



GOOSE CREEK

CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

IMPACT ECHS Receives Bronze Medal

U.S. News & World Report recently announced the 2015 Best High Schools rankings, highlighting top-performing public schools on a state and national level.

Goose Creek CISD's IMPACT Early College High School received a bronze medal, based on data from the 2012-2013 school year.

After conducting an evaluation of more than 21,000 schools across the country in conjunction with RTI International, a North Carolina-based research firm, U.S. News awarded 6,517 medals.

In Texas, 1,664 schools were awarded medals, with 223 schools receiving either silver or gold medals and 1,441 receiving bronze. Texas schools received a total of 59 gold medals, second only to California schools, which garnered 95. IMPACT ECHS may now proudly display its bronze medal on the school's website.

Public high schools were evaluated using students' performance on the math and reading parts of their state proficiency tests as the benchmarks. After factoring in the percentages of economically disadvantaged students enrolled at the schools, the evaluation team identified schools performing better than statistically expected.

Schools were then assessed as to whether their disadvantaged students were outperforming disadvantaged students in their state.

Finally, schools that made it through the first two steps were eligible to be judged nationally on college-readiness performance by using Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate test data.



Laura Reyes (left), IMPACT Early College High School principal, and Anthony Price, Goose Creek CISD deputy superintendent, study the floor plan of the new IMPACT, which will open in August, during a recent tour of the campus.

"The U.S. News comprehensive rankings methodology is based on these key principles: that a great high school must serve all of its students well, not just those who are college bound, and that it must be able to produce measurable academic outcomes to show it is successfully educating its student body across a range of performance indicators," said Robert Morse, chief data strategist for U.S. News & World Report.

IMPACT Early College High School opened in 2009, and its first graduating class in 2014 included many students who had already received associate degrees from Lee College.

"We are extremely pleased that IMPACT ECHS was awarded a bronze medal in the U.S. News & World Report's 2015 Best High Schools rankings," said Randal O'Brien, Goose Creek CISD superintendent. "It is prestigious for the school to have been recognized in the rankings. These results indicate that our students are successful and that they are motivated by a faculty and staff that sets high expectations for them."

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