

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

Texas A&M University-Commerce (herein called the "University/College") and Fannindel Independent School District (herein called the "School District"), enter into the following agreement.

WHEREAS the purpose of this agreement is to outline the collaboration of the partners, as listed above, in creating a Pride Prep program for the delivery of dual-credit courses and a sustainable model for ensuring college readiness,

NOW THEREFORE, the parties to this Memorandum of Understanding mutually agree as follows:

TERM

The term of this agreement shall commence on August 1, 2022, and will terminate on May 30, 2024, unless renewed or extended by the partners.

PROVISION OF COURSES

The University/College and the School District will collaborate to deliver dual credit courses applicable to the University/College Core Curriculum. Pride Prep Program dual credit education classes will follow guidelines published by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, the Texas Administrative Code, and Texas A&M University-Commerce policy, 11.99.99.R0.01 Standards and Criteria for Off-Campus and Self-Supporting Courses and Programs.

Extension of these opportunities supports statewide goals established under the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's strategic plan (60x30), specifically:

- 1) Supports the goal of sixty-percent of Texans aged 25-34 will have a certificate or degree by 2030.
- 2) Supports the goal of 550,000 completing a degree annually by 2030.
- 3) Supports the goal of all Texans who have completed an academic program doing so with possession of identifiable marketable skills.
- 4) Supports the goal of student loan debt not exceeding sixty-percent of first year wages for those completing a certificate or degree by 2030.

COURSE COMPLIANCE

The University/College is responsible for involving full-time teaching faculty in the process of selecting and implementing University/College courses. This includes ensuring that course goals and standards are understood, and that the same standards of expectation and assessment are applied where University/College courses are offered. Courses offered for Pride Prep dual credit include the same content and rigor as courses taught to other college students, utilizing the same curriculum, policies, and instructors with similar if not same qualifications. The University/College will designate staff/personnel to monitor the quality of instruction in order to assure compliance with the standards established by the State, applicable Accrediting Body, the University/College, and the School District. Provision of dual credit will be in accordance with

the provisions of Texas Administrative Code, Title 19 "Education," Pt. 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter D.

ENROLLMENT and SELECTION

Students must demonstrate readiness for college-level work by taking the required college placement exams and meeting the minimum score requirements as determined by the University/College in order to enroll in university courses. Upon mutual agreement, the University/College will assist with enrollment at least one time per semester for all students who are qualified and accepted into Pride Prep dual credit courses.

The following will also occur during the selection process:

- (1) The School District staff will recruit eighth graders annually to apply to Pride Prep.
- (2) The School District will participate in the Prep Parent information sessions to be held annually by the University/College.
- (3) The University/College will communicate with a School district designee during the selection process and enrollment period.

All eight grade students are eligible to apply for the Pride Prep program. Students must complete the following:

- (1) Students must complete a Pride Prep application.
- (2) Students must complete a dual credit ApplyTexas application.
- (3) Students must take all portions of the Texas Success Initiative Assessment (TSIA).
- (4) Students must complete an essay. The essay prompt and scoring rubric will be at the discretion of the University/College.
- (5) Students must meet the required TSIA minimum score for reading to be eligible for an interview. The interview protocol and scoring rubric is at the discretion of the University/College.

INSTRUCTORS, FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATION

School District and University/College will be responsible for evaluating instructor credentials to ensure they meet all state and regional requirements, including, but not limited to Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) and Southern Association of Colleges, Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). All School District instructors must meet state certification requirements in their subject area to teach in the state of Texas and meet SACSCOC minimal requirements for faculty credentials. The University is accredited by the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), and all University instructors of courses in this MOU agreement are in compliance with criteria as described in SACSCOC Principle 6.2.a. of the *SACSCOC Principles of Accreditation*.

The University/College shall supervise and evaluate instructors of Pride Prep dual credit courses using the same or comparable procedures used for faculty at the main campus of the college.

The University/College will pay the salary of faculty/instructors who teach the dual credit college-level courses in the Pride Prep Program. Should issues arise regarding university faculty,

quality of courses, or student issues, the principal will report as soon as possible to the University/College appointed Pride Prep program designee.

HIGH SCHOOL ORGANIZATIONS AND FACILITIES

Pride Prep program classes will take place at Commerce High School in Commerce, Texas and on the University/College Campus. The class will be taught by a dual credit instructor. Computers as needed will be provided by School District for use by students and connectivity to the University's/College's course management system will be ensured.

TUITION AND FEES

The School District's students will pay the cost of statutory tuition for each student for each three hour course.

BOOKS AND SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

All textbooks and supplemental materials required for classes will be the responsibility of the student.

SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE

Pride Prep students are eligible to receive all support services provided University/College students.

Specific support and guidance provided as a part of the program include the following:

- 1) Parent/student orientation, held annually as part of the admissions process.
- 2) Advising related to the University/College admission and academic testing processes.
- 3) Access to University resources available to all University students, including but not limited to disability services, library facilities, online and physical, and tutoring, online and in-person.

GRADING POLICY

University/College grades for dual credit courses will continue to be entered as letters (A, B, C, D, F, Q, W) for University/College purposes. However, University/College faculty members will provide School District personnel with numerical representations of those grades at the conclusion of each course. The School District will use those numerical grades for School District grading purposes. The School District accepts responsibility for addressing parent concerns about numerical grades.

TRANSPORTATION

Students are responsible for securing transportation to the Pride Prep program.

INSTRUCTIONAL SCHEDULE AND CALENDAR

The University/College calendar will be followed. Classes will not be in session if Commerce High School is closed.

CONDUCT

Students are required to adhere to University/College and School District regulations regarding facilities and equipment usage, and the University/College and School District codes of conduct. Failure to do so will subject the student to appropriate action taken by the School District and the University/College, including suspension and dismissal. Students are responsible for understanding and following the principles of academic honesty.

COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS

All signatories to the Memorandum of Understanding will be responsible for complying with applicable Federal, state and local laws, rules, and mandatory policies and guidelines.

INSURANCE AND INDEMNIFICATION

To the extent authorized by law, in consideration of the performance by both parties of this agreement, each party does hereby agree to indemnify and hold harmless all agents, servants, and employees of the other party from and against any and all claims, debts from either (1) claimed or actual defects in premises owned by the other party and used in the performance of this agreement; (2) any acts or omissions of the other party, its agents, servants, or employees, in the performance of this MOU controlled by the School District and used in the performance of this agreement; (3) any acts or omissions of the School District, its agents, servants, or employees, in the performance of this MOU.

MODIFICATION OF THE AGREEMENT

This Memorandum of Understanding may be modified and amended only by mutual agreement of the parties in writing, and any such modification or amendments shall be attached and become a part of this collaboration as if set forth herein.

DISPUTE RESOLUTION

The dispute resolution process provided in Chapter 2260, *Texas Government Code*, and the related rules adopted by the *Texas Attorney General* pursuant to Chapter 2260, shall be used by the parties hereto to attempt to resolve any claims of breach of contract made by either party that cannot be resolved in the ordinary course of business. The parties shall submit written notice of a claim of breach of contract under this Chapter to the respective undersigned party, who will examine the claim and any counterclaim and negotiate with the other respective party in an effort to resolve the claim.

The designated individual responsible on behalf of Texas A&M University–Commerce for examining any claim or counterclaim and conducting any negotiations related thereto as required under Article 2260.052 of H.B. 826 of the 76th Texas Legislature shall be:

Mr. Travis Ball, CTPM, M.S.
Chief Procurement Officer & HUB Coordinator
Texas A&M University–Commerce
P.O. Box 3100
Commerce, TX 75429

TERMINATION OF THE AGREEMENT

The University/College and School District reserve the right to terminate this Memorandum of Understanding upon service of written notice to the other party 90 days prior to the date of termination. In this event, the date of termination will be the day after the end of the semester during which the 90-day period expires.

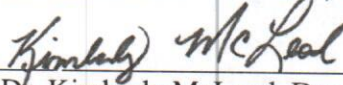
**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the partners have duly approved this AGREEMENT,
EXECUTED IN TWO original counterparts on this date of.**

FANNINDEL ISD Signatures:

 5-23-2022
Brad Lane, Fannindel ISD Superintendent Date

TEXAS A&M-COMMERCE Signatures:

 5/12/2022
Dr. Mark Rudin, President, Texas A&M University-Commerce Date

 5/12/2022
Dr. Kimberly McLeod, Dean, College of Education and Human Services Date

APPENDIX

Pride Prep Dual Credit Course Crosswalk

TAMUC Course	TAMUC Course Title	TAMUC Credits	TEA PEIMS Number	High School Course Name
History 1301	United States History 1	3	03340100	U.S History
History 1302	United States History 2	3	03340100	U.S. History
English 1301	College Reading and Writing	3	03220300 03220400	English 3 A English 4 A
English 1302	Written Argument and Research	3	03220300 03220400	English 3 B English 4 B
English 2326	Intro to Literature	3		
Political Science 2301	Principles of US and Texas Government	3	03330100	United States Government
Political Science 2302	US and Texas Government: Institutions and Policies	3	03380001	Social Studies Advanced Studies
Political Science 2305	U. S. Government	3	03330100	United States Government
Political Science 2306	Texas State and Local Government	3	03380001	Social Studies Advanced Studies
Math 1314	College Algebra	3	03100600 0310250X 03101100	Algebra 2 Independent Studies in Math Pre-Cal B
Theater 1310	Introduction to Theatre	3	03250100	Theater 1, Theater Arts 1
Psychology 2301	Introduction to Psychology	3	03350100	Psychology
Economics 2301	Principles of Macro Economics	3	03310300	Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits
Unco 1301	Signature Course: I Think Therefore, I Create Value	3	03380002 13034400	Project Based Research Entrepreneurship
Coms 1315	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3	03241400	Communication Applications