TEXAS YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP PARTNERSHIP: A Statewide Strategy to Drive Regionally-Led Growth

Educate Texas, a statewide non-profit organization, launched the Texas Youth Apprenticeship Partnership to build awareness of and support for high-quality youth apprenticeship programs among policymakers, government agencies, and industry and regional leaders across Texas.

Led by Educate Texas in partnership with the Texas Business Leadership Council, the Partnership’s steering committee includes leaders from the state’s business community and K-12 and postsecondary systems:

- Texas Business Leadership Council
- Texas Association of Manufacturers
- Texas Association of Community Colleges
- Greater Houston Partnership
- Austin Community College District
- San Jacinto College
- Alief Independent School District
- Roscoe Independent School District
- Texas Workforce Commission
- Texas Mutual
- Dallas College
- Dallas Regional Chamber
- United Ways of Texas
- Houston-Galveston Area Council
- Workforce Board
- RGV Focus

The Partnership builds on statewide work to develop and strengthen career pathways connecting K-12, community colleges, and industry, as well as pockets of successful innovation in work-based learning, including emerging youth apprenticeship pilots in the Rio Grande Valley, Dallas, and San Antonio. Through PAYA, the steering committee will establish a statewide vision and strategy to support the expansion of regionally led youth apprenticeship opportunities across the state by:

- **DEVELOPING POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS** with input from the Texas Tri-Agency Workforce Initiative, key legislators, and leaders from K-12, higher education and industry, to drive systems alignment and support regional partnerships;

- **CONNECTING THE WORK OF REGIONAL INNOVATORS** to promote coherent, efficient expansion efforts, while establishing a framework to support quality, equity, and sustainability across a mix of regional and local youth apprenticeship partnerships; and,

- **EXPANDING INDUSTRY AND EMPLOYER CHAMPIONS** by engaging employers, statewide industry groups, and associations into system planning and implementation efforts.

The Texas Youth Apprenticeship Partnership’s steering committee develops policy and strategy recommendations to support the emergence of a regionally driven, statewide youth apprenticeship system. The committee is supporting the formation of partnerships ready to implement youth apprenticeship programs in high-demand, high-growth industries, including: advanced manufacturing, healthcare, information technology, business and financial services, energy, and education.

In any economy, strong or recovering, businesses depend on a vibrant talent pipeline in order to prosper and grow. Our work with Educate Texas, through the Texas Youth Apprenticeship Partnership, is of great benefit to our shared goal of increasing postsecondary success.

JUSTIN YANCY, President of Texas Business Leadership Council