

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**May 6, 2008**

**Contact:** Erin Young  
800-766-1156, ext. 2252

## **Local Educator Selected as Emerging Leader**

CYPRESS, TX—Christie McWilliams, an English teacher at Cy-Fair High School, has been recognized as an Emerging Leader by PDK International, a leading association of education professionals.

McWilliams is completing her doctoral studies at the University of Houston. She is also an adjunct instructor at Cy-Fair College. In her current position, she teaches Dual Credit English IV, sponsors the Future Educators of America chapter, and is involved in other committees and district-wide programs.

“I’ve dedicated my professional life to working with high-achieving and gifted students and other teachers of this population, while continuing my studies in gifted education,” McWilliams said. “Students ultimately make their own choices. But teachers have a tremendous influence on which choices students will make.”

A committee made up of PDK’s past Emerging Leaders selected the 20 honorees from a competitive field of applicants.

“The 20 members of the 2008-09 Class of Emerging Leaders embody the PDK tenets of leadership, research, and service,” said William Bushaw, PDK’s executive director. “They represent the best of the profession.”

For more information on PDK’s 2008-09 Class of Emerging Leaders, including podcast interviews with the honorees, go to [www.pdkemergingleaders.org](http://www.pdkemergingleaders.org). Information about PDK International is at [www.pdkintl.org](http://www.pdkintl.org).