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August 6, 2018

Mr. Steve VanMatre Superintendent Premont ISD P O Drawer B Premont, TX 78375

Dear Superintendent VanMatre:

This letter is to inform Premont ISD that the Texas Education Agency (TEA) has <u>approved</u> the 2018-2019 provisional designation application for Premont Early College High School as a provisional Early College High School (ECHS). Provisional designation is for an ECHS in the first four years of designation. Following its fourth academic year as a provisional ECHS, Premont Early College High School will automatically be measured against the Designation OBMs <u>OR</u> may choose to apply for Distinguished Designation and be measured against the Distinguished OBMs. The 2018-2019 designation process for ECHS includes the first reports for OBMs. Your ECHS OBM report is attached.

Provisional Designation is awarded to a campus for a period of one school year, during which time the campus may operate as an ECHS. Provisional Designation is designed to:

- provide additional time for ECHS to make required changes based on the ECHS Blueprint.
- allow the ECHS to demonstrate its ability to fully and appropriately implement its plan in keeping with the core principals and requirements of the ECHS designation.
- allows ECHS that have not been in operation as an ECHS for a full-year an opportunity to report student enrollment.

Provisional Designation allows ECHS to receive technical assistance and participate in the network of ECHS. As a reminder, all designated ECHS must:

- serve students in grades 9-12 (or a plan to scale up to grade 12).
- target and enroll a majority of students who are at-risk of dropping out of school: at-risk students and English language learners as defined by Texas Education Code (TEC) §29.081, including economically disadvantaged students and first-generation college goers.
- maintain a current memorandum of understanding (MOU) with a dual credit provider that includes the requirements detailed in TEC §29.908.
- provide a course of study that enables ECHS students to complete high school with either an associate degree or at least 60 semester credit hours towards a baccalaureate degree.
- <u>accurately</u> report student enrollment on the PEIMS indicator during submissions 1 (fall snapshot), 3, and 4. Submission data must be in alignment with information provided to TEA in the 2017-2018 designation application (see attached document). Designation status can be put at risk for inaccurate reporting.

The ECHS blueprint and program guidelines have been redesigned. The redesigned blueprint was released in August 2017 for implementation in the 2018-2019 school year and may be accessed, along with the updated program guidelines, on the <u>TEA ECHS website</u>.

Thank you for Premont ISD's hard work and dedication in providing opportunities for students to accelerate their learning and graduate from high school prepared for the post-secondary path of their choosing.

If you have questions or require additional information, please contact echs@tea.texas.gov.

Sincerely,

Mike Morath

Commissioner of Education

MM/sa

Attachment

cc: Nina Farris