



TEKOA ACADEMY OF ACCELERATED STUDIES

T-STEM Renewal Application

2019-2020

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Background

District Affiliation

TEKOA ACADEMY OF ACCELERATED STUDIES STEM SCHOOL

CD #: 123803

Region: 05

Mailing Address (Line 1): 326 THOMAS BLVD

Mailing Address (Line 2):

City, State, Zip: PORT ARTHUR, TX 77640

School Affiliation

TEKOA ACADEMY OF ACCELERATED STUDIES

CDC #: 123-803-001

Region:

Mailing Address (Line 1): 326 THOMAS BLVD

Mailing Address (Line 2):

City, State, Zip: PORT ARTHUR, TX 77640

Academy Information

T-STEM Academy Name:

TEKOA ACADEMY OF ACCELERATED STUDIES

Are you currently in the 2018-2019 planning year or are a 2018-2019 planning grantee?

No

What grade level range will your academy serve in the 2019-2020 school year?

6-12

| Grade Level | Number of Students | School / CDC # Where Students are Enrolled |
|-------------|--------------------|--|
| 6 | 40 | TEKOA ACADEMY OF ACCELERATED STUDIES (123803001) |
| 7 | 40 | TEKOA ACADEMY OF ACCELERATED STUDIES (123803001) |
| 8 | 40 | TEKOA ACADEMY OF ACCELERATED STUDIES (123803001) |
| 9 | 40 | TEKOA ACADEMY OF ACCELERATED STUDIES (123803001) |
| 10 | 40 | TEKOA ACADEMY OF ACCELERATED STUDIES (123803001) |
| 11 | 40 | TEKOA ACADEMY OF ACCELERATED STUDIES (123803001) |
| 12 | 40 | TEKOA ACADEMY OF ACCELERATED STUDIES (123803001) |

Contacts

Business Partner

Affiliation: Acadian Ambulance Services
Job Title: Operations Manager
Full Name: Mr. Brandon Hebert
Email: Bhebert4@acadian.com
Phone Number: 409-201-9105

Superintendent

Job Title: CEO
Full Name: Dr. Paula Richardson
Email: prichardson@tekoacharterschool.org
Phone Number: 409-982-5400

Applicant

Job Title: TSTEM Coordinator
Full Name: Mr. Kevin Loder
Email: Kloder@tekoacharterschool.org
Phone Number: 409-392-5876

Business Partner

Affiliation: Space Center Houston
Job Title: Vice President of Education
Full Name: Mr. Daniel Newmyer
Email: dnewmyer@spacecenter.org
Phone Number: 281-244-2146

Business Partner

Affiliation: Microsoft
Job Title: Community Development Specialist
Full Name: Mrs. Amanda Hines
Email: Amanda.Hines@microsoft.com
Phone Number: 281-204-6970

IHE Liaison

Affiliation: Lamar State College - Port Arthur

Job Title: Executive Director of External Learning

Full Name: Dr. Gary Stretcher

Email: stretgd@lamarpa.edu

Phone Number: 409-984-6209

Narratives

Model Implementation

Which T-STEM model does the district intend to implement at this time? Within these models, there are variations. For this purpose campus is defined as a CDC number not a physical location.

Stand Alone Academy - All students on the campus are enrolled in the T-STEM academy

Endorsements

Identify the current endorsements that are offered:

- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)
- Business and Industry
- Multi-disciplinary Studies

Certificates

Does this academy offer Associate Degrees to students?

No

TSIA

Does this academy administer the TSIA exam?

No

Key Elements for Success

Provide a link to the job description, roles of design team, leadership team, and advisory board.

https://www.tekoacharterschool.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=964484&type=d&pREC_ID=1395432

Provide a link to the final, signed, and executed MOU.

https://www.tekoacharterschool.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=964484&type=d&pREC_ID=1395436

Provide a link to the academy's master schedules.

https://www.tekoacharterschool.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=964484&type=d&pREC_ID=1395441

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

[www.tekoacharterhttps://www.tekoacharterschool.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=964484&type=d&pREC_ID=1395445school.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=964484&type=d&pREC_ID=1395445](https://www.tekoacharterschool.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=964484&type=d&pREC_ID=1395445)

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

https://www.tekoacharterschool.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=964484&type=d&pREC_ID=1395441

Provide a link to the academy's internship and externship opportunities.

https://www.tekoacharterschool.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=964484&type=d&pREC_ID=1395449

Free-Response

Describe how the Academy will recruit, support, and retain highly qualified teachers.

Tekoa Academy of Accelerated Studies understands that talented, energized, and engaged educators can change the world. We make it a priority to build a team of gifted teachers and build a culture around them. That's why we continue to recruit world-class teachers from around the globe.

Not only are we recruiting excellent educators, but we're also developing and investing in our experienced faculty. For example, members of our STEM team recently participated in a 3-Day Space Exploration Educators Conference at Space Center Houston. Tekoa Academy is also working with School Growth not only to increase enrollment but cultivate a stronger learning organization as well.

Describe the current STEM pathways available at the academy.

By the time they enter high school, students who chose the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics pathways will already have taken 3 years of STEM electives. In high school, their core science classes include Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Scientific Research & Design. Their core math classes include Geometry, Algebra I & II, and 2 years of Math Models. Plus, Engineering Design and Problem Solving is available as an elective.

Describe how strategic alliances with industry partners and IHEs will support the Academy. The description should include details regarding the role of each IHE, business, and/or community partnership; along with parent/family partnerships and communication conventions with the Academy.

Strategic alliances have been created through the local state college, businesses, and STEM-related professionals to support the growth of our program. The advisory board will continue to meet over the summer to provide feedback on the courses we need to prepare students for college and careers in the future. They will also provide learning opportunities through internships, guest speakers, field trips and industry certifications.

Describe the Academy's work-based and contextual learning in the curriculum.

Tekoa Academy of Accelerated Studies offers several courses which include work-based and contextual learning. In our Advanced Journalism, Engineering Design, and Audio/Video Production classes, students are provided with many work-based projects. For example, students in the Advanced Journalism class work as a team in assigned roles to produce a quarterly magazine. Students experience the same teamwork, collaboration, and deadlines as if they were working the print/web industry today. Similar experiences can be found in other classes as well.

Also, 6th-8th Grade girls recently participated in a special pilot program at Space Center Houston. Students learned about coding and robots & drones. By the end of the 4-week program, girls experienced what it would be like to collaborate in teams to fly a drone and operate a rover on a simulated mission on Mars

Describe the STEM-focused extracurricular activities (field experiences, clubs, and competitions) offered to students.

Tekoa Academy competes each year in the Golden Triangle TAME (Texas Alliance for Minorities in Engineering) regional competition for a chance to move on to the state level and earn scholarships. The competition consists of academic tests in math and science as well as an Engineering Design Challenge.

Students from 6th - 12th Grade traveled to the Toyota Center in Houston to experience the NBRPA Robotics Day hosted by Microsoft.

Tekoa Academy will also compete in the 2020 FIRST Robotics competition, CSTEM Challenge, and High School eSports League.