

**Savannah Elementary School  
Denton Independent School District  
Michael McWilliams, Principal  
Community and Student Engagement Survey  
2016 - 2017**

Savannah Elementary is a unique learning community with a dedication and commitment to students, parents and the community. Situated in the Savannah subdivision, we seek to make our school a vital part of the lives of the families we serve. We know why we exist. We exist to ensure learning for all students and provide them with the skills needed to be productive citizens of the global society. The preparation of young minds is our purpose.

Savannah Elementary has several programs available to our students. Student programs include: Savannah Student Council, Running Club, Real Men Read, Art Club, SAG – Savannah Actors Guild, and the Community Clean Up Club. In addition to these extracurricular activities and clubs we also have district programs such as EXPO, Dyslexia, Speech and Language Therapy, Inclusionary Services, Reading Recovery, Literacy Groups, Counseling Small Groups, Individual Counseling, Play Therapy, Social Adjustment Classroom, Music Therapy and much more.

Our staff has collaboratively developed mission, vision, values and goals for our campus. Our mission, vision, values, and goals drive what we do for students, parents and the community here at our school.

**Our Shared Mission is why we exist.**

*“Preparing for the Future, Today!”*

**Our Shared Vision is what we hope to become in the future.**

*Savannah Elementary will become a collaborative community of excellence that challenges students to reach their academic and social potential.*

**Our Shared Values is how we must behave to make our vision a reality.**

***Attitude:** We will maintain a positive environment of encouragement, recognition, humor and fun.*

***Communication:** We will openly interact with each other in a truthful and respectful manner to cultivate trust and productivity without fear of retaliation.*

***Innovation:** We will build a forward-thinking environment that keeps up with technology, best practices, and is open to unconventional ideas.*

***Respect:** We will value each other’s opinions and differences with open-mindedness and tolerance.*

***Team Work:** We will work together toward a common goal by sharing responsibilities while implementing our value system.*

**Our Shared Goal is what we feel we must do first as we embark on this work.**

*Savannah teachers will work to improve the rigor and quality of tier I instruction. Through reflection, assessment of instructional practices, review of formative and summative assessments, professional development and collaboration, we will identify best practices and implement them*

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	Recognized
	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?	No	
	Student	Does the campus provide students with opportunities to promote school and community culture/climate?	Yes	
<p>The district's fine arts curriculum is based on the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills. Our campus offers visual arts, orchestra, music, drama, and choir. Our campus embraces the arts and gives students multiple venues to showcase their work. Students engage in numerous fine arts activities. Activities include: grade level music programs, orchestra concerts, annual art show, end of year talent show, and periodic theatrical productions. In addition, many of our fine arts groups get the opportunity to compete and have always received superior ratings. Our choir performs annually at Six Flags Over Texas as part of their Holiday in the Park Celebration.</p>				

Evaluation Category	Question Type	Questions	Answer (Yes or No)	Campus Rating
Wellness and PE	Compliance	Does the campus seek information from parents related to food allergies at the time of new student enrollment?	Yes	Exemplary
	Parent	Does the campus offer opportunities to participate in community health and wellness events?	Yes	
	Parent	Does the campus provide community health and wellness resources and information?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus provide developmentally appropriate bullying prevention education programming?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus have procedures in place to assist students and staff during crises?	Yes	
<p>Savannah Elementary School fosters a strong commitment to health, wellness, and fitness. As a school, all students are required to engage in an exercise video each morning after announcements. These exercise videos are student-produced and introduce all students to fun, easy ways to be active. Our physical education teacher sponsors an after school running club that engages students, teachers, parents, and community members. The culminating activity for this club is participation in a 5k race. Annually the school sponsors a fun run. Periodically, we offer a salad bar to students. Students are exposed to information that can help and assist them to live a healthy life and to make good food choices. In addition, the school has sponsored a bicycle safety initiative to encourage wearing helmets and participated in school-wide campaigns like Rachel's Challenge and the MOVE program that encourages an active life-style. Emotional health is supported through classroom guidance lessons, counseling groups, mentoring and individual counseling. Parents are given opportunities to participate in Love &amp; Logic training annually.</p>				

<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>Recognized</b>
	<b>Parent</b>	<b>Does the campus implement programs to increase parent and community involvement including families without currently enrolled students?</b>	<b>No</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>	
<p>At Savannah Elementary, we seek to partner with parents and community members. Parents are represented on the Campus Leadership Team. Administration has hosted four Mugs with Mac, town hall type meetings to discuss our campus and get feedback from parents and community leaders. Students benefit from programs like Watch DOGS (Dads of Great Students). In addition, the school hosts several family nights that support science and math. Teachers communicate with parents through weekly newsletters. Administration publishes a monthly newsletter and grade level maintain personal and team webpages, the nurse, principal and assistant principal all have active Twitter accounts, and the school has an active Facebook page. Phone blast and email blast are also utilized to keep our parents informed. As a result of our efforts volunteerism has increased significantly and true partnerships are being formed.</p>				

<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>Acceptable</b>
	<b>Secondary Compliance</b>	<b>Do the campus CTE programs include district and community stakeholders in an advisory capacity?</b>	<b>No</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>No</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>No</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>	
<p>At Savannah we build the foundation of career and college readiness. We expose children to the importance of post-secondary education as early as possible. Our school has college days and career days. Our counselor includes these topics in classroom guidance lessons. These concepts are presented to members of the Savannah Student Council. This is a leadership development program on our campus that emphasizes topics such as organization, effective communication, team building, conflict resolution, and community service. As a campus, students have participated in can food drives, sock drives, pet food drives and other activities that impact our community.</p>				

<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>No</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>	

Savannah is an ESL campus. All teachers have been trained in strategies that have proven success with ESL students. Parents that require information translated into their home language are targeted and often given vital information one on one or in small groups. Parents who require this support represent less than 5% of our population.

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

At the beginning of each school year, the Student Code of Conduct and Technology Acceptable Use Policy is distributed to parents and students. This information is also available online. We highlight these policies in our parent and staff handbooks as well. Realizing the importance of technology literacy, our school encourages the use of technology to engage young learners. Increasing their technology competency is vital and done daily. Many of our classrooms utilize Nooks and iPads for instruction. Our PTA has recently provided two new iPads for each classroom on our campus. Students are given the opportunity to use technology daily in our labs and classroom computer stations. Numerous web-based learning programs are also used. Students have access to Classworks, iStation, Think Through Math and other learning websites both at home and at school. Our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students have the opportunity to apply for the Media Club. 5<sup>th</sup> grade students produce our daily announcement broadcast.

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	Recognized
	Parent	Does the campus direct parents to research/information regarding the relationship between poor attendance and drop-out rates?	No	
	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	

At Savannah Elementary, we incorporate several proactive strategies to support students on their trek toward graduation. This is not optional. We have a defined Response to Intervention process. The Student Intervention Team, a group of eight teachers, created professional development, intervention menus, and daily support of their peers to ensure the Response to Intervention process on our campus plays a vital role. We have operated as a professional learning community for 5 years. Teachers are aware that RTI is the work of the PLC. Much focus is placed on the quality of tier I instruction and the identification of best practices. The importance of school is communicated to students, parents, and the community. We utilize career days, college days, and classroom guidance to emphasize it. Clubs that address academic areas such as GLAM (Girls Learning about Math), Lab Ladies (a girls science club), and Real Men Read (a boys book club) target specific populations and their specific needs.

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 Savannah Elementary there are many support services and learning opportunities provided to enhance the academic experience of our students. All teachers of GT students have earned specialized professional designations through the completion of additional coursework and annual trainings in the field of gifted education. Parent support is encouraged through information boards, online orientation, newsletters and website. GT students benefit from EXPO classes and differentiated instruction within the general education classroom.