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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, March 31, 2016

### Lancaster ISD Students Inducted into National Elementary Honor Society

**Lancaster, TX/Lancaster ISD** – The Lancaster Independent School District’s College and Career Readiness Department recently held its inaugural National Elementary Honor Society (NEHS) ceremony. This evening celebrated academic excellence and the induction of 100 fourth graders and fifth graders from the district’s seven elementary campuses into the NEHS.

“NEHS is the first district-wide, national organization that our elementary students can join based on high academic achievement,” Lancaster ISD College and Career Readiness Director Creslond Fannin said. “My hope is that our students are prepared for the next step in life and will always honor the principles of the NEHS.”

Parents, siblings and supporters filled the Elsie Robertson Lancaster Middle school auditorium to watch as students were inducted as the newest members of NEHS walk across the stage to receive their certificate of membership and official NEHS membership card.



“It makes me feel good to know that the district is doing a really good job educating my son,” Lancaster ISD parent Ronald Anthony said. “Watching my son walk across the stage for his academic achievement is what a parent wants to see. This is only the beginning for him, and I am proud to be here.”

Cedar Valley College Phi Theta Kappa President, Alma Renteria, praised the inductees for their academic success during her keynote speech. She encouraged students to always want to improve and to always dream.



“Dreams don’t work unless you do, she said. “You should always dream, but as you reach that level of success, remain humble and thank your parents.”

Students who meet the requirements set by the NEHS are eligible to be invited for membership and partake in the local selection process. Qualification for membership is based on the four pillars of the organization: Scholarship, Responsibility, Leadership, and Service. Students must maintain grades that are equivalent to a standard of excellence set by the school district and NEHS.

Lancaster ISD parent Donnie Beck believes this organization will help his daughter establish academic goals throughout her educational journey.

“My daughter is in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade and is already planning to be in the National Honor Society in high school,” he said. “My wife and I are proud alumni of Lancaster ISD and this is why our children attend school here. They believe in educating and celebrating our children.”

Students who receive the honor of being inducted into NEHS are also required to attend chapter meetings and participate in service projects that benefit the school and community.

“This is a win-win situation for a student who wants to achieve academically and become well-rounded individuals,” Belt Line Information Systems and Software Design Academy Principal Alton Jackson said. “It promotes academic excellence, which is what Lancaster ISD is passionate about.”



To date, all Lancaster ISD elementary campuses currently have an active NEHS chapter. The students at Pleasant Run Global Arts Communication and Entrepreneurship Academy are proud students of the campus that started the first Lancaster ISD NEHS campus chapter in 2015. This campus is currently in its second year of active NEHS chapter membership. Parents and students on all campuses can contact their campus counselor about the chapter membership process and student qualifications.

*The Lancaster Independent School District serves more than 7,000 pre-kindergarten through grade 12 students in 11 schools. Our vision is that all students achieve self-sustaining success and leave a lasting legacy. And our mission, in collaboration with parents and communities, is to ignite learning that translates into sustainable success for all students in an ever-changing society.*