

The Texas Business and Education Honor Roll: What It Is and Why It Is

Too often, recognizing our public schools for academic achievement takes a back seat to winning championships on the athletic field. Also too often, the media seems to headline any event that has a negative slant, while rarely showcasing our many outstanding schools and their accomplishments.

The Texas Business and Education Coalition (TBEC) Honor Roll recognizes schools for academic performance and honors those students, teachers, principals, and superintendents who have won their championships in the classroom.

There are various ways for a school to be recognized for academic performance. In some cases the school must apply for the award, such as the “No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon” award. Others, such as the Texas Education Agency’s Gold Performance Acknowledgements and accountability rating system, recognize achievement in a specific subject area or for improvement over the preceding year.

Being named a TBEC Honor Roll school is the most prestigious academic award given in Texas. “Schools get on our honor roll the old fashioned way, they earn it,” says TBEC’s former Business Chair, Jack Lowe. And, says former Houston ISD Superintendent, Dr. Abelardo Saaverda, “The TBEC Honor Roll is the Gold Standard of Academic Excellence...”

TBEC identifies Honor Roll schools by analyzing three years of performance data for every public school in Texas. A TBEC Honor Roll school must have a high percentage of students meeting state standards on every TAKS test for three consecutive years. That’s the easy part. TBEC Honor Roll schools must also perform at the state’s most rigorous standard – *commended* – in ALL subjects. The selection criteria also considers the school’s demographics, number of subjects tested and grade levels.

It is a great honor to be selected as a TBEC Honor Roll school because the school has achieved academic excellence year in and year out, displaying the energy, innovation, determination, and teamwork that motivates, challenges, and prepares students for the future.

TBEC Honor Roll Schools: 2011 Criteria

To earn recognition as a TBEC Honor Roll School, Texas’ most prestigious academic award, schools are evaluated on the state’s highest standard. The TBEC Honor Roll considers *Commended Performance* as the basis for determining which schools make the grade.

Each school is evaluated based on its commended performance over the past three years with the most recent year’s score being double weighted. Campus level TAKS data provided by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) are used in calculating the TBEC Score.

The formula for determining the TBEC Score is:

Percent Commended All Subjects-Actual (PCAS) + Percent Commended Reading (PCR) + Percent Commended Math (PCM) + Percent Commended Writing (PCW) + Percent Commended Science (PCS) divided by the Number of Subjects Tested (NST) + One

$PCAS+PCR+PCM+PCW+PCS/NST+One=TBEC\ Score$

If a school tested only reading and math the formula would look like this:

$PCAS+PCR+PCM/3=TBEC\ Score$

This calculation is made for 2009, 2010 and 2011 (doubled).

Determining the TBEC Score:

$2009\ TBEC\ Score+2010\ TBEC\ Score+2(2011\ TBEC\ Score)/4=TBEC\ Score$

The table below lists the economic quintiles with the required TBEC Score for campus grade configuration. Numbers in parenthesis represent minimum percent required passing All Tests at the commended level for 2011.

Minimum TBEC Scores

Quintile	% Economically Disadvantage	Elem	TBEC Score Required MS	HS
First	00-19 Percent	64 (52)	63 (39)	45 (34)
Second	20-39 Percent	51 (41)	53 (36)	31 (25)
Third	40-59 Percent	46 (36)	38 (31)	25 (22)
Fourth	60-79 Percent	42 (30)	35 (25)	20 (21)
Fifth	80-100 Percent	41 (21)	30 (22)	12 (21)

“The TBEC Honor Roll is the Gold Standard of academic excellence...”

Dr. Abelardo Saaverda
Former Houston ISD Superintendent

