August 26, 2010

To The Administrator Addressed:

The purpose of this letter is to inform administrators of the upcoming data collection required by United States Department of Education (USDE) through the assurances in the State Fiscal and Stabilization Fund (SFSF) awarded to local education agencies (LEA) in 2010 and 2011. LEAs will have to submit an annual summary of the campus-level evaluation scores from the Professional Development and Appraisal System (PDAS), or the districts locally adopted appraisal system in a manner prescribed by the commissioner.

Data from all Texas school districts will be collected through Education Service Center Region XIII. Your LEA’s initial submission will require the LEA to indicate if the Commissioner’s recommended appraisal Professional Development Appraisal System (PDAS) or a board approved alternative system is currently in use in your LEA. LEAs must complete the initial submission by October 7, 2010.

In order to submit your district’s initial data (no later than October 7, 2010), please follow this link: http://apps.esc13.net/edapp.

The system, which will go live on September 7, 2010 will accept your county/district number and then request a Yes or No response to the question:

Does your district currently use PDAS to appraise teachers?

If the answer is no, the LEA will then submit the name and a brief description of the alternative system in use.

Near to the close of the PDAS appraisal period for the 2010-2011 school year, you will receive further instructions for submission of a summary of campus appraisal results and an indication of the manner in which they are used in decisions regarding professional development, compensation, promotion, retention or removal.

The information collected will protect the identity of teachers and is required by the federal government. We appreciate the efforts to collect the data and hope it makes the submission as fluid as possible. If you have questions please contact Lauralee Pankonien, Senior Coordinator, Certification Education Service Center Region XIII (512) 919-5313.

Thank you for your assistance in complying with the data collection.

Sincerely

Jerel Booker
Associate Commissioner, Educator & Student Policy Initiatives