

Northwest ISD
Exemplar Educator
2026-2027

Purpose:

Teachers do amazing work every day in schools across Northwest ISD. Great teachers inspire future generations and shape the future every day. Honoring Exemplar Educators provides us with the opportunity to recognize and celebrate these extraordinary educators.

Recognition:

Northwest ISD teachers, counselors, and librarians (educators) are eligible to be recognized annually as Exemplar Educators. Deserving educators are nominated and one educator is selected as the campus Exemplar Educator. Exemplar Educators will be honored at the campus and district level. Once recognized as Exemplar Educators, these teachers will continue to be honored for excellence by the district. From all Exemplar Educators, one elementary and one secondary educator will be selected to represent all NISD Exemplar Educators as the NISD Elementary or Secondary Teacher of the Year. These individuals will represent all NISD teachers at the Region and State level.

Nomination Process:

Teachers, counselors, and librarians may be nominated for consideration by students, parents, community members, or administrators. Nomination forms should be submitted to the principal of the campus where the educator works. Each campus will score nominations and select one educator to represent the campus as an Exemplar Educator.

Eligibility:

Nominees must be at the time of the nomination:

- Full-time teachers, counselors, and librarians in Northwest ISD
    a. Nominee must be employed as of September 1 of the current school year
    b. Counselors and Librarians must teach a minimum of 4 hours per day
- Work directly with students on a daily basis
- Demonstrate a high level of exemplary teacher preparation based on their Edugence Professional Development Profile.
- Have a demonstrated record as a cohort or instructional leader.

Selection Criteria:

Selection criteria for the Campus Exemplar Educator will include recommendations and data sources that support the candidate's accomplishments in the following areas:

- Fosters the development of students and their intellectual, social, emotional, and physical growth
- Creates a learning environment that stimulates student creativity
- Motivates students to exceed their own expectations
- Attends to individual student needs
- Works collaboratively with colleagues
- Demonstrates in-depth knowledge of subject matter and curriculum
- Embraces professional growth opportunities
- Achieves positive results in student achievement measures
- Demonstrates a commitment and caring for the well-being of students and colleagues, thereby contributing to a positive school and district climate
- Introduces or applies successful or proven practices or approaches in his/her classroom
- Adapts approaches to meet the needs of students
- Champions successful instructional strategies throughout the school
- Develops teacher resources or materials that support existing practices
- Positively impacts colleagues, campus, and the community
- Exhibits leadership by demonstrating a vision for use of technology to support learning
- Demonstrates leadership in promoting the Northwest ISD vision for classroom instruction, technology integration, and student performance
- Contributes to the effectiveness, vitality, and self-renewal of the teaching profession on their campus, across the district and state