



August 15, 2018

Dear Parents and Families:

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year!

We are so excited to welcome our Widén Wilcats back to school! Teachers and staff members have been hard at work getting ready to welcome our amazing students. We are going to have a wonderful year!

Today, the Texas Education Agency released the 2018 campus and district accountability results. This year, we received a numeric score for Overall Performance and in each of four performance areas: Student Achievement, School Progress Part A, School Progress Part B, and Closing the Gaps. Our campus results are as follows:

<i>Performance Area</i>	<i>Numeric Score</i>
Overall Performance	61 (59)
Student Achievement	55
School Progress Part A	62
School Progress Part B	57
Closing the Gaps	59

While our campus received an overall score of 61, which is above the state target, we are rated Improvement Required because of a new rule added on July 20th. A campus with scores of 59 or below in three of the four performance areas will automatically be assigned an overall score of 59 and rated *Improvement Required* regardless of the actual Overall Performance numeric score.

This is a complex system that is a snapshot based on data from one day in time. Additionally, how the data is analyzed has changed multiple times throughout this process. While we appreciate the metrics, this snapshot does not capture all that we are doing for students that make them college-, career-, and life-ready, such as the impact of social and emotional learning, arts education, athletics, and college readiness.

There are many measures of success and the state assessment is one of them. Literacy remains a focus as students will read, write, listen, and speak daily. We are proud of our accomplishments and successes this past school year:

- We had double-digit gains in 3rd grade reading and math
- We had double digit gains in 4th grade reading, math, and writing.
- We had double digit gains in 5th grade science.
- We had double digit gains in primary reading.

These gains are outstanding, and we look forward to even more gains this year!

Please join us at our Back to School Night on Thursday, September 13th, from 5:00-6:30 pm, where we will provide more information. Please contact us at 512-414-2556 if you have any questions. Widén families are amazing, and I am so honored to continue to be part of the school community again this year. Please feel free to reach out to me as needed this year!

Thank you for your continued support of Widén Elementary School!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Pace
Principal