

Rachel Frost  
Chief Communications Officer  
Phone: 817.691.4084  
Email: rachel.frost@region10.org

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **MIDDLE SCHOOLS AWARDED FOR EXCELLENCE IN STEM EDUCATION**

**Richardson, TX (Sept. 24, 2024)** – Ten middle school principals across Region 10 will receive cash awards in excess of \$7,000 for their Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) programs as part of the new Middle School Principal STEM Award. The award – made possible through a partnership between Region 10 ESC, Communities Foundation of Texas, Educate Texas, and a group of STEM professionals across North Texas – aims to identify and celebrate middle school principals who are driving excellence in STEM teaching and learning.

“By recognizing and supporting these innovative principals, we’re acknowledging their exceptional work and investing in the future of STEM education across our region,” said Dr. Jana Melsheimer, Region 10 ESC Executive Director. “Their visionary approaches will undoubtedly inspire and guide other schools in enhancing STEM learning opportunities for all students.”

Region 10 Board Member Eric Reeves, who was the driving force behind the partnerships that made this award possible, announced the list of recipients during the Region 10 Texas EcosySTEM Exchange event earlier today.

“We want to study the best practices and learn from these principals and teams and share our learning throughout Region 10 and the state,” Reeves said. “We fervently hope that STEM scores improve. It is important that students have access to STEM jobs and college readiness, and that we work to close achievement gaps. Middle school STEM courses are the launchpads for that work.”

The winners of the 2024 Middle School Principal STEM Award are:

### Large District:

- Frisco ISD - Lawler Middle School
- Dallas ISD - William B. Travis Academy
- Dallas ISD - Sudie L. Williams TAG Academy

### Suburban:

- Wylie ISD - Cooper Jr. High
- Sunnyvale ISD - Sunnyvale Middle School

- Coppell ISD - Coppell Middle North

Rural:

- Bells ISD - Pritchard Jr. High School
- Van Alstyne ISD - Van Alstyne Junior High
- Melissa ISD - Melissa Middle School

Charter:

- UME Preparatory Academy, Dallas

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