

**Sam Houston Elementary School  
Denton Independent School District  
Teresa Andress, Principal  
Community and Student Engagement Survey  
2016-2017**

At Sam Houston Elementary we believe that all students can learn and it is our responsibility to facilitate the learning process. We work to build academic knowledge, problem solving skills and character skills.

Sam Houston Mission Statement: At Sam Houston we will inspire all students to become confident life-long learners by collaborating to provide a challenging curriculum in a safe and compassionate environment.

Sam Houston Vision Statement: Sam Houston commits to high expectations in an engaging, positive environment that encourages respectful and purposeful relationships between all members of our school community.

Sam Houston Values: Caring, Enthusiastic, Friendly, Inclusive and Ambitious

Evaluation Category	Question Type	Questions	Answer (Yes or No)	Campus Rating
Fine Arts	Compliance	Does the campus provide TEKS-based fine arts courses taught by content specialists to meet state and local graduation requirements including the Arts and Humanities Endorsement?	Yes	Exemplary
	Parent	Does the campus provide multiple opportunities for parents and community members to attend public shows & performances?	Yes	
	Parent	Does the campus provide parents with a variety of evidence for evaluating fine arts programs?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus provide fine arts students numerous opportunities to interact with arts experts such as through private lessons, clinics, master classes, and university/community arts collaborations annually?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus provide students with opportunities to promote school and community culture/climate?	Yes	

At Sam Houston all Fine Arts teachers display work, or host performances to illustrate the curriculum being taught. Each Fine Arts teacher engages in rigorous annual training regarding the state mandated specifications that must be taught as part of the curriculum. The visual art program exhibits at the following shows: Youth Art Month at the Appleton Arts Center, DISD Board Room, Denton Arts and Jazz Festival, Sam Houston Fine Arts Night, and the DISD Art Show. The orchestra program hosts three annual concerts and competes at NRH20. The Choir/Music program performs school concerts multiple times throughout the year as well as at the following shows: the Denton County Veteran's Day Program on The Square (in conjunction with UNT/TWU), DISD 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Honor Choir, Sandy Lake Contest, Sam Houston Fine Arts Night, and frequently represent DISD at various events, such as the DISD Superintendent's luncheon. In addition to these the hallways are filled with artwork and parents are always given invitations to attend performances/class times. The Visual Art program hosts three annual art field trips to various art museums in Ft. Worth. The music program offers clinics for choir students, opportunities for students to be in Honor Choir at local, state and national level. Both the music and orchestra directors are professional musicians and play several instruments for students to learn from. The orchestra program includes collaboration with upper level orchestras in the DISD. All fine arts programs participate in contests representing Sam Houston Elementary. All art displays are branded with the school name and information. Sam Houston Elementary is recognized during all community performances. Again, all of the students' hard work is showcased throughout the year.

<b>Evaluation Category</b>	<b>Question Type</b>	<b>Questions</b>	<b>Answer (Yes or No)</b>	<b>Campus Rating</b>
<b>Wellness and PE</b>	<b>Compliance</b>	<b>Does the campus seek information from parents related to food allergies at the time of new student enrollment?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Exemplary</b>
	<b>Parent</b>	<b>Does the campus offer opportunities to participate in community health and wellness events?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
	<b>Parent</b>	<b>Does the campus provide community health and wellness resources and information?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
	<b>Student</b>	<b>Does the campus provide developmentally appropriate bullying prevention education programming?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
	<b>Student</b>	<b>Does the campus have procedures in place to assist students and staff during crises?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	

At Sam Houston the nurse meets with the parents of all students who have food allergies and then again with the parent and the child's teacher to come up with a health plan for the year.

To promote health and wellness at Sam Houston we have Fun Runs, CPR Training, Growth and Development Training, Running Club, EPI Pen Training and Dental Awareness programs, Mental Health Training for all staff by Jessica Dean, School Counselor and Morning Exercise Program to name a few. We also provide parents with information throughout the year about health and wellness information and resources through weekly Parent FYI's that are passed out in English and Spanish and other through other flyers. Our counselor does appropriate bullying education throughout the school year. We practice fire drills, shelter in place drills, evacuation drills and inclement weather drills throughout the year so everyone knows what to do if we have a crises.

<b>Evaluation Category</b>	<b>Question Type</b>	<b>Questions</b>	<b>Answer (Yes or No)</b>	<b>Campus Rating</b>
<b>Community and Parent Involvement</b>	<b>Compliance</b>	<b>Does the campus welcome parents and community members in planning initiatives?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Exemplary</b>
	<b>Parent</b>	<b>Does the campus implement programs to increase parent and community involvement including families without currently enrolled students?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
	<b>Parent</b>	<b>Does the campus have a comprehensive, proactive communication plan to inform community members and parents regarding campus events?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
	<b>Student</b>	<b>Does the campus provide opportunities for students and parents to be actively involved together on campus?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
	<b>Student</b>	<b>Does the campus provide students with opportunities to participate in activities that help the community?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	

At Sam Houston we have a very active PTA that promotes many activities throughout the year for Sam Houston families and families from the community to attend. One activity that many families from the community attend is our Fall Festival. The campus's communication plan includes an informational marquee in the front of the school that is changed regularly, weekly Parent FYI's that are sent home weekly in English and Spanish and emailed home to every family and phone calls out to parents about different events. Teachers and administration email parents and students take home a weekly take home folder that is filled with important information. Parents and students are actively involved together on campus at Field Day, Fall Festival, Grandparents Day, when parents volunteer, at PTA programs, Chess Club, Bee Club, Running Club, Girls in the Game, and at Live Chess Tournaments. Sam Houston students participate in activities that benefit the community by running in 5 K's for different agencies around the city, collecting food for food drives for the local food banks, having artwork on display in public places and singing at Jazz Fest.

<b>Evaluation Category</b>	<b>Question Type</b>	<b>Questions</b>	<b>Answer (Yes or No)</b>	<b>Campus Rating</b>
<b>21st Century Workforce</b>	<b>Elementary Compliance</b>	<b>Does the campus guidance curriculum teach students the interpersonal skills necessary for college/career readiness?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Exemplary</b>
	<b>Secondary Compliance</b>	<b>Do the campus CTE programs include district and community stakeholders in an advisory capacity?</b>	<b>NA</b>	
	<b>Parent</b>	<b>Does the campus actively cultivate business, community, and university partnerships to support 21st century workforce development?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
	<b>Parent</b>	<b>Does the campus have systems in place for including parents in their child's preparation for the 21st century workforce?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
	<b>Student</b>	<b>Does the campus offer enrichment and/or competitive events for the students to reinforce their 21st century workforce skills?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
	<b>Student</b>	<b>Does the campus host "college days," "career days" or other events for students to show interest in post-secondary education?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	

Students at Sam Houston are involved in and exposed to an assortment of activities that reinforce and build a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Workforce. Some of these are: Character Skills Training, Chess Club, Lunch Bunch, Robotics Club, UNT Field Trips, Parent Conferences, Goods and Services Activities, Mini Mall and Yearbook Club. University students come over and work with Houston students for practicum hours. Graduating seniors who are alumnae from Sam Houston are invited to campus to speak to the students about how they reached their goals of graduation and going on to college.

<b>Evaluation Category</b>	<b>Question Type</b>	<b>Questions</b>	<b>Answer (Yes or No)</b>	<b>Campus Rating</b>
<b>Second Language Acquisition</b>	<b>Compliance</b>	<b>Does the campus provide yearly LPAC training for all required staff?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Recognized</b>
	<b>Parent</b>	<b>Does the campus provide opportunities for non-English speaking parents to know about student programs in the school and community?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
	<b>Parent</b>	<b>Does the campus provide communication in both Spanish and English?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
	<b>Student</b>	<b>Does the campus have procedures in place to promote students' exit from BIL/ESL within 5 years of identification in elementary and 3 years of identification in secondary?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
	<b>Student</b>	<b>Does the campus offer opportunities for students to be exposed to multiple languages to promote second language acquisition?</b>	<b>No</b>	

Yearly LPAC training is held at Sam Houston for required staff members. Parent notes are sent home in English and Spanish. Students are exited from the ESL when they pass STAAR, are TELPAS Advanced or higher and are Level 4 on the WMLS. Adult education classes are held on campus for community members who are learning English as a Second Language.

Evaluation Category	Question Type	Questions	Answer (Yes or No)	Campus Rating
Digital Learning Environment	Compliance	Does the campus conduct annual training for students regarding digital citizenship and acceptable use of technology?	Yes	Exemplary
	Parent	Does the campus provide technology training and professional development opportunities for all teachers, parents, and community members?	Yes	
	Parent	Does the campus provide a public Wi-Fi signal that parents and guests can use to connect to online resources?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus utilize specialists in instructional technology to engage teachers and students with technology integration?	Yes	
	Student	Do the campus teachers actively leverage technology to engage students in the learning process?	Yes	

At the beginning of every year all staff and students are trained on digital citizenship and acceptable use of technology. Technology training is available as is public Wi-Fi and online resources. We are a Common Sense Certified School. Sam Houston has an Instruction Technology Specialist to help teachers and students with technology integration. We also leverage technology use at home as part of an extension of the classroom by flipping classroom lessons, providing on-line classroom videos to help parents help their children at home and providing engaging computer programs that can be used at home to reinforce and build the skills the students use at school.

Evaluation Category	Question Type	Questions	Answer (Yes or No)	Campus Rating
Dropout Prevention Strategies	Compliance	Does the campus have a system of intervention ( <i>Response to Intervention</i> ) for supporting all students?	Yes	Exemplary
	Parent	Does the campus direct parents to research/information regarding the relationship between poor attendance and drop-out rates?	Yes	
	Parent	Does the campus provide opportunities for parents that reinforce the importance and value of education to students' futures?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus have a systemic plan for maximizing attendance/minimizing absenteeism?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus utilize age appropriate opportunities to engage students in college and career readiness activities to increase graduation rates/prevent dropouts?	Yes	

Sam Houston has a RTI Committee that meets weekly to discuss ways to support students. The campus works very closely with parents to help them understand the importance of their children having good school attendance and provides help to parents when attendance issues arise. The learning the students do throughout the year is building their college and career readiness.

Evaluation Category	Question Type	Questions	Answer (Yes or No)	Campus Rating
Education Programs for Gifted and Talented Students	Compliance	Does the campus have a systemic plan to ensure that Gifted and Talented teachers meet the professional learning standard for new teachers (30 hours) and for annual updates (6 hours)?	Yes	Exemplary
	Parent	Does the campus provide parents with the opportunity to participate in meaningful experiences related to the education of gifted students?	Yes	
	Parent	Does the campus provide parents with opportunities to participate in the nomination/consideration of students for gifted and talented services?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus provide opportunities for gifted and talented students to participate in extracurricular activities that reinforce a variety of academic and creative skills?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus provide a variety of instructional and support services for gifted and talented students?	Yes	

At Sam Houston the EXPO teacher collects the 30 hours data for every teacher and administrator on the campus and then keeps the documentation. She also collects the information on the updates each year. This documentation is kept in the Expo office at the PDC, as well as on the O drive.

At Sam Houston the EXPO teacher also does a parent information night at Open House. There are also district information nights for both the south and north sides of the district. Parents are invited to participate in class activities such as the Toy Museum.

At Sam Houston the identification and selection of students for participation in the program is determined by a three-step process: (1) referral, (2) assessment, and (3) selection. The final placement decision is made by the District EXPO Selection Committee.

Referrals may come from faculty/staff, parents, community members, or at the secondary level, by self-referral. Please refer to the EXPO website for referring and testing windows. Go to [www.dentonisd.org/expo](http://www.dentonisd.org/expo).

Extracurricular activities at Sam Houston for EXPO students are Chess Club, Choir, Orchestra, and a Robotics club.

A GT student who reads above grade level may go to another grade level to get instruction or help with other students. GT students are engaged daily in a variety of instructional activities that are appropriate for the abilities and interests.

The Denton ISD EXPO Program has a Parent Advisory Committee.