

January 25, 2010

Dear Students and Parents of Elkins High School,

I hope that your new year has gotten off to a great start. Before you know it, the **Class of 2010** will be reaching the next milestone in their lives as high school graduates. With the beginning of our Spring Semester, come several items important to all Elkins students. Please review carefully this letter and note all issues relevant for your student.

Graduation Requirements - For those of you who have students scheduled to graduate **June 5, 2010**, I hope you enjoy this last semester at Elkins. **This is a reminder that students must meet all graduation requirements in order to participate in the commencement ceremony.** Parents of seniors, I highly encourage you to contact your student's counselor if you have any questions or concerns about meeting graduation requirements. Our counselors will be glad to review with you exactly what is needed to complete graduation requirements and to participate in the commencement ceremonies. Be reminded that each student must meet standard/pass in all areas of the Exit Level TAKS test in order to participate in graduation exercises.

Course Selection Evening – Tuesday, February 2, 2010, for parents of students currently in the 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th grades. Elkins teachers will be present, and information will be shared regarding student course selections for next year. The program will run from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Senior parents may meet in the library for a FAFSA presentation on financial aid.

Spring Open House – Tuesday, March 9th from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. 2010 promises to be an exciting year of change, growth, and opportunity! Join us for our Spring Open House Program, "Discovering the Arts" which will showcase our exceptionally talented students. This program will take place in the commons.

TAKS (Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills) tests will be given according to the following schedule:

- **March 3, 2010: English Language Arts Grades 10, English Language Arts Exit Level (grade 11), and Reading Grade 9**
- **April 27, 2010: Mathematics Grade 10**
- **April 28, 2010: Mathematics Exit Level (grade 11)**
- **April 29, 2010: Mathematics Grade 9, Science Grade 10, and Exit Level Science (grade 11)**
- **April 30, 2010: Social Studies Grade 10 and Exit Level Social Studies (grade 11)**

Seniors who have passed the TAKS test will report to school at noon on March 3rd, April 27th, April 28th, April 29th and April 30th. Seniors will report directly to the Elkins Commons on these dates. Seniors who do not come to school at noon on these days will be marked absent for the entire day, and these absences will count against final exam exemptions.

Also, please be reminded that **March 3rd is SACK LUNCH and DRINK Day at Elkins.** Lunch will not be served in the cafeteria. We will instead provide a break for lunch in the TAKS testing classrooms. Students should bring a sack lunch **and drink** from home. Students who do not bring a sack lunch will be able to

order one the morning of March 3rd from the Elkins Cafeteria for \$1.55. Students on free/reduced lunch may also order a sack lunch for free or the usual reduced rate.

No deliveries - In order to maintain a secure and quiet testing environment, we will NOT be able to deliver any lunches brought to school by family or friends.

Cell Phones on Testing Days - Due to a directive from the Texas Education Agency, all school districts in the state must develop a cell phone/testing policy. FBISD has developed a new cell phone usage policy (FNCE-R) **specifically for state testing days**. Increasingly, the illegal use of telecommunication devices during TAKS and state testing has become a serious concern. The use and possession of these devices on a testing day creates serious test security risks. In direct response to this concern and in an effort to minimize this security risk, the procedure listed below will be strictly enforced during all state testing dates.

On State Testing Days – All telecommunication devices (i.e. cell phone, PDA, pager, Ipod, etc.) are to be turned off and kept out of sight—it is best to keep them completely out of school on these days. If a student is discovered with such a device at any time during the testing period (preparing for test, actively testing or waiting for dismissal from testing room) the device will be immediately confiscated and the student will have the following consequences:

- **Cell phone will be confiscated and turned over to an Elkins Administrator. You will be required to pay a \$15 fine to get the device back and discipline may be issued.**
- **Test will not be scored and the student will miss the opportunity to take and pass that section of the TAKS test during this testing window.**

TAKS Tutorials - It is very important for all 9th, 10th, and 11th graders to be successful on the TAKS test. If your student is recommended for **TAKS Tutorials**, it is extremely important that he/she attends regularly.

The stakes are high as we enter this season of testing and graduation preparations. With this season, we must require deep commitment and investment from ourselves, each family, and the student. Our entire Elkins Community is the key to this success.

I look forward to seeing you all at Course Selection Evening on February 2nd!

Sincerely,



Barbara Whitaker
Principal

Incl: information regarding exemptions & the school report card

January 25, 2010

Dear Parent,

Attached you will find a copy of the State of Texas 2008-09 School Report Card for Lawrence E. Elkins High School. This is a report required by the Texas Legislature and prepared by the Texas Education Agency. It is to be sent to the parent or guardian of every child enrolled in the public schools. The report provides information concerning student performance as well as information concerning expenditures, average class size, and student/teacher ratios.

The information contained in the School Report Card is required by state law and is briefly described in the enclosed "2008-09 School Report Card Definitions." The report for our school may or may not have all the information described, because the information presented depends on whether the school is an elementary, middle, or high school.

State law requires that the information be provided for the state, the district, the school, and a group of schools similar to our school. Where possible, the information must be reported by ethnicity and socio-economic status of the students and must include at least two years of results.

The School Report Cards can be found on the internet at:

<http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/perfreport/src/2009/campus.srch.html>

A more complete report about Lawrence E. Elkins High School, the Academic Excellence Indicator System (AEIS) report, is available by contacting my office or can be accessed online at:

<http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/perfreport/aeis/2009/index.html>

Please contact me if you have any questions concerning this report card. Thank you for your continued support of Lawrence E. Elkins High School.

Sincerely,



Barbara Whitaker, Principal
Lawrence E. Elkins High School

Enclosures

January 25, 2010

Estimado Padre de Familia:

Adjunto a esta carta encontrará una copia del reporte de las Calificaciones Escolares del Estado de Texas 2008-09 para Lawrence E. Elkins High School. Estas Calificaciones Escolares son requeridas por la Legislatura del Estado de Texas y preparadas por el departamento de educación estatal. Este reporte debe ser mandado a los padres o al guardián/mentor de cada estudiante inscrito en una escuela pública. Estas calificaciones proveen información concerniente al progreso académico de los estudiantes y también otra información sobre su escuela como gastos, tamaño promedio del salón escolar y las tasas de estudiantes por maestro.

La ley estatal requiere que la información en estas calificaciones sea diseminada. Usted encontrará una breve descripción en el adjunto en las "Definiciones de las Calificaciones Escolares 2008-09". El reporte que ha recibido puede *o no* contener toda la información descrita en estas definiciones pues el reportaje de estos datos depende de si la escuela es una primaria, secundaria o preparatoria.

La ley estatal también requiere que la información sea provista a nivel del estado, del distrito escolar, nuestra escuela, y del grupo de escuelas con similares características a la nuestra. Esta información debe ser reportada, en tanto sea posible, por grupo étnico y estatus socioeconómico de los estudiantes y debe de incluir por lo menos dos años de resultados.

También puede encontrar estas calificaciones (*school report card*) en la internet bajo:

<http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/perfreport/src/2009/campus.srch.html>

Usted puede obtener un reporte más completo sobre nuestra escuela *LAWRENCE E. ELKINS HIGH SCHOOL* en el informe del Sistema de Índices de Excelencia Académica (AEIS) ya sea que lo pida aquí en la escuela, o lo puede obtener en el internet bajo:

<http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/perfreport/aeis/2009/index.html>

Por favor póngase en contacto con nosotros si tiene cualquier pregunta concerniente a este reporte de calificaciones escolares. Le agradezco su constante apoyo de *LAWRENCE E. ELKINS HIGH SCHOOL*.

Sinceramente,



Barbara Whitaker, director(a)
Lawrence E. Elkins High School

Documentos adjuntos

2008-09 School Report Card

School Name: LAWRENCE E ELKINS HS

School Number: 079907006

2009 School Accountability Rating: Recognized

Gold Performance Acknowledgments:

*Commended on Social Studies
Comparable Improvement: Reading/ELA & Mathematics*

District Name: FORT BEND ISD

2009 District Accountability Rating: Academically Acceptable

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