The North East Independent School District will address the needs of our students by creating a healthy learning friendly environment in which they can be academically successful. Healthy children learn better and by providing an asthma friendly environment students with asthma can better focus and reach their academic potential. More than 9 million children in our nation have asthma and 653,000 reported in Texas. People with asthma are the most sensitive individuals when an environment is not healthy. Providing an environment in which they can thrive we are ensuring an environment that is healthy for everyone.

Asthma is the number one reason why students miss school days nationwide. In NEISD, over 70,000 visits to the school nurse for use of asthma medications occurs each year. Our program goals for all our students with asthma are to decrease class time interruptions due to symptoms (increase student performance), fully participate in desired physical activities (promote healthy lifestyle, decrease healthcare costs for parents) and improve attendance (increase our state funding and decrease loss of work for parents).

Our four-component, comprehensive approach to asthma control provides a proactive approach to address the most common childhood disease that generates multi-day, recurring absenteeism. Using a collective approach, we take on the health issue that affects more than 8,000 of our students (12% of population). We educate not only our staff in asthma awareness, but we also provide education and disease management strategies for our students and parents. This brings awareness to asthmatics, as well as undiagnosed asthmatics, in order for them to receive self-management tools and the empowerment to understand and control the disease while helping parents improve their child's quality of life by educating them on the tools available to achieve asthma control. The Environmental Protection Agency, the American Lung Association, and the Chest Foundation have all recognized the NEISD Asthma Awareness Education Program