted online "textbook" for K-8 technology literacy is increasing. Staff Development provided by the Department of Instructional Technology focuses on learning technology skills within the context of the core curriculum. High quality, student centered technology use can amplify learning in all curriculum areas while increasing technology skills and digital literacy. Renewed staff development efforts will be coordinated with the new technology upgrades funded by the 2008 Technology Bond.

Source: 2007 and 2008 results reported by Learning .com


## Analysis of Underlying Data:

Promotion rates varied only slightly from one year to the next, with small increases at Grade 2 (from $97.8 \%$ to $98.0 \%$ ), Grade 3 (from $98.3 \%$ to $98.4 \%$ ), Grade 4 (from $99.0 \%$ to $99.1 \%$ ) and Grade 5 (from $99.0 \%$ to $99.3 \%$ ), and a small decrease from $97.8 \%$ to $97.5 \%$ at Kindergarten. Once again, promotion rates in AISD mirror those seen statewide, with greatest promotion rates at the older elementary grades. Special Education students represent approximately $10 \%$ of all AISD students.

[^2]
## Personal, Social, and Cultural Development

Includes:
Attendance
TAKS Performance and Attendance
TAKS Performance and Economic Status

Discipline
School Climate


Avg. Daily Attendance by Ethnicity - Grades K - 5


2007-08 Average Daily Attendance by Campus


Elementary Campuses

## Analysis of Underlying Data:

Student attendance rates have remained constant and high from 2006-07 to 2007-08 for all grades and student groups. Across grade levels in 2007-08, Kindergarten attendance was lowest (95.4\%) and rates were highest at grades 3, 4, and 5 ( $96.7 \%$ each). The rate for African American students (95.3\%) was slightly lower than that for White and Hispanic students (96.1\% each).

Rates varied little across elementary schools, from a low of $93.7 \%$ to a high of $97.1 \%$. Only 5 schools averaged below $95 \%$ daily attendance rate (Allison, Becker, Govalle, Read, and Travis Heights), two of which were rated Unacceptable (Becker and Travis Heights). Conversely, 59\% of schools ( $n=46$ ) averaged $96 \%$ or higher. Four achieved attendance rates at or above $97 \%$ (Baranoff, Lee, Pease, and Wooldridge); two of which were rated Exemplary (Baranoff and Lee).

[^3]


## Analysis of Underlying Data:

Once again, an examination of the relationships between TAKS passing rates, attendance, and economic disadvantage at the elementary level reveals a moderate, significant positive relationship between attendance and TAKS passing rates for Reading. The relationship is not as significant for Math. However, although it is interesting to consider the relationship that exists between student attendance and performance, one factor alone cannot explain what makes some schools and students perform better than others. Many factors in combination contribute to student performance. In addition to relying on our experiences and on educational research literature about "what matters", additional analyses have been conducted to inform our understanding of the ways in which school characteristics, student behaviors and attitudes, teacher characteristics and attitudes, and parent behaviors and attitudes may work together to accomplish high student achievement in the elementary schools of AISD. Results from these analyses will be described in the pages that follow, along with information about plans for future research.


Note: Green ovals represent high need schools performing better than would be expected based on the relationship between economic disadvantage and TAKS; red ovals represent high need counterparts.

## Analysis of Underlying Data:

The graphs above reveal a strong relationship between poverty and student performance. It is clear that schools with fewer economically disadvantaged students perform higher on TAKS. As you can see, 2008 data show that TAKS passing rates follow a downward curve for Reading performance across the spectrum of economically disadvantaged student enrollment and that the relationship is more linear for Math. The graphs above underscore the significant influence of economic disadvantage on student performance.

However, notice that some very high need schools have overcome the strong influence of economic disadvantage to perform much better than might be expected based on economics alone (circled in green). The schools that seem to overcome the influence of economic disadvantage (Allan, Blackshear, Blanton, Brooke, Campbell, Dawson, Galindo, Graham, Harris, Jordan, McBee, Metz, Oak Springs, Ortega, Pecan Springs, Reilly, Ridgetop, Sanchez, Sims, \& Wooldridge) have been examined relative to their high need counterparts that did fit the trend line (circled in red). Significance testing between those groups reveals that the higher performing high need schools have significantly greater: student attendance rates;
staff ratings of campus Achievement Press, Student Behavior, Colleagial Leadership , and Professional Staff Behavior; and
student ratings of the Behavioral Environment.*
Because school economic disadvantage also is related to additional variables such as teacher retention and teacher experience, this year we have statistically accounted for the influence of economic disadvantage on performance when examining what else matters to achievement. This allows us to consider factors that may be influenced by district policy and practice. After controlling for the influence of economic disadvantage, we found that passing rates in Reading and Math were most related to staff and student reports of the school climate, followed by additional factors such as student attendance rates. Multiple regression analyses indicate that two variables, staff reports of Achievement Press and Student Behavior, are more important to estimating TAKS performance than Economic Disadvantage or any other factor examined. Together, those variables account for $73 \%$ of the variance in Reading TAKS performance and $76 \%$ of the variance in Math TAKS performance across all elementary schools. These results suggest that climate is critical to academic achievement and also that climate may be an important leading indicator for academic performance. District staff will continue to examine the high performing high needs schools to identify best practices that may influence both student performance and school climate. Additionally, future analyses will examine the paths along which multiple causal influences take towards student academic success.
*Student and staff climate factors will be described in more detail on subsequent pages.
Sources: 2008 T.E.A. Accountabiity Data Tables and Final PEIMS Submission

## All Elementary Schools: Disciplinary Actions WITHIN Ethnicity



Sources: SASI discipline data for PEIMS: SASI Student Data, 2006-07 and 2007-08
*Totals also include Native American and Asian student groups


Analyses of Underlying Data Compared with 2006-2007:

In general, the number of students disciplined and the rates of disciplinary actions have decreased from 2006-07 to 2007-08.

The number of students suspended to home decreased by 81 and the rate decreased by 0.19 percentage points. The greatest percentage of an ethnic group suspended to home for the 2007-2008 school year was 5.18 for African American students, but the percentage of students decreased by 0.37 percentage points.

The number of students suspended to ACES decreased by 121 and the rate decreased by 0.26 percentage points. The greatest
percentage of an ethnic group suspended to ACES for the 2007-2008 school year was 3.26 for African American students, but the rate decreased by 0.81 percentage points (the rate was 3.48 for Native American students, but the number of students was less than 5).

Elementary School removals remain low for both mandatory and discretionary removals.

The five most common offenses for which elementary students received disciplinary action in 2007-2008 were all discretionary: physical aggression against students, disruption of the educational process, fighting/mutual combat, physical aggression against adults, and failure to follow directions.

Note: These data reflect the unique number of students in each ethnic group receiving the stated disciplinary action divided by the number of students in the ethnic group active and inactive (cumulative enrollment) when this report was run (e.g., $1.26 \%$ of Hispanic students received at least one home suspension).

2008 TAKS Reading and Staff Ratings for Achievement Press by Elementary Campuses


2008 TAKS Reading and Staff Ratings for Student Behavior by Elementary Campuses


2008 TAKS Reading and Staff Ratings for Professional Staff Behavior by Elementary Campuses


2008 TAKS Reading and Staff Ratings for Collegial Leadership by Elementary Campuses


Analysis of Underlying Data:




 Hills, Read, Casis, Clayton, and Lee exceeding 3.50. Four campuses had staff ratings below 2.75 for Student Behavior (Winn, Langford, Govalle, and Perez).

Staff ratings of Collegial Leadership and Professional Staff Behavior also were related to TAKS performance. Collegial Leadership ratings, which measure the extent to which staff perceive principals treat teachers and staff with openness, egalitarianism, and friendliness, ranged from 1.95 to 3.68 . Collegial Leadership ratings were above 3.60 for six schools (Casis, Kiker, Davis, Doss, Pillow, and Hill) and were at or below 2.25 for Travis Heights, Barrington, Langford, and Cook. Professional Staff Behavior ratings indicate the extent to which staff perceive all campus staff are respectful of their colleagues' competence committed to students, and cooperative with each other. These ratings ranged from 2.58 to 3.79 , with ratings at Davis, Casis, Kiker, and Pillow above 3.65 . Ratings for Professional Staff Behavior were below 2.70 at Cook, Barrington, and Winn.

A campus learning environment encompasses a variety of important activities and behaviors that are not easily measured. However, the evidence supports the validity of the Staff Climate Survey as an indication of the extent to which campuses are conducive to student learning. Future analyses will examine the ways in which other factors combine to create a positive staff climate and will explore the potential relationships between a variety of factors including staff climate, principal tenure, teacher retention, and student achievement.



## Analysis of Underlying Data:

The AISD Student Climate Survey is administered annually to students in grades 3-11. The figures above present the campus averages for each of four survey factors. While there was some variation, students across all elementary schools felt positive about their campus climate. Ratings for Adult Fairness and Respect, a measure of perceptions of the treatment of students by teachers and other adults on campus, were highest of all categories with an overall rating of 3.70 on a scale from 1 to 4 across all elementary students. School averages for this dimension ranged from 3.51 to 3.83 . Ratings also were high (3.58) for Student Academic Self-Confidence, which measures students' motivation and sense of efficacy in their schoolwork. School averages for this dimension ranged from 3.43 to 3.74, a similar spread to that of Adult Fairness and Respect.

Ratings were somewhat less favorable and schools varied more in their average ratings for Behavioral Environment (3.19), which measures student perceptions of the respect and caring among students and perceptions of the extent to which students follow school rules and feel safe, and for Teacher Support \& Student Engagement (3.38), which measures perceptions of the extent to which teachers support students with academic issues and personal problems, and the level of enthusiasm teachers display with their teacher. School averages ranged from 2.80 to 3.43 for Behavioral Environment and from 3.11 to 3.63 for Teacher Support and Student Engagement. The broader range in scores for these dimensions provides an opportunity for correlation analyses with TAKS performance. Behavioral Environment ratings showed significant and moderately strong relationships with TAKS, such that schools with high Behavioral Environment ratings were more likely to have high TAKS performance. This relationship with TAKS performance was stronger than that for student attendance, teacher experience, teacher retention, and principal turnover. These results validate the relationship found between staff ratings of Student Behavior and TAKS.

Source: Spring 2008 AISD Student Climate Survey

## Equitable Opportunities and Outcomes

Includes:

Teacher Experience
Teacher Retention
Principal Turnover

Austin ISD Elementary Total Teacher Experience 200708


## Austin ISD Elementary Total Teacher Experience 2008.09



## Analysis of Underlying Data:

The percentage of elementary teachers having 0 years of experience has decreased from $8 \%$ to $6 \%$, continuing a trend over the past few years. Additionally, the percentage of teachers with 1-5 years experience has increased over time, up from $26 \%$ in 2006-07 (not shown) to $33 \%$ in 2008-09. This reflects that the newest teachers are remaining with the district and that teachers with experience are being hired to fill vacancies. The percentage of elementary teachers with greater than 5 years experience has increased slightly over the past three years, up from $58 \%$ in 2006-07 to $60 \%$ in 2008-09.

While the overall percentage of novice teachers is low, disparity remains among elementary schools. New teachers represent at least $15 \%$ of their teachers on six campuses (Blackshear, Houston, McBee, Barrington, Brown, and Winn), and more than $75 \%$ of teachers on eight campuses have 0 to 10 years of experience (Blazier, Blackshear, Harris, Read, Widen, Jordan, Campbell, and Perez). Conversely, seven campuses have greater than $67 \%$ of teachers with more than 10 years of experience (Pillow, Gullet, Summit, Boone, Sunset Valley, Bryker Woods, and Patton). However, analyses of AISD elementary TAKS data by teacher suggest no relationship between teacher years of
experience and student TAKS performance. Though educational literature generally suggests that students with teachers in years 1 to 3 of the profession perform less well than students with more experienced teachers, AISD results for elementary TAKS performance in 2008 do not reveal such a pattern. To determine what may explain this unexpected finding, future studies will examine the effects of novice teacher mentoring, instructional coaching, campus-based teacher support, and New Teacher Academy in more detail. Additionally, future studies will examine the outcomes for intensive novice teacher support provided by full-time mentors through the AISD REACH strategic compensation pilot.

Sources: 2007-08 and 2008-09 AISD staff records


Analysis of Underlying Data:
For 2008-09, the average years of experience for teachers in AISD ranges from 5.9 to 18.5 , with 11 schools below 8 years of experience on average and 7 schools above an average of 15 years experience. However, results suggest that high needs schools can achieve at high levels despite having less experienced teachers than other schools. Data confirm that high quality teaching can be accomplished by any teacher, regardless of experience. The campus average years of teaching experience is not significantly related to TAKS performance after controlling for the influence of economic disadvantage on TAKS, and linked teacher-student data confirm this finding at the teacher level. Among the most economically disadvantaged schools in AISD, the average years of experience was virtually identical for both the high performing and the lower performing economically disadvantaged schools.

One interesting finding is that schools with higher TAKS performance in Reading in 2008 are likely to have fewer teachers with no experience for the 2008 -09 school year Retention data, described later in this report, also confirm this pattern. This relationship did not appear in the prior year and will be monitored in the future. Teacher experience will be among the factors included in planned path analyses that will examine the sequence of events that lead to academic success.

[^4]* Includes first two administrations at SSI Grades



[^5]Sources: 2007 and 2008 Final PEIMS Submissions


[^6]Sources: 2008 T.E.A. Data Tables; 2007 and 2008 Final PEIMS Submissions

* Includes first two administrations at SSI Grades



#### Abstract

Analysis of Underlying Data: Elementary principal turnover rates have remained stable since 2005-06, fluctuating between $19 \%$ and $12 \%$ during that time period. Despite a seeming downward trend from 05-06 to 07-08, current year data suggest that small year-to-year fluctuations may balance out for relatively consistent annual principal turnover rates long-term. Rates across campuses range from $0 \%$ to $50 \%$ over the six year period, representing turnover of 0 to 3 principals during that time. Almost a third of campuses ( $\mathrm{n}=23$ ) experienced no principal turnover, 11 schools experienced 2 new principals in six years, and 3 schools (Allan, Pillow, and Houston) had 3 new principals in a six year period from 2003-04 to 2008-09. Although principal turnover alone was not related to academic achievement of elementary schools, future analyses will examine the interaction that may exist between principal turnover, principal tenure, and other factors such as teacher retention, and the principal factors that best faciliate teacher quality and student success.


Source: AISD Human Resources

## Appendix

Includes:
District TAKS Performance
District ELL Proficiency
K-12 Promotion
District Attendance Rates
District Disciplinary Rates
Glossary of Terms
October 13, 2008



Source: 2008 T.E.A. District Accountability Data Table

* Includes first two admnistrations at SSI Grades





Sources: 2007 and 2008 T.E.A. Accountability Data Tables

* Includes first two administrations at SSI Grades
^ 2007 8th Grade Science results are not included because they were not part of the ratings system that year.


[^7]




| $2006-2007$ | $95.3 \%$ | $95.9 \%$ | $96.5 \%$ | $96.8 \%$ | $96.9 \%$ | $96.7 \%$ | $95.6 \%$ | $94.7 \%$ | $93.5 \%$ | $89.9 \%$ | $\mathbf{9 1 . 5} \%$ | $\mathbf{9 1} \%$ | $\mathbf{8 8 . 1} \%$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $2007-2008$ | $95.4 \%$ | $96 \%$ | $96.3 \%$ | $96.7 \%$ | $96.7 \%$ | $96.7 \%$ | $95.3 \%$ | $94.3 \%$ | $93.4 \%$ | $89.9 \%$ | $\mathbf{9 1 . 6} \%$ | $\mathbf{9 0 . 5} \%$ | $\mathbf{8 8 . 3} \%$ |



Sources: PEIMS, 2007 and 2008 Totals include all campuses

## All Schools: Disciplinary Actions WITHIN Ethnicity




Sources: SASI discipline data for PEIMS: SASI Student Data, 2006-07 and 2007-08
*Totals also include Native American and Asian student groups.



| Number of Students by Ethnicity |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Group | $2006-07$ | $2007-08$ |
| Overall |  | 97,506 |

Note: These data reflect the unique number of students in each ethnic group receiving the stated disciplinary action divided by the number of students in the ethnic group active and inactive (cumulative enrollment) when this report was run (e.g., $1.26 \%$ of Hispanic students received at least one home suspension).

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[^0]:    Source: 2008 Estimated Accountabiilty Subset for Grades 3-5

    * Includes first two administrations at SSI Grades

[^1]:    Source: - 2008 T.E.A. TELPAS Summary Reports
    *A partial year of school enrollment in the U.S. counts as one school year for puposes of both TAKS exemption eligibility and TELPAS data collection. Data above have been reconstructed to represert years in AISD schools. Note, however, that schools should not include enrollment in pre-kindergarten or kindergarten in these counts. - $p$ 15, LPAC Procedural Manual 07-08.

[^2]:    Source(s) -T.EA. Grade Level Retention in Texas Public Schools, 2005-06, these are the most current data available from TEA; MIS Estimated Grade Level Retention, 2006 -07

[^3]:    Source: 2007 and 2008 Final PEIMS Submission

[^4]:    Sources: 2008 T.E.A. Accountability Data Tables; 2008 AISD staff records

[^5]:    Analysis of Underlying Data:

    The elementary teacher retention rate from 2006-07 to 2007-08 is 2 percentage points lower than that of the prior year. However, the difference is not statistically significant. Rates
    
     prior year, they will be monitored over time as an expected indicator of success for the district's REACH pilot strategic compensation initiative.

[^6]:    Analysis of Underlying Data:
    Teacher retention is somewhat related to TAKS Reading performance, after controlling for the influence of economic disadvantage. This relationship suggests that efforts to improve teacher retention can influence student achievement. In addition, data indicate an encouraging relationship between 2008 TAKS performance and subsequent 2008-09 teacher retention. Teachers who remained on their campus for 2008-09 had students with significantly higher TAKS scores in 2008 than those who left their campus or left the district. This suggests that elementary schools are retaining the best teachers.

    Future longitudinal analyses will examine the performance of students with teachers who have transferred within AISD to different schools, and will explore the ways in which teacher retention may operate to support student success. For example, teacher retention likely may lead to enhanced collaboration among grade level or subject area teachers. Conversely, positive collaboration and climate may lead to teacher retention. Planned analyses will examine the complex relationships among a variety of factors related to student success.

[^7]:    arrows indicate if a campus moved up or down a ratings level from 2007

