

# DISTRICT SPOTLIGHT

**School District:** Midway Independent School District

**Superintendent:** George Kazanas, Ed.D.

**Region:** ESC 12

**Location:** *Suburban district in Central Texas, west of Waco, including cities of Hewitt, Woodway, and parts of Waco, McGregor, Lorena, Robinson, and unincorporated McLennan County*



**Student Enrollment:** 8,400

**School Campus Configuration:** Ten campuses include one 6A high school, one middle school, two intermediates (grades 5-6), and six elementaries (PK-4); However, due to a recently-passed bond, we are soon to be one high school, two 6-8 middle schools, and eight PK-5 elementaries.

## **What are your district's points of pride?**

- 1-to-1 digital devices for every student and educator, with three Apple Distinguished Schools
- Nationally-recognized professional development school partnership with Baylor University's School of Education
- Recognized by Department of Justice for police partnerships and school security
- Involvement in state organizations such as TASA's TPAC (developing a community-based accountability system); Texas Higher Performing Schools Coalition; TEA Long-Term Planning Committee
- NAMM Foundation Best Communities for Music Education
- Top 5 largest FFA in Texas; National 3-gold star chapter
- Nationally-recognized program for addressing childhood hunger

## **What makes your school district/community unique?**

- We are a rare size of having a 6A high school while remaining a one-high school district. Even when looking for matches of peers for student population, demographics, and budget size, we rarely find close matches. It means we are often paving our own way for school business and programming.
- There is a City of Midway north of Houston, but it's about 100 miles east of us. There is also another Midway ISD in Clay County in North Texas near Wichita Falls and Tuloso-Midway ISD in Corpus Christi. However confusing, we are a suburb of Waco in McLennan County (central Texas) named when the school districts of Hewitt ISD and South Bosque ISD merged "mid way" between the two.

## **What challenges does your district face?**

- Our total M&O is very lean--we run more efficiently than all districts in our county sans one.
- Like everyone else, we are looking for effective programs to address mental health, social services, poverty, parenting resources, and all related issues that create hurdles for our students.