



## Press Release

For immediate release  
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### **NISD Teacher Makes the Grade, Christina Buce Named 2011 Region XI Elementary Teacher of the Year**

Northwest ISD elementary school teacher Christina Buce has been named the 2011 Region XI Elementary Teacher of the Year. In April, Buce was honored with the title Exemplar Educator and Northwest ISD Elementary Teacher of the Year at the annual Northwest ISD Inspire Celebration. Buce advanced to the regional competition coordinated by the Region XI Education Service Center and was recognized among colleagues and other educators at an awards banquet Thursday, August 11.

The following is an excerpt from Christina Buce's nomination:

“Every day I learn from my students, colleagues, and administrators. They continue to shape who I am and make me better. I am fortunate to be living and breathing the very thing that I admire and respect. I am a teacher.”

Christina Buce is a second-grade teacher at Northwest ISD's Kay Granger Elementary School and has taught at Northwest ISD's Seven Hills Elementary School. Prior to Northwest ISD, Buce taught first-grade at Mountain View Elementary in Anchorage, Alaska. She earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Alaska Anchorage. Buce serves on her campus instructional leadership team, has been a mentor for new teachers and has assisted in writing math and science curriculum.

“Christina Buce is the model classroom teacher,” said Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction Edward Chevallier. “Her passion for teaching makes her an extraordinary instructional leader, and the atmosphere she creates in her classroom encourages students to take risks and develop to their full potential and beyond.”

The Texas State Teacher of the Year (TOY) Program has honored excellence in classroom education since 1969. This is the highest honor that the state can present a teacher. Buce was selected among 26 elementary educators in Region XI as a semifinalist in the State Teacher of the Year contest.

Judging for the state-level competition will begin Monday, August 15, in Austin where a panel of judges will select three finalists for Elementary Teacher of the Year and three finalists for Secondary Teacher of the Year. In September, the six finalists will be interviewed by a panel of judges typically composed of representatives of educational administrator associations, a member of the State Board for Education Certification, a member of the State Board of Education and the previous Texas Teachers of the Year. Two state winners will be chosen at the Texas Teacher of the Year awards ceremony in October, and one will be designated to represent Texas in the National Teacher of the Year program.

“It is my pleasure to congratulate Christina Buce as the Region XI Teacher of the Year,” said Superintendent Karen G. Rue, Ed.D. “She represents the heart of Northwest ISD through her work and love for kids.”

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[PHOTO ID: buce\_TOY] Kay Granger Elementary School second-grade teacher Christina Buce has been named the 2011 Region XI Elementary Teacher of the Year. Pictured left to right is Northwest ISD Superintendent Karen G. Rue, Ed.D., Christina Buce and Granger Elementary principal Kimmie Etheredge.