

 **Lakewood People**

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**Woodrow Recognized in Statewide Study**  
Model for math, science programs, report says

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Woodrow Wilson High School was cited as a model school for math and science in a recent study by the Texas Public Policy Foundation.

Woodrow and two others in Dallas Independent School District are among 39 Texas high schools that showed “significant gains” in math and science on various standardized and college admissions tests, according to the report by the Austin-based academic research institute.

The others are David W. Carter High School and the School of Engineering at Yvonne A. Ewell Townview Center.

The report called the three Dallas schools “shining examples of places where students are achieving success in math and science.”

Common traits among the 39 model schools include larger class sizes, higher teacher pay, more certified teachers, and high involvement from parents.

The study was based on student scores on the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills, Advanced Placement course exams, and college admissions test data from the Texas Education Agency.

Researchers also interviewed students, teachers, and parents, and collected data about schedules, teachers, and parental involvement.

“Lackluster math and science performance among Texas schools highlighted the need for reform in math and science education,” the report said.

The foundation also offered recommendations for educators and policymakers that include reducing the amount of class time dedicated to TAKS preparation and offering better financial incentives to math and science teachers.

Math and science is of growing importance in the workforce, researcher Brooke Dollens Terry said.

“As the economy continues to change more jobs require a higher skill level. Students need a firm grasp of math and science to meet the market’s demands,” she said. “Despite the demand, too few high-school and college graduates have the necessary skills.”

She said the study is part of an effort to help other school districts and campuses learn from these examples by offering a “best-practices” model for other Texas schools to emulate.

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