



LASARA H S
T-STEM Renewal Application
2020-2021

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Background

District Affiliation

LASARA ISD

CD #: 245901

Region: 01

Mailing Address (Line 1): P O BOX 57

Mailing Address (Line 2):

City, State, Zip: LASARA, TX 78561

School Affiliation

LASARA H S

CDC #: 245-901-001

Region:

Mailing Address (Line 1): P O BOX 57

Mailing Address (Line 2):

City, State, Zip: LASARA, TX 78561

LASARA EL

CDC #: 245-901-101

Region:

Mailing Address (Line 1): P O BOX 57

Mailing Address (Line 2):

City, State, Zip: LASARA, TX 78561

Academy Information

What is the academy name?

Lasara T-STEM Academy

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

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

Grade Levels Served

What grade level(s) will your academy plan to serve in the 2020-2021 school year?

6
7
8
9
10
11
12

Enter the number of students that you plan to serve in 6th grade.

23

Enter the number of students that you plan to serve in 7th grade.

26

Enter the number of students that you plan to serve in 8th grade.

23

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

27

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

17

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

21

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

23

Contacts

Applicant

Applicant 1

Job Title

District Principal

Name Prefix

Mr.

First Name

William

Last Name

Bardwell

Email

wbardwell@lasaraisd.net

Phone

9566425466

Principal

Principal 1

Name Prefix

Mr.

First Name

William

Last Name

Bardwell

Email

wbardwell@lasaraisd.net

Phone

9566425466

Superintendent

Superintendent 1

Name Prefix

Ms.

First Name

Sara

Last Name

Alvarado

Email

salvarado@lasaraisd.net

Phone

9566423598

Narratives

Current Designations at LASARA ISD:

- LASARA H S - T-STEM - 0809

Previous Planning Year Applications at LASARA ISD:

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

Degrees and Credentials

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

Agriculture
Business Marketing Finance
STEM

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

Animal Science

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

Accounting and Financial Services
Business Management

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

Biomedical Science

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

IC

What industry certifications does the academy plan to offer?

Item

Texas State Floral Association Floral Skills Knowledge Based Certification

Adobe Certified Associate (ACA) - Photoshop (Visual Design using Adobe Photoshop)

Microsoft Office Specialist Word

Intuit QuickBooks Certified User (QBCU)

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?

No

Narratives: Strategic Partnerships: IHE, Strategic Partnerships: Business Partner

Strategic Partnerships: IHE

IHE Partner 1

Affiliation

Coastal Bend College

Name Prefix

Dr

First Name

Justin

Last Name

Hoggard

Email

jhoggard@coastalbend.edu

Phone

3613542200

Job Title

President

The T-STEM academy shall have strategic partnerships with business and industry partners and Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs) that are formally articulated in writing and clearly define a variety of STEM careers.

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.

Lasara TSTEM Academy's articulation agreements enables our students to get a head start by taking college level courses that also count toward their high school credits. We partner with Coastal Bend College to offer an Associations of Science or Art to our students, in which they are advised to take courses that they need both for college credit while attaining high school credit concurrently. We also partner with UTRGV TexPREP program in the summers to offer students engineering courses that are then counted toward high school electives. Our migrant students also are given the opportunity to

attend UTRGV's MARs program in the summer to take courses that are accepted as high school credits. Our newest agreement has been with South Texas Training in San Benito which will provide our students with their CNA certification and for those that wish to continue further, the Phlebotomy certification. Finally, we partner with TSTC to offer our students with disabilities the opportunities to take courses at South Texas ISD in industry, career and technical courses.

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

Our IHE partners work very closely with our counselor to ensure that students are advised in all aspects of college credits earned through the dual enrollment program and representatives/advisors from our IHE visit our campus each semester to assist students with advising and class selection. Students are advised of the different rules and laws that apply to transferability of college credits. Students are advised to take courses based upon their majors and to research the universities that they will be transferring to in order to determine what courses are needed for their major and to ensure that they are taking courses that will be needed and that will be transferred to the school of their choice. Transcripts are updated each semester at the conclusion of the semester with the college credits that are earned by the students. Students are educated about the positive benefits of the dual enrollment program and how they can earn their associate's degree while in high school and pursue their bachelor's degree right after high school graduation.

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.

Lasara TSTEM Academy provides the transportation for our students that attend IHE's. All costs and fees related to students' courses of study and program costs are covered 100% by our school district, including books and any equipment and certification exam fees that are associated with the program of study. Agreements with IHE's are completed and renewed on a yearly basis to ensure that students have the opportunity to complete any and all courses of study that they are enrolled in.

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

The communication with the IHE's in regards to teacher qualifications for courses is provided clearly and consistently with the guarantee that students are instructed by highly qualified instructors. If Lasara TSTEM Academy chooses to utilize qualified teachers from its own staff, the IHE will evaluate the teacher's credentials to determine whether they meet the requirements of the IHE in order to teach a college course. Student data is provided to the counselor at mid-term as well as at the conclusion of the term with both letter and numerical grades. The counselor is able to meet individually with students during the middle of the semester and at the end of the semester to properly advise and

determine progress, including the determination to drop a course and the consequences of this action. Student's grades are added to transcripts at the conclusion of each semester of completion. GPA's are determined based upon school policy. Students are also assessed a minimum of once a month on TSI if they are not already college ready, and the data is provided to teachers to make informed instructional decisions that will assist our students with passing the TSI exam to be college ready.

Strategic Partnerships: Business Partner

Business/Industry Partner 1

Affiliation/Company

Watson's City Drug

Job Title

Owner

Name Prefix

Mrs.

First Name

Mary Ann

Last Name

Kiefer

Email

kiefer.maryann@yahoo.com

Phone

956-689-2161

Describe how the Business/Industry articulation agreement addresses the following Business/Industry Blueprint Requirements: Clear roles and responsibilities for work site supervisors, mentors, teachers, support personnel, and other partners.

Lasara TSTEM Academy and Watson's City Drug have a memorandum of understanding which states the different roles and responsibilities of both parties, including the students. It clearly defines the roles and responsibilities of the supervisors on the work site, the staff at Lasara TSTEM Academy, and the student. All parties are involved in the decision making process for the roles and responsibilities and come to an agreement and it is then put into place and followed by all parties. Not only are the roles and responsibilities in place, but the consequences of not following through are also a part of the agreement. All parties sign the agreement and it is revisited yearly to determine if any changes or modification are needed.

Describe how the Business/Industry articulation agreement addresses the following Business/Industry Blueprint Requirements: Support for students' activities, such as clubs, Career and Technical Student Organizations, competitions, and special invitations.

The training that students receive through the businesses and industries transfer over into the various clubs, organizations and competitions that are students are a part of. The skills learned at school in the various activities are transferred over to the business and industries and vice versa. Students learn how to conduct themselves, communication skills, and leadership skills through participation in the various organizations, clubs and competitions, but they also learn these skills through hands-on applications within the businesses and industries that they visit or participate in as a part of an internship or job.

Describe how the Business/Industry articulation agreement addresses the following Business/Industry Blueprint Requirements: Student access to business and industry partners and work-based learning facilities, services, and resources.

Lasara TSTEM Academy attempts to make access to business and industry partners and work based learning experiences as much as possible. We go to bigger communities nearby to provide more access for our students and to provide more exposure to more opportunities. We also work very closely with Workforce Solutions to bring opportunities to our students within our community and school. Workforce Solutions provides opportunities and additional resources and services that teach our students necessary job skills and soft skills.

Describe how the Business/Industry articulation agreement addresses the following Business/Industry Blueprint Requirements: Transportation fees and costs.

Lasara TSTEM Academy incurs the costs of transportation fees and any costs associated.

Narratives: Regional Workforce Alignment, Work-Based Learning

Regional Workforce Alignment

List the regional high-demand occupations your academy intends to address through selected program(s) of study and work-based learning.

Regional High-Demand Occupation

Health Sciences

Work-Based Learning

Complete the activity tables below illustrating the work-based learning activities that your academy plans to offer students at each grade level. Please ensure the activities are STEM focused.

Add up to three activities offered to 6th grade students.

6th Grade Activities

Job readiness/soft skills curriculum

Texas Career Check

Texas OnCourse

Add up to three activities offered to 7th grade students.

7th Grade Activities

Job readiness/soft skills curriculum

Texas Career Check

Texas OnCourse

Add up to three activities offered to 8th grade students.

8th Grade Activities

Job readiness/soft skills curriculum

Texas Career Check

Texas OnCourse

Add up to three activities offered to 9th grade students.

9th Grade Activities

Job readiness/soft skills curriculum

Everfi

Texas OnCourse

Add up to three activities offered to 10th grade students.

10th Grade Activities

Job readiness/soft skills curriculum

Everfi

Texas OnCourse

Add up to three activities offered to 11th grade students.

11th Grade Activities

Job readiness/soft skills curriculum

Everfi

Texas OnCourse

Add up to three activities offered to 12th grade students.

12th Grade Activities

Job readiness/soft skills curriculum

Everfi

Texas OnCourse

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?

As a rural school district, it is difficult to recruit teachers with the qualifications to teach dual credit courses and to come to such a remote location. We also have difficulties with scheduling due to the fact that in most cases, we have only one teacher per subject and that teacher has to teach all of the different classes to all grade levels. We have increased our efforts toward publicizing our school district through many web based avenues as well as with newspaper publishers in nearby towns and communities. We have provided stipends to teachers to continue their education to be able to teach dual credit courses.

Is the academy a TSIA testing site?

Yes

Narratives: STEM-Focused Extracurriculars, Student Support

Student 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
Interest Inventories	Students are given interest inventories and/or surveys regarding STEM related fields to determine their interests in order to provide additional opportunities to our students
Saturday School	Students are provided with the opportunity to attend Saturday School for tutoring.
Intervention and remediation	Students are provided with intervention and remediation throughout the year.
Advising	Students are offered college and career advising.
Graduation Plan	Students are advised on their graduation plans and the various endorsements offered. They are meet with annually to discuss their plan and to ensure they remain on target.

Bridge Activity Programs	Description
	During the summer, students crossing over into our middle school and high school are provided with a bridge program that informs them of the expectations as well as the programs and opportunities for them in their next levels.
Acceleration	Students are given the opportunity to accelerate through advanced coursework as well as through the Dual Enrollment program that is offered through our school district.

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
Texas Agrilife Extension	Providing educational services on healthy eating habits and physical activity. Walk Across Texas program to increase physical activity amongst our students, staff and community.
Buckner Family Services	Counseling services for students and families in need
Community Center	Provides health related services, GED services, English language lessons, financial literacy, psychological services and counseling classes, blood drives, food and clothing assistance
Region One ESL and GED services	Region One specialists provide educational opportunities to student and community members for assistance with ESL and GED services.

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

Lasara TSTEM Academy uses the access, achievement, and attainment data to make informed educational decisions to improve our academic program. We use it to enhance our programs of study by creating additional opportunities for our students and adding new programs and services based upon the needs of our students and community. We provide the needed resources to our teachers and students in the form of curriculum, intervention and retention, and to continuously strive to make improvements toward the success of our students.

STEM-Focused Extracurriculars

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

Lasara STEM Academy focuses on a wide range of extracurricular activities through field experiences, clubs and competitions for our students. Our STEM Academy offers a variety of clubs in order to reach a large degree of our students interests in which students are given the opportunity to show their knowledge through competitions. The STEM clubs that we offer include the robotics club that competes in state competitions and Future Farmers of America/Agriculture Club that also competes in local competitions as well as state and national competitions. We have our STEM Ambassadors that assist in numerous ways throughout the school year, such as with career days, college fairs, service projects, leadership training, presenting on projects they have completed, and assisting teachers in the classroom. Our ambassadors also attend the Student by Student Technology and Leadership Conference in which they attend different mini-sessions. Each grade level has its students participate in field experiences to local colleges and universities. Lasara ISD also participates in PATHS in partnership with Region One in which we have students participate in health related learning environments, webinars, and hands-on experiences with local hospitals and professionals in health related fields. Our students also compete in Science Olympiads, Math Counts, and UIL events and have the opportunity to participate in TexPrep through UTRGV in the summers, which focuses on STEM specific skills in math and engineering.

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
1: School Design	Sharing responsibilities for outcomes and measures. Meet more regularly with staff, teachers and all stakeholders. Provide more professional development opportunities for teachers. This will provide our students with more opportunities for learning based upon more teacher knowledge and training.
4: Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment	Provide more pathways in high demand occupations. Provide more industry based certifications. By providing more of these opportunities, students will be better prepared for college and careers post graduation.
5: Work-Based Learning	Provide more hands on work based learning opportunities to students to enable students to gain necessary work experiences before graduation and better prepare students for the workforce and college after competing high school.

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

Benchmark Products

Benchmark 1 Products

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

<http://www.lasaraisd.net/vnews/display.v/SEC/T-STEM>

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

<http://www.lasaraisd.net/vnews/display.v/SEC/T-STEM>

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

<http://www.lasaraisd.net/vnews/display.v/SEC/T-STEM>

Benchmark 2 Products

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

<http://www.lasaraisd.net/vnews/display.v/SEC/T-STEM>

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.lasaraisd.net/vnews/display.v/SEC/T-STEM>

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

<http://www.lasaraisd.net/vnews/display.v/SEC/T-STEM>

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.lasaraisd.net/vnews/display.v/SEC/T-STEM>

Benchmark 3 Products

Provide a link to the academy's meeting agendas and minutes, with action items and decision logs.

<http://www.lasaraisd.net/vnews/display.v/SEC/T-STEM>

Provide a link to the academy's final, signed, and executed MOU with their industry partner/business.

<http://www.lasaraisd.net/vnews/display.v/SEC/T-STEM>

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

<http://www.lasaraisd.net/vnews/display.v/SEC/T-STEM>

Provide a link to the academy's list of strategic partners with each member's organization, title and role in providing work-based learning for students by grade level.

<http://www.lasaraisd.net/vnews/display.v/SEC/T-STEM>

Benchmark 4 Products

Provide a link to the academy's four-year crosswalk document

<http://www.lasaraisd.net/vnews/display.v/SEC/T-STEM>

Provide a link to the academy's master schedule.

<http://www.lasaraisd.net/vnews/display.v/SEC/T-STEM>

Provide a link to the academy's curriculum alignment documents.

<http://www.lasaraisd.net/vnews/display.v/SEC/T-STEM>

Provide a link to the academy's testing calendar and schedule for TSI, ACT, SAT or other assessments.

<http://www.lasaraisd.net/vnews/display.v/SEC/T-STEM>

Provide a link to the academy's documentation detailing a minimum of three course of study examples that outline student pathways from high school, to associate degrees, to work credential and beyond.

<http://www.lasaraisd.net/vnews/display.v/SEC/T-STEM>

Benchmark 5 Products

Provide a link to the academy's documentation of appropriate work-based learning experiences for students at all grade levels.

<http://www.lasaraisd.net/vnews/display.v/SEC/T-STEM>

Provide a link to the academy's current dated regional high demand occupation list.

<http://www.lasaraisd.net/vnews/display.v/SEC/T-STEM>

Provide a link to the academy's aggregate data describing student participation in work-based learning experiences as well as percentage of students earning industry certification and credentials by type.

<http://www.lasaraisd.net/vnews/display.v/SEC/T-STEM>

Provide a link to the academy's samples of student artifacts such as writing, portfolios, presentations, or links to digital content.

<http://www.lasaraisd.net/vnews/display.v/SEC/T-STEM>

Benchmark 6 Products

Provide a link to the academy's bridge program calendar and curricula.

<http://www.lasaraisd.net/vnews/display.v/SEC/T-STEM>

Provide a link the academy's tutoring and other intervention/remediation program schedules,

<http://www.lasaraisd.net/vnews/display.v/SEC/T-STEM>

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

<http://www.lasaraisd.net/vnews/display.v/SEC/T-STEM>
