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**New Braunfels Independent School District**

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## New Braunfels ISD Students Have Significant Gains on TAKS Reading

Spring test results released by the Texas Education Agency indicate New Braunfels Independent School District students continue to make significant gains as evidenced by the first administration of the Reading Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills.

“We are very proud of the success of our students,” said Dr. Victoria Pursch, Assistant Superintendent for Accountability and Instruction. “These particular tests are ‘high stakes’ and can negatively impact student promotion if they are not at the mastery level. We are especially grateful to the excellent teachers of NBISD whose commitment and hard work paid off as evidenced by the results of their students.”

### **Eighth grade reading performance**

The largest gains came at New Braunfels Middle School with 92 percent of the eighth graders passing the first round of testing and 52 percent of those students scoring at the commended level, which means these students correctly answered 44 or more of the 48 test questions. These numbers are up from last year when the campus had an 86 percent passing rate and a 33 percent commended rate.

Eighth graders must pass the reading test in order to be promoted, as well as the math test to be administered on April 8. The second and third administrations for students who failed the Reading TAKS will be on April 30 and July 2.

<b>8th Grade Reading TAKS</b>	<b>TAKS First Administration</b>	<b>Commended</b>
<b>2007-08</b>	<b>92 percent</b>	<b>52 percent</b>
<b>2006-07</b>	<b>86 percent</b>	<b>33 percent</b>

### **Fifth grade reading performance**

At the fifth grade level, NBISD scores were well above the state level. Ninety percent of fifth-grade students in NBISD passed the reading exam, compared to 83 percent at the state level. Thirty-four percent of NBISD fifth graders reached the commended level, compared to the state’s total of 29 percent.

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<b>5th Grade Reading TAKS</b>	<b>TAKS First Administration</b>	<b>Commended</b>
Seele Elementary 2007-08	91 percent	43 percent
Seele Elementary 2006-07	81 percent	31 percent
Memorial Intermediate 2007-08	91 percent	30 percent
Memorial Intermediate 2006-07	89 percent	30 percent
Carl Schurz Elementary 2007-08	95 percent	34 percent
Carl Schurz Elementary 2006-07	89 percent	33 percent
<b>NBISD Total 2007-08</b>	<b>90 percent</b>	<b>34 percent</b>
<b>NBISD Total 2006-07</b>	<b>86 percent</b>	<b>34 percent</b>

### Third grade performance

At the third grade level, NBISD had steady gains in Reading TAKS performance, but saw strong increases in the number of students performing at the commended level. The NBISD passing rate is well above the state average of 88 percent on the first administration.

<b>3rd Grade Reading TAKS</b>	<b>TAKS First Administration</b>	<b>Commended</b>
Lone Star Elementary 2007-08	97 percent	52 percent
Lone Star Elementary 2006-07	95 percent	41 percent
Memorial Elementary 2007-08	97 percent	46 percent
Memorial Elementary 2006-07	92 percent	34 percent
Carl Schurz Elementary 2007-08	88 percent	37 percent
Carl Schurz Elementary 2006-07	96 percent	33 percent
<b>NBISD Total 2007-08</b>	<b>94 percent</b>	<b>44 percent</b>
<b>NBISD Total 2006-07</b>	<b>92 percent</b>	<b>35 percent</b>

### Conclusion

Students in third, fifth, and eighth grades must pass Reading TAKS to be promoted. Fifth and eighth graders must also pass the math TAKS. The reading retests for third, fifth and eighth grades will be given April 30 and July 2. Writing exams taken in February are still being scored and those results will be available later this spring.