LANCASTER H S

ECHS Renewal Application

2023-2024

Contents

Background

District Affiliation

LANCASTER ISD

CD #: 057913
Region: 10
Mailing Address (Line 1): 422 S CENTRE AVE
Mailing Address (Line 2):
City, State, Zip: LANCASTER, TX 75146

School Affiliation

LANCASTER H S

CDC #: 057-913-001
Region:
Mailing Address (Line 1): 200 E WINTERGREEN RD
Mailing Address (Line 2):
City, State, Zip: LANCASTER, TX 75134

Academy Information

What is the academy name?

Lancaster STEM 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?

9
10
11
12

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

90

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

89

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

84

Enter the number of students that you plan to serve in 12th grade.

70

Contacts

Applicant

Applicant 1

Job Title

Principal

Name Prefix

Mr.

First Name

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Last Name

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Phone

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Principal

Principal 1

Name Prefix

Mr.

First Name

Anthony

Last Name

Thornhill

Email

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Phone

9722181858

Superintendent

Superintendent 1

Name Prefix

Dr.

First Name

A.K

Last Name

Perera

Email

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Phone

9722181400

Narratives

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

Specify Career Cluster(s) that your academy plans to offer.

NA

Select the Career Cluster(s) that your academy plans to offer.

Other

Which of the following credential(s) does the academy plan to offer students?

AD

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

Item

Interdisciplinary Studies/General Studies

Recruitment and Enrollment

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

LSECH administration created videos that outline the purpose and vision of Early College that were displayed at our feeder schools. Videos were also posted on the school's webpage, so parents were provided the same essential information. Administration and staff members hold two parent-interest meetings in person that communicate information about the Early College program. LSECHS administration also provides one additional parent meeting using the platform Zoom for parents who are unable to make the in-person meeting. Further, the presentation and access to the application was sent via email to families who were unable to attend any of the previously mentioned sessions. To ensure the safety of all stakeholders, an online application was created for families to complete. Lastly, the application was made available in both English and Spanish.

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
Associate of Arts / Science	University of North Texas Dallas	Bachelor of Science
Associates of Arts/ Science	SMU	Bachelor of Science
Associates of Arts/ Science	Texas A&M Commerece	Bachelor of Science
Associates of Arts/ Science	Prairie View A&M	Bachelor Science

Narratives: Strategic Partnerships

Strategic Partnerships

IHE Partner 1

Affiliation

Dallas Community College

Name Prefix

Dr.

First Name

Jose

Last Name

Dela Cruz

Email

josedelacruz@dcccd.edu

Phone

972-860-8201

Job Title

Dean – K12 Partnerships

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.

According to the Articulation Agreement, Dallas College will award credit to Lancaster STEM Early College High School students for courses that have been approved as Dual Credit. A list of aligned high school and college courses appears in attachment B. The parties warrant and represent that the courses included therein have been evaluated and approved through the official College and Curriculum approval process in accordance of THECB and TEA requirements.

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

Dallas County Community College success coach and Lancaster STEM Early College High School counselor, both, provide degree completion information to students. Our school is assigned a Success Coach (previously called Program Service Coordinator) that meets with students to discuss transfer ability, degree plans, and all other post-secondary questions. The Early College counselor develops meetings with the Success Coach, Executive Director of Student Data Management, and the principal to ensure that credits are acquired and applied to the correct semester. The College Transfer Service office provides information regarding the transfer courses (course numbers and course names) within the college that will transfer into degree plans at other institutions of higher education. The counselor and principal help with coordinating meetings for students to receive the information. High school students, faculty, and staff will have access to instructional and non-instructional resources available on the campus of Cedar Valley Community College, in keeping with the guided principles enumerated in Section 1, "Guided Principles," of this agreement.

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.

Lancaster STEM Early College High School will provide transportation for students to and from the college campus on school calendar days. If LISD schools are not in session, it is the responsibility of the students to obtain transportation to and from Cedar Valley Community College.

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

Lancaster STEM Early College High School will share information, in accordance with FERPA, as outlined except for the data sharing agreement. Third parties may only attain student data from Dallas Community College when written consent from eligible scholar is acquired. Lancaster STEM Early College High School will provide Cedar Valley Community College with all documentation, including an annual updated high school transcript, TSIA scores and official faculty transcripts. LSECHS will provide a contact person who fulfills the duties of an LSECHS Dual Credit Coordinator, including assisting students with obtaining TSI records. LSECHS will deliver to the college, in a timely manner, all required paperwork including faculty transcripts, request for exceptions, test scores, and enrollment documents.

Narratives: Advanced Academics

Advanced Academics

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

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?

One of the goals for Lancaster STEM Early College High School is to recruit and hire educators who have a master's degree in their content area. LSECHS has five educators who have applied to teach dual credit courses this upcoming school year. Currently, LSECHS has a qualified instructor for Education, English, and Biology. Ultimately, it is a goal of LSECHS to hire instructors who can be credentialed in the fine arts courses offered with the increase in the number of courses being offered as an INET class. To address this need, the district's human resource department reviewed all transcripts of current high school employees to determine who are qualified staff within the district.

Our district also posts applications on multiple sites that include incentives for teaching dual credit to attract qualified employees.

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
After School Tutorials	Provides enrichment and intervention to help student achieve academic success.
4 year plan meetings	Counselor meets with all students and provide them an update of their four year plan. Parents are encouraged to attend the meetings.
MAPS curriculum	All Freshman will have to take this course to receive assistance with topics such as time management, email etiquette, google docs, and study skills.
Summer Bridge	Each year our incoming freshman are required to attend a week-long program. Administration carefully plans out activities that assist our students with the transition to the new program. Activities that are made available for students include campus tours, college readiness skills (such as Blackboard training), TSI workshops, and team building activities.
TSIA Bootcamp	Prior to students attending TSIA bootcamp, students are provided with online resources for reading and writing. Students are required to complete the Pre-Assessment activity to determine their area of opportunities. During bootcamp, students will be provided individualized interventions.

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 Activity Outreach	Administration provides information on the program such as Blackboard training, transfer guidelines, and dual credit information
Dallas Promise	Meetings are held with families to discuss the benefits of signing the pledge.
College Tours	Each six weeks, our counselor schedules a college visit to help students gain better knowledge of colleges available upon completion of program.

(Header row of table reads "Activity | Description")

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

Access: Administration meets with district PEIMS specialist and receives data of the district for sub-populations such as at-risk, ELL students, and total males. Our staff develops a plan to recruit at-risk and other low-represented sub-populations such as Hispanic students and males. Achievement: Our staff reviews data and develops an intervention plan after completing the Summer Bridge program and testing all freshman in TSI. Students who are unsuccessful in TSI are provided an individualized plan to improve score on assessment. Additionally, students are provided with an additional course and after school tutorials to help with meeting this criteria. The staff assigns assessments each 6-weeks to determine the progress of students in areas such as Algebra, English I, and English II. As a result, low performing students are tracked closely and provided intervention to improve success. The attainment: the counselor will create spreadsheets to track students' completion of courses. Each student and parent have a 4-year plan meeting with counselor to discuss the student's progress and options.

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 4: Curriculum and Support	Over the last year there has been an increase in the number of classes needed to be repeated due to failing grades. LSECHS was assigned an additional staff member to assist with maintaining students grades. Administration also made changes to the master schedule to provide students who were taking INET courses with a facilitator to assist with any problems that arise throughout the semester.
Benchmark 5: Academic Rigor and Readiness	There has been a decrease in the number of students who are successful on the TSIA assessments over the last year. LISD has purchased resources that will be provided to students who are unsuccessful on the assessment. LISD also has partnered with a company to provide students with rigorous bootcamp to improve test scores.

Benchmark	Description
Benchmark 6: School design	With an increase in the number of teachers becoming credentialed there is a need in professional development with IHE partners. Teacher could also benefit from frequent formative peer observations.

Narratives: Benchmark Products

Benchmark Products

On this page, you must provide a hyperlink to the location where your digital products corresponding to the product and activities that are required to be posted by the first day of serving students. Enter the hyperlink here. Hyperlinks must be entered with the fully qualified URL including "HTTP://" or "HTTPS://".

https://www.lancasterisd.org/domain/1251