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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## Paris ISD Earns Platinum Award from State Comptroller for Financial Transparency

In late 2009, Texas Comptroller Susan Combs launched the Texas Comptroller Leadership Circle to rate and recognize school districts, cities, counties, and other government agencies in the area of financial transparency.

For the second straight year, Paris ISD has earned recognition and is one of only 83 of Texas' 1,024 public school districts who have achieved that honor thus far in 2014.

At the first application in 2013, Paris ISD earned Silver recognition, the next to the highest level attainable during that time period. But for 2014, the Comptroller's office introduced a new, "Platinum" level of recognition to honor institutions that have met an even higher standard of financial transparency. Paris ISD earned the new status by taking extra measures to ensure transparency and scoring 20 out of 22 points on the rating criteria.

This award highlights the district's ongoing commitment to transparency and clear communication with the community.

Local governments receiving a Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze Texas Comptroller Leadership Circle award have opened their books to the public and provide clear, consistent pictures of spending with detailed information on how tax dollars are allocated and spent. Top-ranking entities provide information online in an easily accessible, user-friendly format and set up features that allow taxpayers to easily drill down for more detailed information.

"The Platinum Award reflects how hard Paris ISD works to ensure every tax payer has access to our financial information," Superintendent Paul Jones said. "We are diligent in our fiscal management and are committed to the financial integrity of our school district."

In addition to the Leadership Circle Award, Paris ISD consistently earns a Superior Achievement award on the Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST).

To view Paris ISD's financial information, click HERE.

