

June 23, 2026

The Honor of My Life

Dear Hays CISD Family,

It has been the honor of my life to serve as your superintendent. Today, I am announcing that I will retire, effective at the end of February 2027. (Link to Formal News Release: www.hayscisd.net/ewretires)

Nearly 40 years have passed since I first walked into a classroom as a teacher. In one sense, I can't believe how fast time moves. In another, those many, many years have been filled so full that it doesn't seem that 40 are enough to contain all of the joy and gratitude I have experienced through the passing seasons. My educational career has been blessed with endless inspirational moments from students first discovering their talents, days watching educators grow as champions for the cause of teaching and learning, and the pride that comes with furthering the essential mission of public education as an indispensable component of our democracy.

It is my hope that I leave Hays CISD in a place that makes you as proud of the district as I am. We have – together – risen to meet some of the toughest challenges facing students and communities, but have also surpassed our own expectations countless times – in large and small ways – to achieve the most amazing victories. In the end, if what we do delivers opportunity to our students – our children – then we have indeed made the greatest and most lasting contribution of all.

During the fall semester, I will assist the Board of Trustees in finding the next Hays CISD superintendent of schools. And, of course, we will continue with the business of daily operations and focusing energy on long-term aspirations for which the mantle will eventually pass to the next generation of district leadership.

I shall miss the thousands of amazing teachers, staff, school board members, and administrators I am lucky enough to work with every day. I will miss our parents and community members who fiercely support our school district. And, yes, I too will miss our parents and community members who challenge us to do better with the same fervor and passion. We all come from a place of wanting what is best for Hays CISD, and it takes everyone – the full array of ideas – to make our magic happen. Most of all, I will miss the students and their excitement as they begin to learn about and understand the world.

I am able to retire at this time because I am confident the district is in a good place – solid in its academic achievement and sound in its finances. Though I will be retiring, I won't be ending my advocacy for public education. In some yet undefined form – that will continue.

For now, I hope you have a relaxing rest of the summer, and we'll see you back – before you know it – in August.

Eric