



## Success Newsletter

March 2010

Welcome to the **Balanced Achievement Success Newsletter!**  
We hope the brief stories and insight put forth will help you in your success and look forward to being a part of your future endeavors!  
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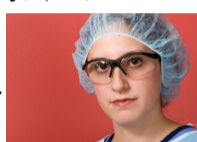
**In this Newsletter!**  
[Texas Politics](#)  
[Recommend a teen for Rising Stars](#)  
[Sponsor a teen](#)  
[Volunteer at Zilker Park](#)

### The Common Denominator in Texas Politics: Our Kids!



With the Texas Gubernatorial candidates taking hits from one another about whose done what, why they need to go, or why they are screwing up, the only common theme I can see is that they ALL recognize Texas Education is in **VERY** bad shape! With Texas ranking 43rd out of 50 for kids graduating high school. Everyone says “something needs to be done”. So I ask, “What?”

I read a recent report from The Alliance For Excellent Education, ([download article here](#)), that **Education Week** rates Texas at only a 65% graduation rate, while the state reports 80%. There are manipulation of numbers going on here, obviously, (i.e., number of graduating “seniors”, as opposed to number of “19 year old graduates”—what if they never made it to their senior year?). The bottom line is that Texas is hurting, and our kids are suffering because of it. With almost **90%** of the fastest growing and highest-paying jobs requiring some post-secondary education, how are our kids supposed to get these jobs when so many never even complete high school? And, more importantly, what does this mean to each of us individually as “underachievers” grow up and, (due to the sheer number of them), start taking positions within our government? (*Some might argue this is already happening to some degree!*)



The answer is much more simple than you might think, and it doesn't require a “*ten-year plan*”, massive tax funding and more bureaucratic involvement. We need to help kids improve their self-image, identify what THEY find interesting, where THEY want to take THEIR lives and help them map out a specific plan to get there!

Luckily, Balanced Achievement is in a great position to do just that! The **Rising Stars** program has been used for years in environments from juvenile courts to over-achievers wanting to get the most out of life! Outcomes of pilot programs research indicate a **40%** grade point increase, **56%** reduction in school disciplinary/truancy incidents and **70%** increase in college attendance! All of this effort is based on long-term BEHAVIOR change, not simple training. With our partnerships in place with college placement teams, city governments, youth organizations and corporate sponsors, we are truly focused in not only helping teens get on track, but providing the next steps to help them achieve higher levels of success for their entire lives!

This directly impacts us ALL, so if you know a teen that you want to help get the most out of life, while understanding the importance of balance in their lives, or if you don't know a teen, but want to help be a part of the solution, contact us today at [inquiries@balancedachievement.com](mailto:inquiries@balancedachievement.com).

*Please share this newsletter with your friends, co-workers, management or family to help spread the word!*

### The **Balanced Achievement** web page!

- Do you know an 8th –12th grade student that wants to achieve higher levels of success in their life? The **Rising Stars** program does just that! And, now we have available sponsorship packages for teens who don't have the financial wherewithal to attend otherwise! [Recommend a teen for sponsorship by clicking here!](#)
- A BIG part of our effort to help more teens participate in the Rising Stars Program is our corporate sponsorship program. If you are a business owner, or key person, that would like to sponsor a teen, (at ANY level), please click here to register. No funds are accepted until a teen is identified for participation!
- Part of a well-balanced life includes volunteering to organizations you care about! Join our volunteer at the Austin Parks March 6th! [Click here for details!](#)
- Balanced Achievement now has a partnership with the City of Georgetown to provide the Rising Stars program in Georgetown! (RE: Course # 31354)
- Balanced Achievement is now a proud sponsor at [Town & Country Optimists Sports Complex!](#) Rising Stars classes starting there soon! [Contact us for details here.](#)



To schedule a **FREE, confidential** initial meeting, in person, or via phone, call **Bob Kenworthy** at (512) 961-8314 or e-mail [inquiries@BalancedAchievement.com](mailto:inquiries@BalancedAchievement.com)

To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#).  
Questions or comments? E-mail us at [inquiries@balancedachievement.com](mailto:inquiries@balancedachievement.com).