

CBS 42

Reporter: Annalisa Petralia

More Austin schools participating in TAKS incentive program

Central Texans will get an update about a pilot program that rewards Austin teachers with extra cash for classroom success Wednesday afternoon.

Austin school district officials will make an announcement regarding AISD REACH, an incentive program that gives strategic compensation payouts to teachers and principals at schools showing improvement in TAKS testing results.

In 2007, AISD launched the REACH pilot program to test its success in some Austin schools. This year, eleven campuses are now participating in the program.

Austin school officials say the goal is to use the financial incentives to improve the quality of education in schools, better retain teachers while giving educators more opportunities for professional growth.

Right now, teachers participating in the REACH pilot program who have been working at their campus for more than three years will receive \$1,500. Those who are teaching fewer than three years at the campus will receive \$500 and school principals will be paid \$1,500.

A total of 18 Austin schools will take part in the program in the 2008–2009 school year, compared to the 11 that participated before.

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