

San Antonio ISD adopts uniforms

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Tenth-grader Nicole Grier likes the idea of waking up each morning and dressing in a simple school uniform of khaki pants and a white blouse.

No worries about what to wear. No expensive clothes to buy.

"Just put it on," Grier, a student at Sam Houston High School, said.

Monica Estrada, a junior at Fox Tech High School, disagrees.

"I don't really like it. I don't think it expresses everybody's individuality. I think they should use it for the elementary school and middle schools, not high schools," she said.

Starting next fall, students in the San Antonio Independent School District — from kindergarten through high school — will not be demonstrating their individuality with clothing.

School board trustees voted unanimously Monday to require uniforms for all pupils in the 60,000-student district, making it the largest district in Texas with a uniform policy for all campuses and apparently one of the first in the nation.

Noting success with uniforms at a district middle school, board members

said they want the emphasis at their schools to be on learning, not children's appearances. And, they said, they want to crack down on gang activity that sometimes correlates with certain types and colors of clothing.

"It follows several months of community meetings among parents, students and educators," San Antonio School Dis-

"I don't really like it [uniforms]. I don't think it expresses everybody's individuality."

**MONICA ESTRADA
FOX TECH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT**

trict spokeswoman Rene Lynn said. "The calls that we've gotten here at the school district so far have been overwhelmingly in support (of the new policy)."

The decision is in keeping with a national trend toward uniforms in public schools.

The Long Beach Unified School District in California started the move-

ment in 1994 by requiring its pupils in kindergarten through eighth grade to wear uniforms.

Earlier this year it expanded the policy to cover one grade at one high school, and is considering making the policy mandatory for all students in all schools, districts spokesman Dick Van Der Laan said.

Several other urban districts — including Chicago, Phoenix and Baltimore — have individual schools where uniforms are required.

In Texas, Eagle Pass, with about 10,000 students, became the first Texas district to require uniforms for all students. The Houston, Dallas and Fort Worth school districts have individual campuses that have opted for uniforms.

Eagle Pass and San Antonio are ahead of the pack in mandating uniforms for all high school students, Marjorie Walsleben, a spokeswoman at the National School Safety Center at Pepperdine University, said.

"I can't name any others that are doing it," she said, while noting her organization does not keep comprehensive records of the uniform trend. "A lot of problems seem to occur at the secondary school level."

Tech approves admission go

LUBBOCK (AP) — Texas Tech regents unanimously approved long-debated admissions goals Thursday, though actual freshmen entrance standards remained unchanged in the ambitious plans.

Attempting to improve the university's 42-percent graduation rate by attracting a more stable student body, regents have set a five-year goal of an average SAT score of approximately 1,200, a full 120-point improvement.

"There is a misconception that the 1,200 score is a minimum. It's not," Tech president Donald Haragan said. The main goal is a 60-percent graduation rate.

A 1,200 SAT average would fall between Texas A&M's 1,170 and the University of Texas' 1,220.

Grade-point and test score standards for incoming freshmen did not change. Students who do not meet assured admissions requirements still may enter by either passing a subjective review process or by adequately completing courses in a provisional admission program at Tech.

Students transferring from other institutions, however, must carry a 2.25 grade-point average over 24 hours of coursework, a quarter-point increase.

James Brink, interim vice president for

enrollment management, said the regents' actions Thursday did not mean anything to change that.

Among the regents' other five-year goals, students will receive scholarships based on their admissions test scores to \$5,000 annually for the creation of Tech's Honors Program will be off into an Honors College, completely its own dean.

While heavy recruiting efforts in Las-Fort Worth and Houston will be Tech will refocus resources on its Texas "back yard."

—More emphasis will be placed on retaining existing students, particularly minorities who have complained they are not welcome on the 83-percent white campus.

Faculty Senate president Ed George said professors largely support the changes, though he said they would place less emphasis on standardized tests and more on retention of current students.

"Retention is at least as important as admission," George said. "The best recruiting is a satisfied student at Tech."

Regarding retention, George said he has just three faculty advisers to

The Brazos Animal Shelter's Walk '97 was a huge success with a 3K walk, 5K-10K run, Pet Shows, and Cake Walk. The shelter wished to thank the following TAMU student groups and individuals for their help in planning and manning this special annual event at Messina Hof on October 18th...

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