

## SAM TASBY ADVOCATE FOR EQUALITY

Sam Tasby was born in Arkansas in 1921. At age 20, he moved to Dallas. He married and had six children.



In 1954, Tasby moved his family to the Arlington Park community. The young man from Arkansas with only a seventh-grade education likely never dreamed that his commitment to his children's education would turn him into a plaintiff seeking to desegregate Dallas schools. However, Tasby felt it necessary to pursue change for his children when his son was denied admission to two all-white schools near his home and was forced to attend an all-black school miles away.

A lawsuit filed in federal court charged the Dallas Independent School District with continuing a dual school system prohibited under the Supreme Court's 1954 historic Brown v. Board of Education decision. Parents of 18 other children joined Tasby as plaintiffs. In 1971, a U.S. district judge ruled in favor of the plaintiffs and ordered Dallas ISD to develop a plan to desegregate its schools.

Over the next 10 years, several plans were presented to and rejected by the courts. In 1981, the Fifth Circuit Court upheld the third desegregation plan presented. For the 22 years that followed, the court required the Dallas school district to create programs to give students of all races equal opportunities to learn. The judicial oversight of Dallas ISD ended in 2003.

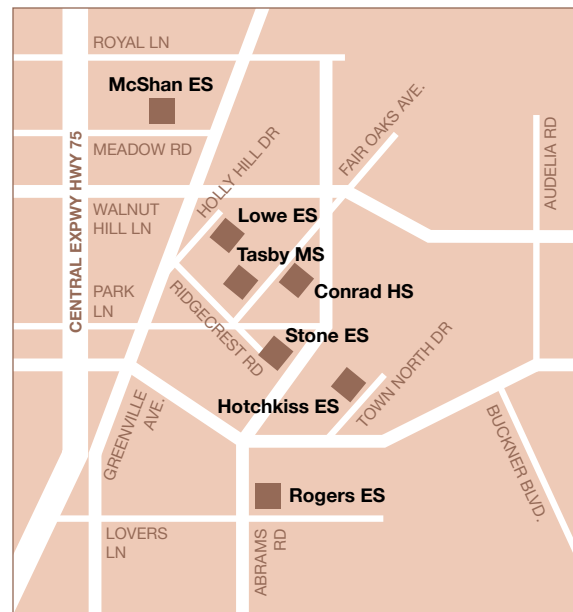
Tasby's lawsuit made it possible for his son to attend a school in his own neighborhood. It paved the way for the creation of magnet schools, bilingual education programs, and other innovations to improve educational equity for all children in Dallas. Tasby said the lawsuit also created opportunities for people to secure better jobs and helped to desegregate public places.

Retired since 1989, Sam Tasby is still a resident of the Arlington Park community.

## FEEDER PATTERN

Grades PreK-5	Grade 6	Grades 7-8	Grades 9-12
L.L. Hotchkiss ES	Sam Tasby MS	Sam Tasby MS	Emmett J. Conrad HS
Jack Lowe Sr. ES	Sam Tasby MS	Sam Tasby MS	Emmett J. Conrad HS
Lee A. McShan Jr. ES	Sam Tasby MS	Sam Tasby MS	Emmett J. Conrad HS
Dan D. Rogers ES	Sam Tasby MS	Sam Tasby MS	Emmett J. Conrad HS
Jill Stone ES	Sam Tasby MS	Sam Tasby MS	Emmett J. Conrad HS

Sam Tasby Middle School is receiving students from Benjamin Franklin Middle School.

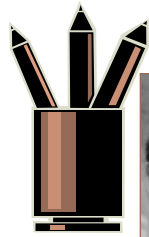


Sam Tasby  
Middle School  
7001 Fair Oaks Avenue  
Dallas, TX 75231

# SAM TASBY MIDDLE SCHOOL

*Serving students of the  
Dallas Independent  
School District*





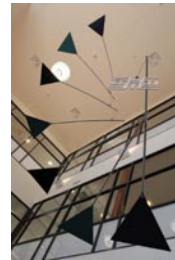
# SAM TASBY MIDDLE SCHOOL



## INTRODUCTION

Residents of the Vickery Meadow area of Northeast Dallas have long desired their own neighborhood schools as anchors for a thriving community. To that end, the Vickery Meadow Improvement District, a coalition of approximately 50 area organizations, has worked with the Dallas ISD to plan and develop four new campuses for their area, one of which is Sam Tasby Middle School.

## FeaturesFeaturesFeaturesFeaturesFeatures



### SPECIAL FEATURES

Sam Tasby Middle School is part of an **educational complex** that shares many common spaces with another new school, Jack Lowe Sr. Elementary School. The two schools have separate entrances made of **brick veneer accented by stucco and metal panels** that reflect the

energy of the surrounding neighborhood and share the auditorium, stage, and kitchen. A **courtyard** looks out on the playing field and a concrete grandstand that seats 700.

**Four mobile sculptures**, created to represent the goals and spirit of Sam Tasby and Jack Lowe Sr., have been installed at the schools with one inside the Tasby Middle School entrance, one in each of Lowe Elementary's two entrances, and one outside the shared auditorium.

The building has about 166,000 square feet and includes **26 core classrooms plus six science labs, two computer labs, an instructional technology classroom, two special education classrooms, two art rooms, two music rooms, a media center, gymnasium, and cafeteria.** The gymnasium, cafeteria, and shared common areas are separated from classroom areas so students and visitors can gather and meet in these areas of the school without disturbing classroom instruction. These spaces also facilitate using the building for **community and social events.**

**Outside play areas** give students and neighborhood children many opportunities for structured physical activity and play.

### ACADEMIC FEATURES

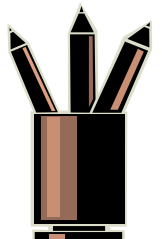
Students are given many opportunities to explore their creativity in the school's **computer and science labs** and through the **music and art programs.** In addition to the core curriculum, the school offers **computer technology, a talented and gifted program, Spanish language classes, band, dance, and choir.**

Students also will have the chance to explore potential careers through the school's **career and technology education programs and family and consumer sciences programs.**

**After-school programs** include **tutoring and mentoring** and **participation in competitive sports** such as **track, volleyball, baseball, softball, and football.**

The school has an active and supportive **PTA and Site-Based Decision Making organization.** In addition, parents and community members have many opportunities to participate in the school's **volunteer program.**

The Vickery Meadow Improvement District is active in the community and supports a variety of programs that help to develop opportunities for students to enhance their education.



**Grade levels**  
Sixth through eighth grade

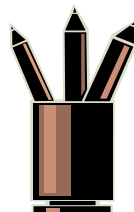
**Enrollment**  
1,000 students

**Size**  
166,000 square feet

**Number of classrooms**  
26 core

**Construction cost**  
\$20 million

**Opened**  
August 2006



# FACTS & FIGURES