Texas Education Agency

VANGUARD BEETHOVEN

ECHS Renewal Application

2021-2022

Contents

Background

District Affiliation

VANGUARD ACADEMY

CD #: 108808
Region: 01
Mailing Address (Line 1): 1200 E KELLY
Mailing Address (Line 2):
City, State, Zip: PHARR, TX 78577

School Affiliation

VANGUARD BEETHOVEN

CDC #: 108-808-105
Region:
Mailing Address (Line 1): 2215 S VETERANS BLVD
Mailing Address (Line 2):
City, State, Zip: EDINBURG, TX 78539

Academy Information

What is the academy name?

Vanguard Beethoven Early College High School

Which model does the district intend to implement at this time? Within these models, there are variations.

School-Within-School (SWS) - A subset of students on the campus are enrolled in grades 9-12 are enrolled in the academy.

Distinguished Recognition

Grade Levels Served

What grade level(s) will your academy plan to serve in the 2021-2022 school year?

9
10
11

Enter the number of students that you plan to serve in 9th grade.

30

Enter the number of students that you plan to serve in 10th grade.

18

Enter the number of students that you plan to serve in 11th grade.

30

Contacts

Applicant

Applicant 1

Job Title

Director of Early College High School

Name Prefix

Ms.

First Name

Roberta

Last Name

Davila

Email

rdavila@vanguardac.net

Phone

956-318-0211

Principal

Principal 1

Name Prefix

Mrs.

First Name

Angelica

Last Name

Martinez

Email

an_martinez@vanguardac.net

Phone

956-318-0211

Superintendent

Superintendent 1

Name Prefix

Dr.

First Name

Narciso

Last Name

Garcia

Email

n_garcia@vanguardac.net

Phone

956-781-1701

Narratives

Current Designations at VANGUARD ACADEMY:

- VANGUARD REMBRANDT - ECHS - 1819
- VANGUARD REMBRANDT - T-STEM - 1920
- VANGUARD MOZART - ECHS - 1819
- VANGUARD BEETHOVEN - ECHS - 1819

Previous Planning Year Applications at VANGUARD ACADEMY:

Narratives

The majority of the following questions will be narrative response. Narrative responses are limited to a maximum of 250 words. We recommend writing your responses in a text-editing software such as Microsoft Word and then pasting your responses into the website when they are complete. Progress to the next section when you are ready.

Narratives: Degrees and Credentials: IHE Agreements, Degrees and Credentials, Recruitment and Enrollment

Degrees and Credentials

Select the Career Cluster(s) that your academy plans to offer in 2021-2022.

Arts AV Tech & Communication
Business Marketing Finance
Education and Training
Health Science
Information Technology
Law & Public Service
Manufacturing
STEM

Select the Program(s) of Study your academy plans to offer in 2021-2022.

Digital Communications
Graphic Design and Multimedia Arts

Select the Program(s) of Study your academy plans to offer in 2021-2022.

Business Management
Marketing and Sales

Select the Career Cluster(s) that your academy plans to offer in 2021-2022.

Cybersecurity
Engineering
Programming and Software Development

Select the Program(s) of Study your academy plans to offer in 2021-2022.

Teaching and Training

Select the Program(s) of Study your academy plans to offer in 2021-2022.

Healthcare Diagnostics
Healthcare Therapeutics
Nursing

Select the Program(s) of Study your academy plans to offer in 2021-2022.

Cybersecurity
Information Technology Support and Services
Programming and Software Development

Select the Program(s) of Study your academy plans to offer in 2021-2022.

Emergency Services
Law Enforcement

Select the Career Cluster(s) that your academy plans to offer in 2021-2022.

Welding

Which of the following credential(s) does the academy plan to offer students in 2021-2022 school year?

AD
PC
PC2

What associate degree(s) does the academy plan to offer?

Item

Interdisciplinary Studies/General Studies

Education

Engineering

Criminal Justice

Health Professions

Welding Technology

Cybersecurity

What level 1 postsecondary certificate(s) provided by an IHE does the academy plan to offer?

Item

Cybersecurity

Basic Welding

Phlembotomy

Patient Care Technician

Microsoft Office Certification

What level 2 postsecondary certificate(s) provided by an IHE does the academy plan to offer?

Item

Welding Technology/Welder

Recruitment and Enrollment

Describe any changes in established plans for recruitment and enrollment process that meet open enrollment requirements.

Given the current situation we face with the COVID-19 pandemic, our recruitment and enrollment plan has altered to included multiple platforms of communication with our rising 9th graders. Our counselor has been communicating through zoom, Remind App, Google Voice, and Google Classroom. Holding student and parent zoom meetings to share our recruitment power point, navigation through campus ECHS website tabs, and answer any questions they may have in regards to benefits of joining ECHS. Our 8th -10th grade staff is educated on ECHS requirements and support campus in recruiting students to apply for upcoming cohort. Our website also has announcements for ECHS enrollment application requirements and information. An ECHS pamphlet is also uploaded to teachers Google Classrooms and shared with parents through curbside COVID testing and food distribution. Announcement of ECHS application availability and deadline is posted on student progress and report cards, marquee, and distributed with re-enrollment/new enrollment applications for campus.

Degrees and Credentials: IHE Agreements

Does the IHE partner currently have an articulation agreement with a four-year IHE detailing how a student's associate degree and accrued credits could lead to a baccalaureate degree?

Yes

Provide the university name that your IHE partner has an articulation agreement with and the bachelor degree that students could earn using their associate degree and accrued credits. Each row represents a degree.

2-Year Degree	University	4-Year Degree
Education	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	Education

2-Year Degree	University	4-Year Degree
Criminal Justice	University of Texas Rio Gtande Valley	Criminal Justice
Biology	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	Biology
Engineering	University of Texas Rio Grande VALLEY	Engineering

Narratives: Strategic Partnerships

Strategic Partnerships

IHE Partner 1

Affiliation

South Texas College

Name Prefix

Dr.

First Name

David

Last Name

Plummer

Email

davidp@southtexascollege.edu

Phone

956-872-5575

Job Title

Interim President

The Early College High School shall have a current, signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for each school year that defines the partnership between the school district(s) and the institution(s) of higher education (IHE).

Describe how the IHE articulation agreement addresses the following IHE Blueprint Requirement: Curriculum alignment and courses of study, which enables a student to combine high school courses and college-level courses to earn either an associate degree, postsecondary certificate provided by an IHE, or industry certification.

South Texas College is working closely with Vanguard Beethoven ECHS to ensure our students are on

track for core completion, an associate's degree, bachelors, and or certification(s). During this pandemic, STC has adjusted their communication lines to support online course completion for our students. Working hand in hand with campus counselors to check credits and degree plans frequently for future course enrollment has really supported our students to stay on track. IHE and campus counselor conference with students to discuss course sequence and advances/repercussions of changes in major throughout their college years. South Texas College has created crosswalks for every degree our students are enrolled in and submitted these to us so we may combine these crosswalks with ours. Students will be able to complete their high school requirements along side receiving college course credits. Students may take college level courses as well as Advanced Placement courses, which are transferable for college credit and aligned to high school requirements. Aligning the student's degree plan with high school course requirements throughout the 4 years will lead our students to core completion onto an associate's degree, bachelors, and or a certification.

Describe how the IHE articulation agreement addresses the following IHE Blueprint Requirements: Policies for: 1) advising students on the transferability of all college credit offered and earned, 2) ensuring the IHE transcripts college credit earned through dual credit in the same semester that credit is earned, 3) advising students as to the transferability and applicability to baccalaureate degree plans for all college credit offered and earned (college credits earned during high school should allow students to progress from an associate degree to a bachelor's degree and beyond in their chosen field), 4) students accessing the IHE facilities, services and resources

Along side STC, Beethoven ECHS offers opportunities for college advising throughout the school year in First-Time Dual Credit Student Module, Apply Texas, and Degree Works. Due to pandemic, advisement services through Google classroom, Google voice, Remind App, and zoom sessions has been effective in communicating information, trainings, and mental health support to the students. Beethoven administration has properly advised students on the completion of AP and dual course(s) to ensure these course credits are transferable and applied in Degree Works. Parent meetings are held via zoom through campus where students receive updated information regarding registration, Student Academic Probation rule, financial aid, GPA, and tutorial services. A degree audit is performed with student, STC representative, ECHS Director and counselor after each semester to ensure credits are transferred and recorded accordingly to ensure student is on track. Progress monitoring with IHE supports offering services/tutorials to students who are falling behind. In addition, session communicates services available for students through STC. STC also has the accessibility to distribute information via virtual workshop for guidance when special services/accommodations are required. Throughout the pandemic, the IHE has done a great job with supporting our students' social emotional learning by providing virtual workshops that deal with topics such as mental health and personal growth as well as self-care. They have also provided a virtual support group where students can access support from the comfort of their home for topics such as stress, anxiousness and feelings of being overwhelmed.

Describe how the IHE articulation agreement addresses the following IHE Blueprint Requirements: Transportation costs and fees including provisions for discontinuing operation while ensuring students previously enrolled will have opportunity to complete their course of study.

Due to pandemic, all courses since March 2020 have been online and no transportation has been needed thus far. Vanguard Academy had provided drivers and transportation for all Vanguard Beethoven ECHS students taking courses related at STC campus(es) and at sister campuses prior to pandemic. In addition, all academic fees including but not limited to textbooks, scantrons, course fees, and college entrance exams [TSI/ACT/SAT] are paid for by Vanguard Beethoven ECHS. All college

related costs are free of charge to all Vanguard Beethoven ECHS students. The IHE also provides the option of students being a part of Dual Academies on the IHE campus. This helps those students who need to take courses in a field that is not provided at the high school campus. This alleviates the difficulty of having to provide their own transportation back and forth from home, to high school, to IHE. When a student participates in a Dual Academy, the high school provides the transportation, free of charge, to the IHE.

Describe how the IHE articulation agreement addresses the following IHE Blueprint Requirements: Data sharing agreement that includes provisions for teacher data such as qualifications and student level data such as credit hours taken and earned, GPA, formative data to assess if student is on track for college readiness

STC addresses the IHE Blueprint Requirement Data sharing agreement by implementing the use of the Jagnet and Blackboard portal. These portals allow dual enrollment teachers and students a breakdown of their course learning objectives and progress of the student. Grades and policies are outlined in each instructor's course syllabus. Students are informed by the instructor of academic progress/grade status prior to the Last Day to Drop/Withdraw. The IHE has implemented Starfish Early Alert system to assist in communication between faculty and students. Starfish provides a venue for interventions for students. Struggling students will be advised by the instructor and campus counselor of current status in order to avoid problems in admissions, financial aid, and scholarships. Vanguard-Beethoven ECHS personnel are responsible for advising dual credit students concerning academic progress in the high school component of the course. The IHE also provides the high school with a Degree Audit every semester for every student enrolled in dual enrollment classes. The Degree Audit provides the high school with the courses completed and courses that are still pending to be taken. In addition, STC will also provide data collected yearly such as total dual enrollment courses offered per semester, students registered, and pass or fail data. The College will award transcript credit for courses agreed for which Dual Credit Course Agreements have been approved and such courses shall be evaluated and approved through the College curriculum approval process, and shall be taught at the College level.

Narratives: Advanced Academics

Advanced Academics

Select the type of advanced courses (dual credit/AP/IB) your campus plans to offer students in 2021-2022.

DC
AP

What type of dual credit courses does your campus plan to offer?

AGCM

Describe any challenges in ensuring your academy has educators with qualification to teach dual credit. What steps did your academy take to address the need?

Vanguard Beethoven is in the process of growing into a four-year high school. For the 2020-2021 school year, we currently have 9th & 10th graders. As a growing campus, our district has reviewed our needs based on campus growth and student course request on degree plans and will advertise for highly qualified personnel with master's degree in multiple core contents. This school year Vanguard Beethoven ECHS hired its first dual enrollment teacher for Art Appreciation. Currently, our students are taking several courses with our sister schools STC approved dual enrollment teachers. The district provides additional stipends and mileage [if traveling from campus to campus] as a great recruitment and retention method for teachers. Once onboard, they will apply to South Texas College to be hired as professors to teach dual enrollment courses. We are also encouraging and support our current staff to enroll in master's program. Our district is working with our local university to support these efforts by teachers. The school district offers a tuition reimbursement program to all Vanguard Academy employees. Every employee is eligible for up to $600 in tuition reimbursement per fiscal year as long as they meet all requirements set forth by the district.

Is the academy a TSIA testing site?

Yes

Narratives: Curriculum and Support

Curriculum and Support

Provide examples of how the campus plans to provide students with academic services. List activities and brief descriptions of the activities. Add a new row for each provided service.

Activity	Description
Academic Mentors	Campus teachers, ECHS director , and Counselor have adopted our students for mentoring.
TSI/ACT/SAT Preparation	These services are integrated into the school day through intervention period and additional online resources are available for self-paced tutorials and practice exams.
Degree Audits	Audits are performed by school counselor, ECHS Director , and STC personnel.
Dual Enrollment Course Tutorials (online or face-to-face)	ECHS and STC will support students struggling with course work via online or face-to-face. ECHS has incorporated an intervention and study hall period in master schedule for assistance.
ECHS Summer	Students, via zoom attended a TSI boot camp.

Bridge Camp

Activity	Description
Student Learning Communities	Through mentoring, teacher are meeting with students to discuss grades, challenges, learning opportunities, and social/emotional support.
College Success Course	Course prepares students for college life and responsibilities such as note-taking, collaboration, rigor of course and workload, time management, and study habits. It also support TSI preparations.

Provide examples of how the campus plans to provide students with wrap-around services. List activities and brief descriptions of the activities. Add a new row for each wrap-around service.

Activity	Description
Parent Meetings with Vanguard Beethoven	Via zoom, Beethoven ECHS meetings focus on the benefits and advantages of being an ECHS student as well as expectations, policies, and procedures of being an STC student.
Parent Meetings with South Texas College	Focuses on college requirements, SAP rule, FERPA, and amenities available for students.
School Climate Dept./Social Worker	Will assist students on as needed basis with social, emotional, and self-competency necessities to sustain stability throughout college semesters.
College Readiness Course	Ensuring student have skills to be successful in college. Ex: study skills, work habits, time management, help-seeking behaviors, and social problem-solving skills.
Bi-weekly meetings with counselor for academic advisement	Scheduled meetings to discuss grades, progress of assignments, dilemmas, and next steps.

How does your academy use the access, achievement, and attainment data for program improvement?

We review access data to ensure that our ECHS target populations (at-risk, Hispanic, ECD, ELLs, and SWDs) are representative of the district target populations in order to align to the OBM's. We review our Achievement Measures and provide targeted instructional supports including not limited to TSI tutoring, ACT/SAT Preparation, student mentors, and content course tutorials. The data attained from these intentional supports are used to assist in meeting the OBM's and provide support for students who are not being successful in data indicators. Adjustments to our Master Schedule are done based on student course needs. Our first ECHS cohort will graduate in 2023 and in order to align to the attainment data and ensure they are on track to meet the OBM's outlined in the blueprint, we ensure that the students are receiving frequent degree audits with IHE partner and school counselor, provide preparation and tutorials to succeed in their college courses, and train students and parents on STC and high school graduation requirements through parent meetings. These services are being provided through multiple platforms such as: Zoom, Remind App, Google Classroom, and Google Voice due to current COVID-19 pandemic. We also provided all ECHS students have a portfolio in which contains all documents related to degree plans/audits, assessment data/grades, student services, meeting notes, and calendar of events/reminders through Google Classroom.

Narratives: Leadership Team

Leadership Team

List the Leadership Team's three priorities for the next year and describe how the selected priority contributes to the academy's success. Each priority should be a benchmark from the ECHS/T-STEM/P-TECH Blueprint.

Benchmark	Description
Benchmark 1.1: Target Population	To ensure targeted population meets the requirements of the outcome based measures. Increase Applicant Numbers- this would allow for us to capture more at-risk students and provide them with a strong foundation in college readiness.
Benchmark 5.1: Academic Rigor and Readiness	To provide sufficient services/campus course to support the needs of the students to meet requirements for TSI/ACT/SAT for college admission and course prerequisites. Create intentional tutorial groups that are accessible to the students virtually at a variety of times to meet the needs of the students.
Benchmark 6.2d: School Design	IHE and campus working in conjunction to provide students frequent counseling/advising by creating a plan for these times that we are in, COVID-19 pandemic, to allow for our students to get support for all activities related to planning and maintaining career pathways throughout college courses.

Narratives: Benchmark 1 Products, Benchmark 2 Products, Benchmark 3 Products, Benchmark 4 Products, Benchmark 5 Products, Benchmark Products, Benchmark 6 Products

Benchmark Products

Benchmark 1 Products

Provide a link to the academy's written admission policy and enrollment application.

http://www.beethoven-secondary.vanguardacademy.education/apps/pages/index.jsp?
uREC_ID=1657559&type=d&pREC_ID=1804534

Provide a link to the academy's written recruitment plan including a timeline of recruitment and enrollment events, and recruitment materials for distribution at feeder schools and other appropriate locations in the community.

http://www.beethoven-secondary.vanguardacademy.education/apps/pages/index.jsp?
uREC_ID=1657559&type=d&pREC_ID=1804570

Provide a link to the academy's brochures and marketing in Spanish, English, and/or other relevant languages.

http://www.beethoven-secondary.vanguardacademy.education/apps/pages/index.jsp?
uREC_ID=1657559&type=d&pREC_ID=1804537

Provide a link to the academy's written communication plan for targeting identified audiences, parents, community members, school board, higher educational personnel, etc.

http://www.beethoven-secondary.vanguardacademy.education/apps/pages/index.jsp?
uREC_ID=1657559&type=d&pREC_ID=1804542

Benchmark 2 Products

Provide a link to the academy's final, signed, and executed MOU with their IHE.

http://www.beethoven-secondary.vanguardacademy.education/apps/pages/index.jsp?
uREC_ID=1657579&type=d&pREC_ID=1804576

Benchmark 3 Products

Provide a link to the academy's leadership meeting agendas and minutes.

http://www.beethoven-secondary.vanguardacademy.education/apps/pages/index.jsp?

uREC_ID=1657592&type=d&pREC_ID=1804604

Provide a link to the academy's school board and board of regents' presentations.

http://www.beethoven-secondary.vanguardacademy.education/apps/pages/index.jsp?
uREC_ID=1657592&type=d&pREC_ID=1840513

Provide a link to the academy's description of each member and role in committee.

http://www.beethoven-secondary.vanguardacademy.education/apps/pages/index.jsp?
uREC_ID=1657592&type=d&pREC_ID=1804593

Benchmark 4 Products

Provide a link to the academy's 60 college credit hours crosswalk

http://www.beethoven-secondary.vanguardacademy.education/apps/pages/index.jsp?
uREC_ID=1657607&type=d&pREC_ID=1804619

Provide a link to the academy's calendar of family outreach events.

http://www.beethoven-secondary.vanguardacademy.education/apps/pages/index.jsp?
uREC_ID=1657607&type=d&pREC_ID=1804623

Provide a link to the academy's professional learning community agenda and notes

http://www.beethoven-secondary.vanguardacademy.education/apps/pages/index.jsp?
uREC_ID=1657607&type=d&pREC_ID=1804644

Provide a link to the academy's advisory/study skills curriculum material

http://www.beethoven-secondary.vanguardacademy.education/apps/pages/index.jsp?
uREC_ID=1657607&type=d&pREC_ID=1804644

Provide a link to the academy's Master Schedules

http://www.beethoven-secondary.vanguardacademy.education/apps/pages/index.jsp?
uREC_ID=1657607&type=d&pREC_ID=1804643

Benchmark 5 Products

Provide a link to the academy's calendar of TSI test administration dates.

http://www.beethoven-secondary.vanguardacademy.education/apps/pages/index.jsp?
uREC_ID=1657653&type=d&pREC_ID=1804670

Provide a link to the academy's aggregate reports of TSI exam performance

http://www.beethoven-secondary.vanguardacademy.education/apps/pages/index.jsp?
uREC_ID=1657653&type=d&pREC_ID=1804671

Provide a link to the academy's tutoring and bridge program schedules

http://www.beethoven-secondary.vanguardacademy.education/apps/pages/index.jsp?
uREC_ID=1657653&type=d&pREC_ID=1840509

Provide a link to the academy's Bridge program curricula

http://www.beethoven-secondary.vanguardacademy.education/apps/pages/index.jsp?
uREC_ID=1657653&type=d&pREC_ID=1840511

Benchmark 6 Products

Provide a link to the academy's mentor/induction program plans.

http://www.beethoven-secondary.vanguardacademy.education/apps/pages/index.jsp?
uREC_ID=1657655&type=d&pREC_ID=1804677

Provide a link to the academy's annual training or professional development plan with ECHS and IHE faculty.

http://www.beethoven-secondary.vanguardacademy.education/apps/pages/index.jsp?
uREC_ID=1657655&type=d&pREC_ID=1804674

Provide a link to the academy's ECHS leader/liaison meeting agendas and notes.

http://www.beethoven-secondary.vanguardacademy.education/apps/pages/index.jsp?
uREC_ID=1657655&type=d&pREC_ID=1804675