

For Immediate Release: March 29, 2011    Contact: Jeanne Kraft, Public Information Officer, 903-737-7473

## **Paris ISD Nutrition Department earns perfect reviews**

Paris ISD's Student Nutrition Department was recently recognized at the Paris ISD Board of Trustees meeting after earning perfect reviews from the U.S. Department of Agriculture at three district campuses.

According to Mitzie Pirtle, PISD director of school nutrition, every five years, school nutrition departments participating in the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs undergo a comprehensive on-site evaluation developed by USDA. As part of this Coordinated Review Effort (CRE), a state compliance monitor reviewed three PISD campuses in February and found no areas for concern in 15 areas of review and 132 possible findings.

The three campuses that were selected for the CRE and earned perfect reviews were Paris High School, Paris Junior High School, and Justiss Elementary School.



Paul Trull, Paris ISD Superintendent of Schools, congratulates Mitzie Pirtle, Director of School Nutrition for earning perfect reviews from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

In her comments regarding the reviews, the compliance monitor lauded the work of Pirtle and the campus nutrition staff members. "Ms. Pirtle and the Child Nutrition staff are striving to serve safe and nutritious meals to the students of Paris ISD. The atmosphere in the cafeterias was pleasant among the staff and with the students," she said, making positive comments about the schools, the food offerings and the presentation of offerings.

Of 240 reviews conducted in Texas this school year, only seven have been awarded an Excellent or Perfect review, Pirtle explained. The School Nutrition Department received an award from Todd Staples, Texas Commissioner of Agriculture, with commendations for "exemplifying the highest standards of caring and service by teaching children the relationship between proper eating and good health."

School nutrition staff members at Paris High School include Sharon Woods, manager, Lisa Thomas, assistant manager, Lula Calhoun, Myrtle Cook, Mary Gilmore, Meleta May, Gloria Rollerson, Ruby Thomas, Lisa Wear, Cindy Spencer, and Jackie Dillard.

School nutrition staff members at Paris Junior High School include Jeanne Bauske, manager, Vickie Kennedy, assistant manager, Linda Davidson, Beverly Sanders, RoseAnn Wallace, Tracy Burns, and Rachel Crossland.

School nutrition staff members at Justiss Elementary include Retha Dickerson, manager, Taunya Lay, assistant manager, Alice Adkins, Vanessa Dirks, ShaRhonda Robe, Beverly Vickers, Angie Wise, Robin Ballard.