

## District Awards for Teacher Excellence (D.A.T.E.)

The LISD Grant Department recently completed the application process for the next cycle of the District Award for Teacher Excellence (D.A.T.E.). The district was awarded over \$1.7 million from the Texas Education Agency Grant for the 2009-2010 school year.

During the upcoming school year, campus based personal **only** may qualify for Part I or Part II of the criteria plans provided by the TEA for District Awards for Teacher Excellence. *The purpose of these plans is to increase student academic performance.*

Part I of the criteria allows for 60 percent of the funds to be used toward awarding classroom teachers who have positively impacted student academic improvement and who met the TEC definition of a classroom teacher, including principals. Funds will be awarded based on the plans criteria. Grade level teachers in 3<sup>rd</sup> through 11<sup>th</sup> grade can receive a maximum award amount of \$1500 based on TAKS scores. Principals who meet performance targets related to the state accountability rating can receive a maximum award amount of \$3,500. All award amounts include TRS benefits and Tax deductions.

Part II of the criteria will allow districts to use the remaining 40 percent of the funds to be used toward other allowable activities including stipends and awards. Teachers, assistant principals, and staff including nurses, counselors, librarians, library clerks, custodians, and other support staff are eligible for the awards. Pre-K through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teachers can qualify for the maximum award amount of \$450. Assistant principals who meet performance targets related to the states accountability rating can be eligible for a maximum award of \$1,000, while grade level 3<sup>rd</sup> through 11<sup>th</sup> grade teachers and staff members can receive up to \$175 if they did not meet the criteria for Part I. All award amounts include TRS benefits and Tax deductions.

For more detailed information on the LISD D.A.T.E. plan presentation for the 2009-2010 please visit the LISD website at [www.laredoisd.org](http://www.laredoisd.org)