



TEXAS CLASSROOM TEACHERS ASSOCIATION  
NEWS RELEASE

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## **TCTA gives Administrator of the Year Award to Muleshoe ISD Superintendent**

**AUSTIN** – Gene Sheets, superintendent of the Muleshoe Independent School District, has been named the 2008-09 Administrator of the Year in the Central Office category by the Texas Classroom Teachers Association. TCTA presents administrator awards annually to honor exemplary education leaders.

Founded in 1927, TCTA is an association for Texas teaching professionals and serves 50,000 members across the state.

Sheets has worked in public education for more than 20 years, including the past eight years with the Muleshoe Independent School District as superintendent. He previously served as superintendent of Hedley ISD, superintendent of Hamilton ISD, and as a principal, teacher and coach in Abilene. Sheets received his bachelor's degree in math and biology/education and his master's degree from Abilene Christian University. He is currently working on his doctorate at Texas Tech University.

His professional achievements include uniting the community to pass a \$25 million bond for constructing and rebuilding schools in the Muleshoe ISD. "His ability to lead and communicate with this team and with our community was phenomenal," wrote the Muleshoe CTA. "If it were not for his research, time and insight, this would have never happened. Not only is this something that will benefit our students but our community as a whole."

**(more)**

**(TCTA news release, continued)**

Other accomplishments include establishing a scholarship fund that provides \$250 to an accredited college or trade school for every Muleshoe High School graduate and writing a weekly article in the local newspaper to inform the public of issues concerning Muleshoe ISD and the community.

In choosing Sheets, the judges noted, “This nominee excels at community involvement, and he still enjoys being in the classroom. He regularly substitutes and tutors after school.”

Nominees are evaluated according to their leadership skills; relationship with teachers; commitment to site-based decision making; support of teacher participation in professional activities; and interaction with community leaders and district parents. The Administrator of the Year award has been presented since 1981.

TCTA will honor award winners in February in Austin, during the association's annual convention. Educators from across the state will participate in professional development seminars, elect TCTA leaders for statewide and district positions, review and vote on the association’s 2009 legislative program and adopt policy positions on many current education issues.