

Mount Calm Independent School District

"Home of the Panthers"

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TEA releases preliminary 2016-2017 financial accountability ratings

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AUSTIN – The Texas Education Agency (TEA) has released preliminary financial accountability ratings for approximately 1,200 school districts and charters across the state, with almost 82 percent of all Texas school districts and charters earning the highest preliminary rating possible for 2016-2017.

Created by the 77th Texas Legislature in 2001, the School Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST) is designed to encourage public schools to better manage their financial resources to provide the maximum allocation possible for direct instructional purposes.

The 2016-2017 ratings are based on annual financial reports provided to TEA by districts and charters from the 2016 fiscal year. The financial accountability system requires TEA to review the audited financial reports from all districts and charters.

The FIRST ratings are based on 15 financial indicators, such as administrative cost expenditures; the accuracy of a district or charter's financial information submitted to TEA; and any financial vulnerabilities or material weaknesses in internal controls as determined by an external auditor.

Based on the submitted information, a school district or charter is assigned one of four possible letter grades (A, B, C or F), as well as a coinciding financial management ratings – Superior, Above Standard Achievement, Meets Standard or Substandard Achievement. For 2016-2017, the preliminary FIRST ratings are as follows:

Preliminary Rating	Districts	%
Superior (A)	853	83.46%
Above Standard Achievement (B)	121	11.84%
Meets Standard (C)	43	4.21%
Substandard Achievement (F)	5	0.49%
Total	1,022	100.00%

MOUNT CALM ISD WAS RATED SUPERIOR IN THE FINANCIAL INTEGRITY SYSTEM OF TEXAS WITH A SCORE OF 100!