

**June 16, 2022**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Scott Muri, Ed. D., the superintendent of Ector County Independent School District, has been named the Superintendent of the Year by the Region 18 Education Service Center. Dr. Muri, who has led ECISD since 2019, is a true leader, an innovator, and an agent for change. His 33 years of experience in public education includes key leadership roles in large districts like Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools in North Carolina and Fulton County Schools in Atlanta, Georgia as well as in unique settings such as Walt Disney's Celebration School in Celebration, FL. Throughout his career, Dr. Muri has demonstrated a passion and ability for leading change, improving organizational effectiveness, and significantly improving student achievement while closing achievement gaps. With a focus on working cooperatively with all community groups, Dr. Muri creates a positive and effective teaching and learning environment. Some of the improvements achieved and accomplishments earned since Dr. Muri joined ECISD are:

- Reduced teacher vacancies from 356 to 51 in two years
- Increased kindergarten readiness by 13%
- Increased SAT score by 40 points, exceeding the state score by 15 points
- Increased the College, Career, Military Readiness score by 7 points
- Increased the graduation rate to highest in over 20 years, 85.5%
- Became the 1<sup>st</sup> school district in the United States to partner with SpaceX to bring high speed, affordable broadband to students and families
- Received in excess of \$50 million in grant funds to support the district's strategic plan implementation
- Enabled teachers to earn over \$100,000 in annual compensation through incentive like Teacher Incentive Allotment and Opportunity Culture
- Received perfect score of 100 for last two years on the Texas Education Agency's FIRST financial report
- Appointed by Texas Governor Greg Abbott to the State Board of Educator Certification (SBEC)
- Appointed by Lt Governor Dan Patrick to the Broadband Development Office Board of Advisors
- Named by the Dallas Morning News as a finalist for Texan of the Year for leadership following the Odessa mass shooting

Dr. Muri's teaching career included stints in elementary school, and as a middle school math/science teacher. He was one of the first teachers in the nation to be certified by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, considered the gold standard for teacher professional learning.

Sponsored by TASB, the Superintendent of the Year program has recognized exemplary superintendents for excellence and achievement in educational leadership since 1984. Candidates are chosen for their strong leadership skills, dedication to improving educational

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quality, ability to build effective employee relations, student performance, and commitment to public involvement in education.

Superintendents from any of the state's local school districts are eligible for nomination by their school boards. Local nominees are submitted to a regional selection committee, which chooses one nominee to send to the state selection committee.