

Fiscal Year 2004-2005



Rio Grande City CISD Receives Highest Financial Rating

Rio Grande City CISD received the highest possible rating under the Texas' Schools FIRST financial accountability rating system. The district was given a Superior Achievement rating, confirming its excellence in managing and reporting taxpayer dollars.

This is the fourth year of Schools FIRST (Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas), a system developed by the Texas Education Agency in response to Senate Bill 875 of the 76th Texas Legislature in 1999. Schools FIRST seeks to ensure quality performance in the management of school financial resources. The recently-announced ratings were based on financial numbers from the 2004-2005 school year.

How Does FIRST Work?

The FIRST rating shows that schools are accountable not only for students learning, but also for achieving these results cost-effectively and efficiently.

The FIRST rating system assigns one of four financial accountability ratings to Texas school districts base on 21 indicators:

- Superior Achievement
- Above Standard Achievement
- Standard Achievement
- Substandard Achievement

Districts with serious data quality problems may receive the additional rating of "Suspended-Data Quality."

What Determines a District's Rating?

Ratings are determined based on the number of indicators that a district responds to negatively. If the district answered no to indicators 1, 2, or 3 or if the district answered no to both indicators 4 and 5 then the district automatically receives a "Substandard Achievement" rating.

District Rating	Indicators answered NO
Superior Achievement	0-2
Above-Standard Achievement	3-4
Standard Achievement	5-6
Substandard Achievement	7 +

Rio Grande City CISD (214901)

Superior Achievement

#	INDICATOR DESCRIPTION	RESULT
1	Was The Total Fund Balance Less Reserved Fund Balance Greater Than Zero In The General Fund? Result Yes	YES
2	Were There No Disclosures In The Annual Financial Report And/Or Other Sources Of Information Concerning Default On Bonded Indebtedness Obligations?	YES
3	Was The Annual Financial Report Filed Within One Month After November 27th or January 28th Deadline Depending Upon The District's Fiscal Year End Date (June 30th or August 31st)?	YES
4	Was There An Unqualified Opinion in Annual Financial Report?	YES
5	Did The Annual Financial Report Not Disclose Any Instance(s) Of Material Weaknesses In Internal Controls?	YES
6	Was The Percent Of Total Tax Collections (Including Delinquent) Greater Than 96%?	YES
7	Did The Comparisons Of PEIMS Data To Like Information In Annual Financial Report Result In An Aggregate Variance Of Less Than 4 Percent Of Expenditures Per Fund Type (Data Quality Measure)?	YES
8	Were Debt Related Expenditures (Net Of IFA And/Or EDA Allotment) < \$770.00 Per Student? (If The District's Five-Year Percent Change In Students = Or > 2%, Or If Property Taxes Collected Per Penny Of Tax Effort > \$100,000, Then Answer This Indicator Yes)	YES
9	Was There No Disclosure In The Annual Audit Report Of Material Non-compliance?	YES
10	Did The District Have Full Accreditation Status In Relation To Financial Management Practices? (e.g. No Master Or Monitor Assigned)	YES
11	Was The Percent Of Operating Expenditures Expended For Instruction More Than 54%?	YES
12	Was The Aggregate Of Budgeted Expenditures And Other Uses Less Than The Aggregate Of Total Revenues, Other Resources and Fund Balance In General Fund?	YES
13	If The District's Aggregate Fund Balance In The General Fund And Capital Projects Fund Was Less Than Zero, Were Construction Projects Adequately Financed? (To Avoid Creating Or Adding To The Fund Balance Deficit Situation)	YES

Rio Grande City CISD (214901)

Superior Achievement

#	INDICATOR DESCRIPTION	RESULT
14	Was The Ratio Of Cash And Investments To Deferred Revenues (Excluding Amount Equal To Net Delinquent Taxes Receivables) In The General Fund = Or > 1:1? (If Deferred Revenues < Net Delinquent Taxes Receivable, Then Answer This Indicator Yes)	YES
15	Was The Administrative Cost Ratio Less Than The Standard In State Law?	YES
16	Was The Ratio Of Students To Teachers Within the Ranges Shown Below According To District Size?	YES
17	Was The Ratio Of Students To Total Staff Within the Ranges Shown Below According To District Size?	NO
18	Was The Total Fund Balance In The General Fund More Than 50% And Less Than 150% Of Optimum According To The Fund Balance And Cash Flow Calculation Worksheet In The Annual Financial Report?	YES
19	Was The Decrease In Undesignated Unreserved Fund Balance < 20% Over Two Fiscal Years?(If 1.5 Times Optimum Fund Balance < Total Fund Balance In General Fund Or If Total Revenues > Operating Expenditures In The General Fund, Then Answer This Indicator Yes)	YES
20	Was The Aggregate Total Of Cash And Investments In The General Fund More Than \$0?	YES
21	Were Investment Earnings In All Funds More Than \$15 Per Student?	YES

DETERMINATION OF RATING

A Did The District Answer No To Indicators 1, 2, Or 3? Or Did The District Answer No To Both 4 and 5? If Answered No To Either, The District's Rating Is Substandard Achievement.

B Determine Rating By Applicable Range For The Number Of Indicators Answered No:

SUPERIOR ACHIEVEMENT	0-2
ABOVE STANDARD ACHIEVEMENT	3-4
STANDARD ACHIEVEMENT	5-6
SUBSTANDARD ACHIEVEMENT	7+