



THE DISTRICT

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YISD's all-girl academy ranked No. 1 middle school in West Texas

The Young Women's Leadership Academy (YWLA) in the Ysleta Independent School District has been ranked the No. 1 middle school in West Texas by TexasSchoolGuide.org, an online publication designed to help parents navigate today's public education system.

In the category of **Top 5 Middle Schools** in West Texas, YWLA captured the top spot while fellow YISD campus Alicia Chacon International School came in at No. 5.

In addition, Vista Hills Elementary (No. 2), Ramona Elementary (No. 3), and Glen Cove Elementary (No. 4) were ranked among the top five West Texas **Consistent Gold Ribbon Elementary Schools**. These are neither charter nor magnet schools, but they serve more than 75% economically disadvantaged students and received an A or B grade from the state. That means these campuses are supporting some of the most at-risk children and helping them achieve academic success, officials said.

Valle Verde Early College High School came in at No. 7 on the guide's **Top 10 Public High Schools** in West Texas by the online guide, which – due to the pandemic – determined its top schools by using its Three Year Strong ranking, a three-year analysis that showcases campus and district consistency over time.

"We are exceptionally proud of the accomplishments of these schools, as well as the tireless work of our dedicated administrators, teachers, and staff," said Superintendent of Schools Dr. Xavier De La Torre. "Despite the unusual challenges facing public education in 2020, Ysleta ISD schools continue to demonstrate the kind of consistent, time-tested success that parents can rely upon when choosing the best campus for their children."

TexasSchoolGuide.org rankings are calculated using the following measures:

- **Student Achievement Index** – Student performance on STAAR reading and math tests
- **Campus Performance Index** – A school's overall campus performance is compared to other campuses statewide with similar levels of poverty. This adjustment is made to eliminate bias toward campuses with low percentages of economically disadvantaged students.
- **Growth Index** – Student-level improvement over time on standardized test scores in reading, English, and math.
- **College Readiness Index** – High school graduation rates, SAT/ACT participation rate and scores, and AP/IB participation rate and scores (high schools only).

TexasSchoolGuide.org, produced by the nonprofit group Children At Risk in partnership with the Rainwater Charitable Foundation, helps parents across the state understand how local schools are performing, what their school choice options are, and how to support their child's education from cradle to career. It also aims to spark dialogue on the quality of public education in Texas.

For a complete list of the top West Texas schools, visit <https://texasschoolguide.org/pandemic-rankings/west-tx/>.