

PRESS RELEASE

December 2008

“TEACH CHILDREN TO SAVE”

Program Sponsored by Austin Bank

67 Savings Bonds Awarded to Kindergarten Students

Austin Bank has kicked off “Teach Children to Save” – an educational program dedicated to teaching East Texas elementary school students the importance of financial literacy.

The program provides classroom materials to teachers on saving and money management principles. Each participating teacher received an activity workbook entitled, “Saving Money is Cool” and the book, A Dollar for Penny for classroom use. All the children were given educational handouts (in English or Spanish) and a personal bank to use for savings.

Working with 74 elementary schools, Austin Bank also sponsored a coloring contest for Kindergarten students. A \$50 Savings Bond was awarded to 67 Kindergarten students from the participating schools. The winners’ colored drawings are on display in banks’ lobbies at this time.

Schools in all communities served by Austin Bank’s 28 locations were invited to participate in “Teach Children to Save”. Teaching tools and materials were distributed to 296 classrooms which included 7,330 Kindergarten students who attend public and private schools within East Texas.

“Austin Bank structured this program to help children gain money-management skills and be better prepared to make financial decisions in the future. All children should be encouraged to save, share and spend wisely as the basics of this program demonstrate,” said Jeff Austin III, Vice Chairman of the Board.

“We want to thank the Schools and their teachers for allowing the students to participate in the ‘Teach Children to Save’ program. Austin Bank is proud to take an active role in the development of financial education of the youth of East Texas,” said Austin “This program aims to incorporate a little fun into the classroom while also promoting these important principles.”

Kindergarten students who received a \$50 Savings Bond were:

Big Sandy ISD

Leah Lane, Big Sandy Elementary School
Tabari Williams, Big Sandy Elementary School
Morgan Harroff, Big Sandy Elementary School

Bullard ISD

Brittany Wheeler, Bullard Primary School

Central Heights ISD (Nacogdoches County)

Adrianna Upshaw, Central Heights Elementary School

Chapel Hill ISD (Smith County)

Jacitzo Oehoa, Jackson Elementary School
Zachary Zea, Wise Elementary School

Emory ISD

Hope Wiley, Rains Elementary School

Garrison ISD

Ana Guzman, Garrison Elementary School

Gary ISD

Dakota Beckham, Gary Elementary School

Gilmer ISD

Samantha Roberts, Gilmer Elementary School

Gladewater ISD

Sierrah Richter, Gay Avenue Primary School

Grand Saline ISD

Gabriel Crow

Harmony ISD

Alise Pruitt, Harmony Elementary School

Jacksonville

Edgar Munez, Fred Douglas Elementary School (JISD)

Madisyn Foster, West Side Elementary School (JISD)

Fernanda Arredondo, Joe Wright Elementary School (JISD)

Natalie Martinez, East Side Elementary School (JISD)

Bethany Worsham, Jacksonville Christian School

KILGORE ISD

Sarah Nicole Kosel, Kilgore Heights Elementary School

LONGVIEW ISD

Kinzie Norton, Bramlette Elementary School

Kayla Hernandez, Ware Elementary

Diego Gonzalez, South Ward Elementary School

Austin Gass, Doris McQueen Primary School

Diana Acuna, Valley View Elementary School

Jastyn Nelson, GK Foster Montessori

Trinity School of Texas (Longview)

Nathan Johnson, Trinity Kindergarten

Pine Tree ISD (Gregg County)

Laurel Pruitt, Pine Tree Primary School

Spring Hill ISD (Gregg County)

Anna G. Hammer, Spring Hill Primary School

Marshall ISD

Gabriel Brooks, Robert E. Lee Elementary School
Amayai Spears-Hurd, Washington Carver Early Education School
Edward Webster, William B. Travis Elementary School
Jagger Allen, J.H. Moore Elementary School
Azucena Lopez, South Marshall Elementary School
Brionna Espinoza, David Crockett Elementary School

Nacogdoches ISD

Cole Brady , Raguette Elementary School
Noemi Jimenez, Carpenter Elementary School
Mallory Richardson, SFA Charter School
Natalie Schulz, Fredonia Elementary School
Amy Santiago-Marquez, Brooks Quinn Jones Elementary School

Rusk ISD

Mackie Jones, Rusk Primary School

Timpson ISD

Ashton Ford, Timpson Elementary School

Troup ISD

John Ford, Troup Elementary School

TYLER ISD

Ana Gurrola, Austin Elementary School
Melanie Montgomery, Bell Elementary School
Maleek Hall, Birdwell Elementary School
Jalayah Taylor, Bonner Elementary School
Duana Puentes, Caldwell Elementary School
Taylor Decker, Clarkston Elementary School
Yearin Arzale, Douglas Elementary School
Nelly Cevallos, Griffin Elementary School
Kaitlyn Morris, Jack Elementary School
Danielle Williams, Jones Elementary School
Leslie Robollar, Orr Elementary School
Elizabeth McDonald, Owens Elementary School
Marcelin Ortiz, Peete Elementary School
Dominic Carsten, Ramey Elementary School
Savannah Hinsley, Rice Elementary School
Vann Rainer, Woods Elementary School

All Saints Episcopal School - Tyler

Tanner Sundeen

Grace Community School – Tyler

Alana Roberts

East Texas Christian Academy - Tyler

Faith Andrews

Van ISD

Emma Kohlleffel, J.E. Rhodes Elementary School

Whitehouse ISD

Carson Stone, Cain Elementary School

Maarig Queshi, Brown Elementary School

Jayme Zavala, Higgins Elementary School

Grant Anderson, Stanton-Smith Elementary School

Austin Bank, a community bank with headquarters in Jacksonville, Texas, has in excess of \$1 billion in assets with 28 offices in nine counties throughout East Texas. More information about Austin Bank can be found on the bank's website at www.austinbank.com.