

access

Helping BIG Dreams Happen!

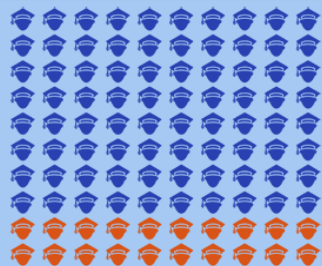


Avatar Center for Communication, Engagement & Student Success

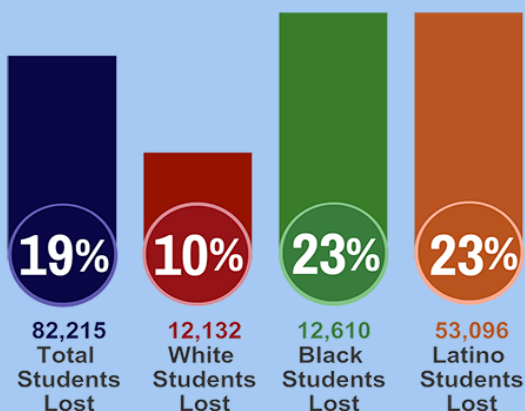
Our Jobs for Our Kids

Powered by **Star Tech Group**

Texas public schools are losing 1 out of 5 students



It has taken Texas over 36 years to improve by 13 percentage points: from 33% to 19%.



We're losing
10
students per hour



Schools are about **twice** as likely to lose Latino students and Black students as white students before they graduate.

Schools are still losing 1 in 4 Black students and more than 1 in 4 Hispanic students.

Universal high school graduation is two decades away

Texas has lost over 4.1 million students since 1986.
We stand to lose another 2 million students.



It doesn't have to be this way

www.idra.org • www.facebook.com/IDRAed

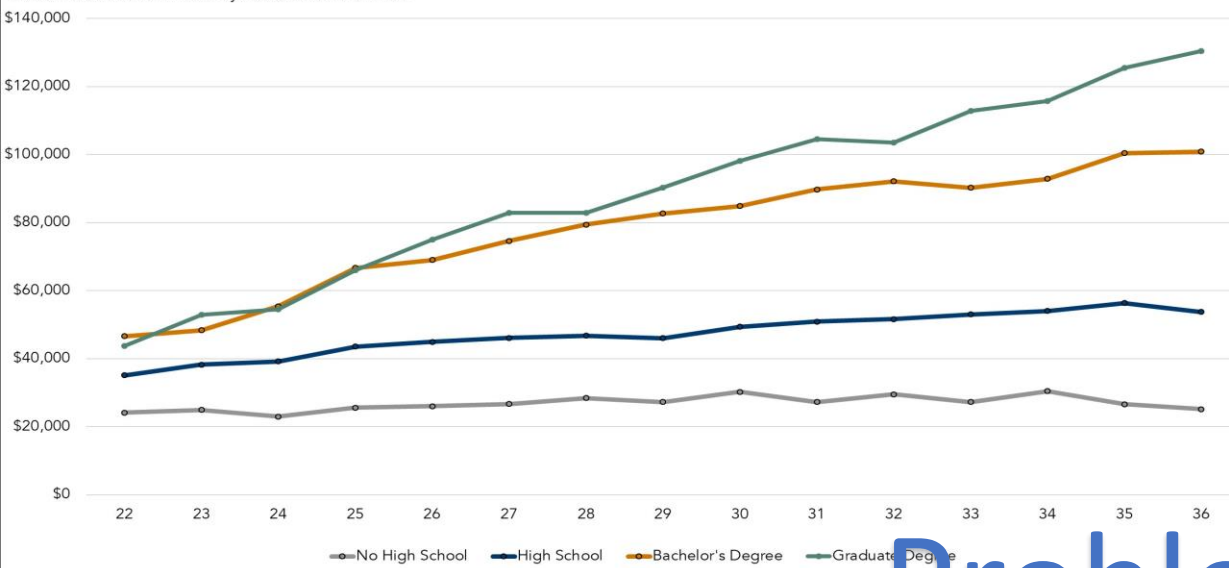
All children are valuable. None is expendable

The top reasons students drop out of high school

REASON FOR STOPPING SCHOOL	PERCENT OF TOTAL DROPOUTS
I was kicked out or expelled	0.6%
Pushed or pulled out of school	0.6%
Family issues or problems	0.8%
Lost a family member or friend	0.8%
Financial issues and work	1.2%
Teacher and school problems	1.2%
School environment	1.4%
Residential or school instability	2.0%
Mental health issues	2.1%
I was bullied	2.2%
Physical or other medical problems	2.7%
I was a member of a gang	3.5%
I got pregnant/gave birth	10.8%
I got into drugs	11.6%
I was held back	14.2%
No one cared if I attended	17.7%
I had to make money to support my family	19.0%
School wasn't relevant to my life	20.3%
I became a caregiver	25.9%
I was bored	25.9%
I was failing too many classes	27.6%

Root Cause

Education Pays Off - Literally
Median Income of Millennials by Educational Attainment

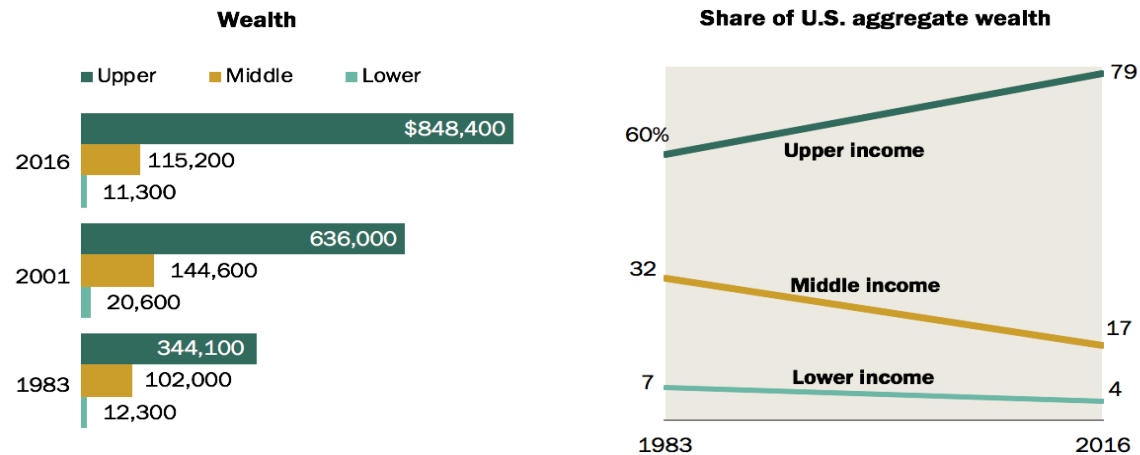


Source: IPUMS CPS, First American Calculations, 2018

Problem

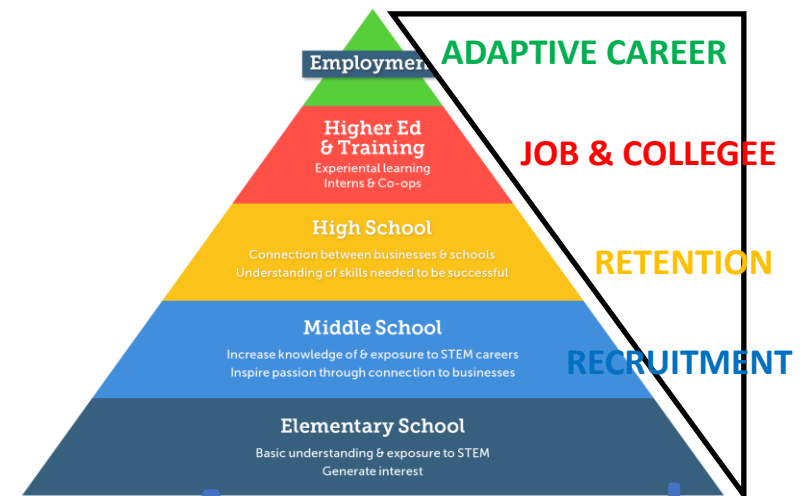
The gaps in wealth between upper-income and middle- and lower-income families are rising, and the share held by middle-income families is falling

Median family wealth, in 2018 dollars, and share of U.S. aggregate family wealth, by income tier



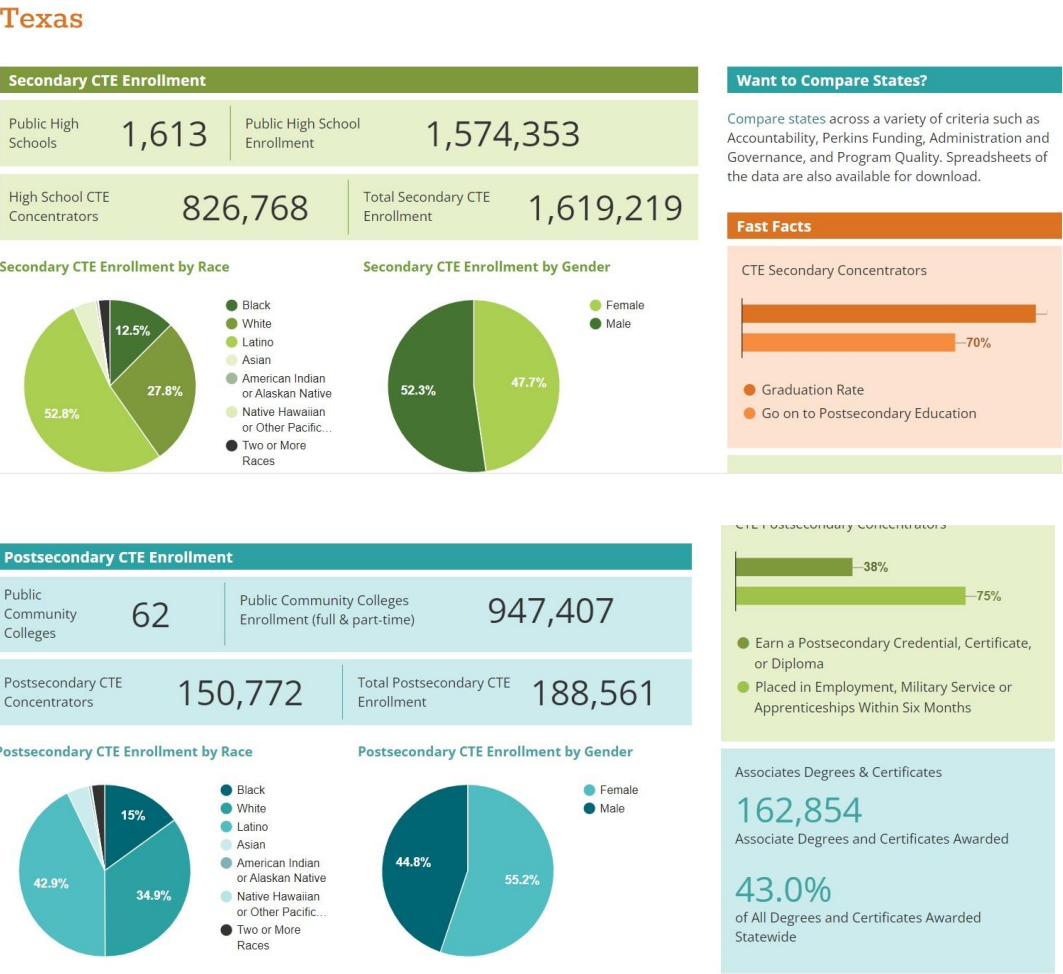
Note: Families are assigned to income tiers based on their size-adjusted income.
Source: Pew Research Center analysis of the Survey of Consumer Finances.
"Most Americans Say There Is Too Much Economic Inequality in the U.S., but Fewer Than Half Call It a Top Priority"

PEW RESEARCH CENTER



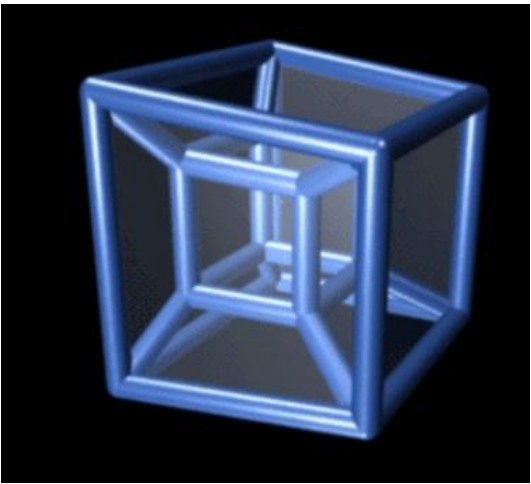
Approach

To Deliver Sustainable Change: Discard the “Silo” model



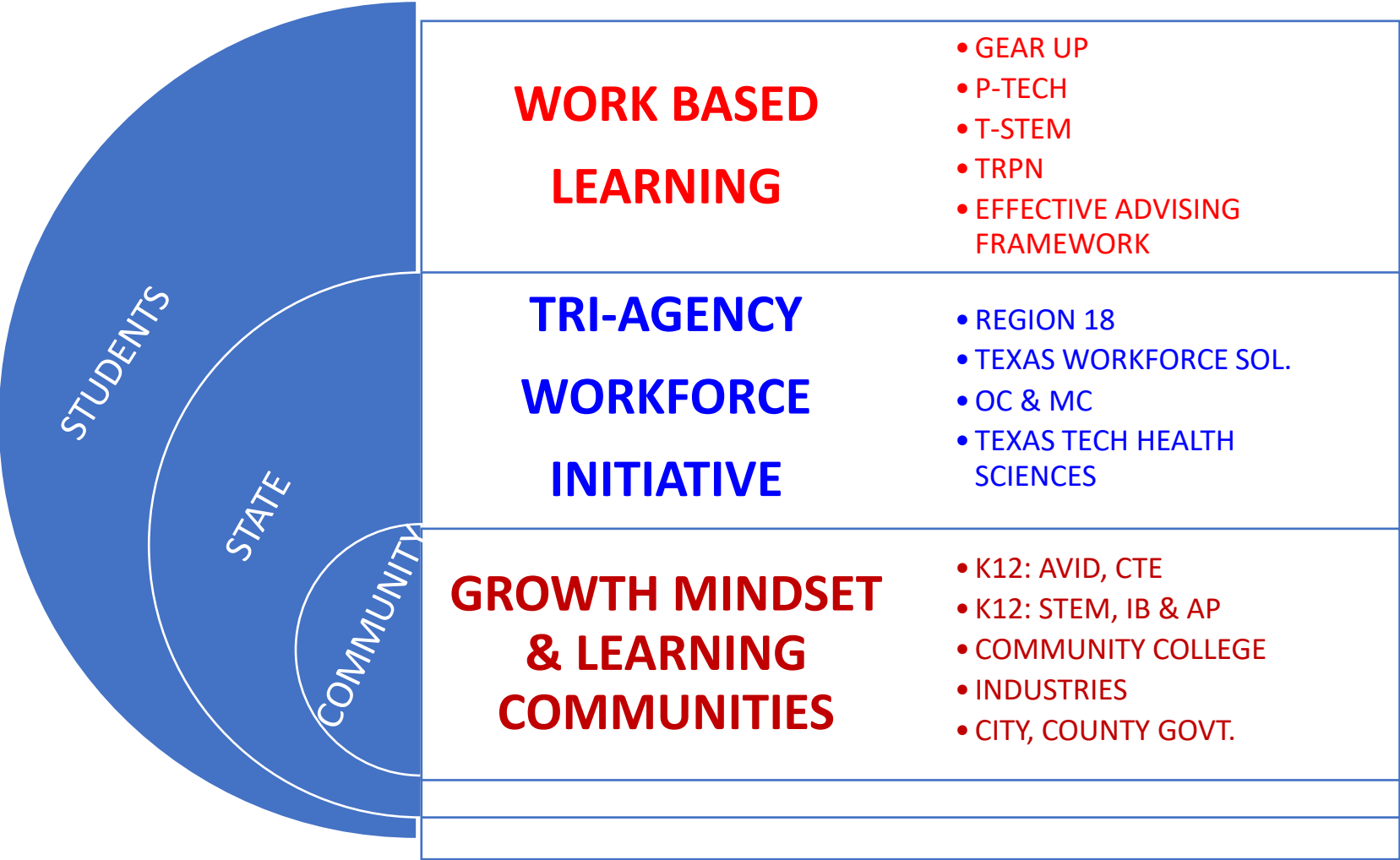
INDUSTRY STANDARD: SINGLE DIMENSION (K12 or College) SILO MODEL.

ACCESS: FOUR-DIMENSIONAL (K12, COLLEGE, EMPLOYER & COMMUNITY) MODEL



Systems Approach

Connecting State, County, District, Campus and Program Priorities to Every Student !



Policy to Student

ACCESS 4.0



ACCESS 1.0

FOCUS: K12

STUDENTS, PARENTS &
TEACHERS



ACCESS 2.0

FOCUS: COLLEGE

STUDENTS &
EMPLOYERS



ACCESS 3.0

FOCUS: EMPLOYERS

STUDENTS &
EMPLOYERS



ACCESS 4.0

FOCUS: COMMUNITY

RELEVANT PARTNERSHIPS

“The aim of education is the knowledge, not of facts, but of values.” — William S. Burroughs

Identifying, Supporting & Strengthening the value (learning) capacity in each student, ACCESS maximizes their intrinsic career interest to empower their economic independence!

Empowers economic independence in every student driven by a foundational collective impact strategy!

What is ACCESS?

ACCESS levels the playing field for all students by coordinating K12, Higher Ed and Workforce Requirements to connect **intrinsic interest of each student to a job-a career!**

ACCESS strengthens the **learning capacity** of today's students and increases the pool of tomorrow's **local and regional workforce pipeline** by Systemic Recruitment, Retention via Strengthening Persistence !





True HRD Platform

ACCESS is a true student centric, state of the art, cloud-based technology platform designed to empower today's students to become tomorrow's skilled workers.



Technology with a purpose: ACCESS



ACCESS is a user-friendly, state of the art, cloud-based technology platform custom designed for today's Permian Basin students to become tomorrow's skilled workers.



Creating Interest in Careers with Career Expert Connections: Building a Robust Local Workforce Pipeline

- Students are exposed to over 460 local/regional careers opportunities
- Over 1,100 regional career experts engage with students
- Best-In-Class Career Experts from Regional and Local Industries strengthen the “can-do” attitude in students.
- More than 2,000 career, CTE and college videos and interactive online talks

Career Placement Strategy: Delivers Recruitment, Retention & Adaptive Growth

- ACCESS connects local workforce (graduating high school seniors & community college adult education students) with local business and industry workforce opportunities.
- Creating long-term career placements for our students throughout the entire Permian Basin!
- A locally grown workforce resulting in the long-term retention of that workforce.
- Alignment of student's career program of study with employer recruitment.
- ACCESS provides access to resumes of potential candidates.

Technology Leveraged: Customization!

ACCESS platform is intentionally designed to provide a customized experience for each student, grade, campus and district. ACCESS data driven model aligns student intrinsic interest with CTE, STEM, IB, AP pathways.

With cutting-edge cloud, AI & mobile tech experienced developers, ACCESS has the in-house capability and agility to adapt as needed to customize and connect Elementary, Middle and High School Students to the cultural, educational and professional skillsets of the local & regional economy.

ACCESSLIFE is the mobile app that places the world of opportunities in the hands of students & their parents. ACCESSLIFE also assists the “Career Experts” to stay connected with students virtually from any where, at any time.

Building the ACCESS Elementary to High School Ecosystem



ACCESS experience starts at the Elementary Campus level limited only by the imagination of the students.



Building on the Elementary foundation, Middle School students get connected and educated on the range of career pathways & opportunities in every industry. High School students get a real-world experience to prioritize a career focus instead of a job focused mindset.

Customizing Public Education for Students!



- **Middle 60%** students gain confidence and clarity. Persistence & Growth ! (CTE-STEM Pathways).
- **Bottom 20%** students build on hands-on skill careers of CTE career pathways & jobs: Persistence & Completion (via CTE Pathways).
- **First generation & Economically challenged** students a priority: Confidence & Role Modeling !
- **Top 20%** - Minimize undecided Majors: Self directed to a portfolio of interest identified careers!

Data Driven Intrinsic Focus Strengthening !

Student-Centric ACCESS Career-Prep21 survey identifies Intrinsic Interest of each student and guides appropriately.

Student, grade, campus and district specific “Digital Portfolio of Interest” evolves continuously mapping & connecting respective priorities to strengthen student engagement & CCMR readiness.

Over 300 Data Points map an evolving portfolio of interest through K12.



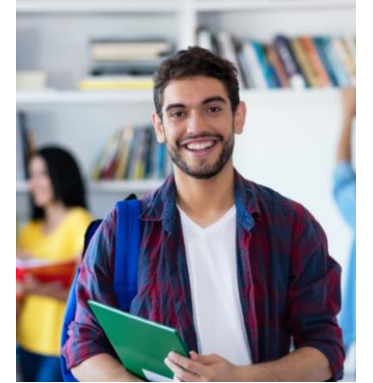
Empowered Students – Taking Charge !

“Education is the power to think clearly, the power to act well in the world’s work, and the power to appreciate life.” – Brigham Young

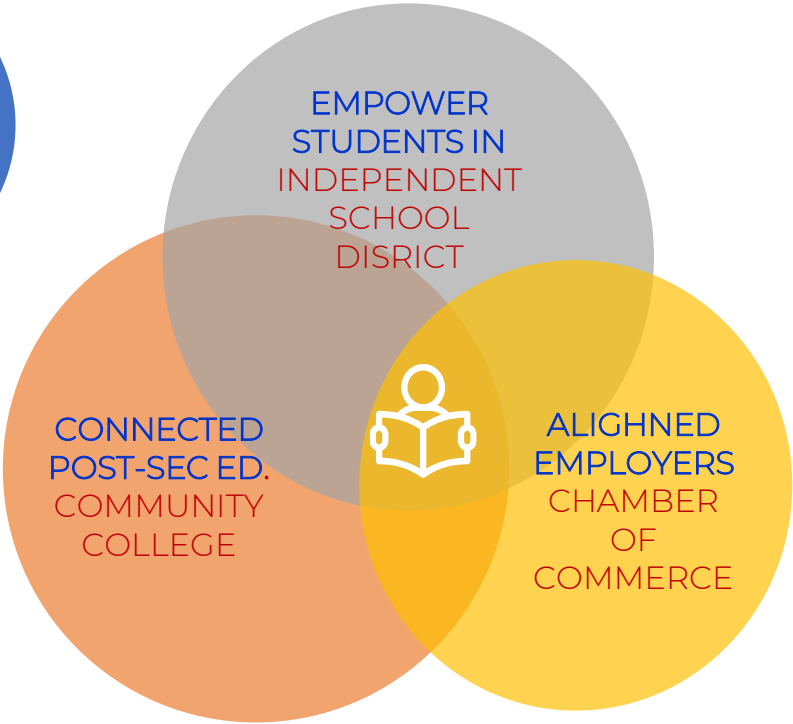
Clarity in thinking: Success in classroom!

Act well in World’s work: Success in a career!

Appreciate Life: Empowered to engage in a rapidly evolving career landscape !



ACCESS FACILITATES A “STUDENT CENTRIC” COLLECTIVE IMPACT ECOSYSTEM DESIGN, DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION IN EACH COMMUNITY



ACCESS in the Permian Basin by Numbers

Contracted Student Base: 70,000 Students in Permian Basin. In Pipeline: Additional 10,785.

Current User Base

24,619 Active Student Users in 16 Districts /
76 Campuses

Deep & Meaningful Engagement

Over 10.9 million Page Views

102,413 Log-Ins

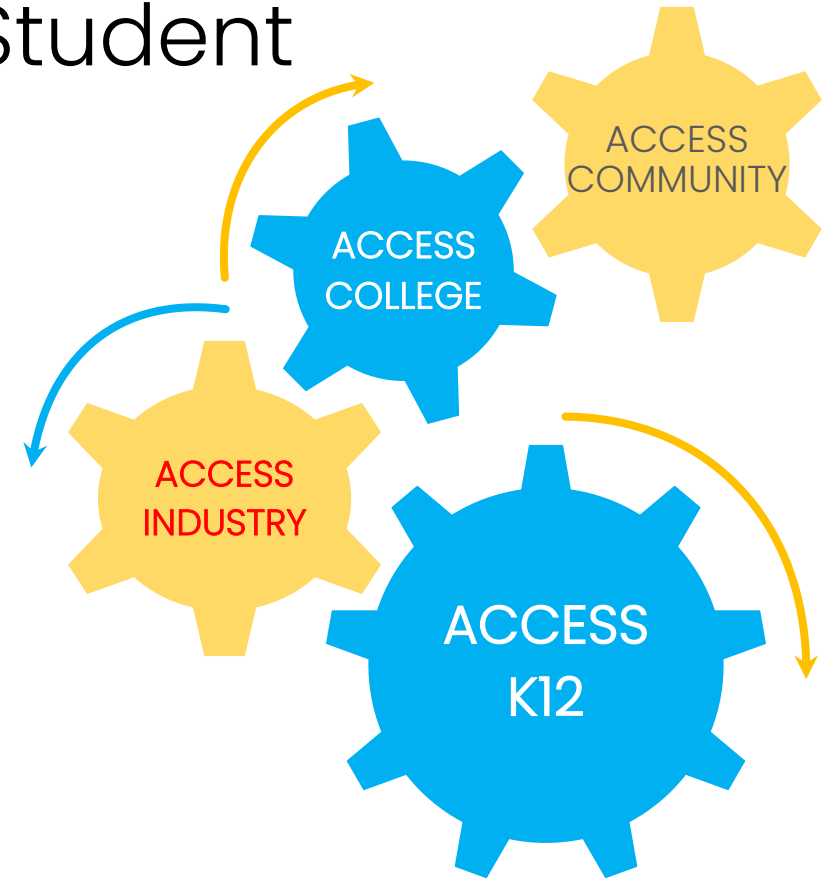
7,622 College and Career Questions answered!

*Data as of July 18th, 2023



ACCESS Ecosystem

Collective Impact Working for Each Student





Region 18 ESC supporting 34 ISDs with over 80,000 students in Permian Basin.

Odessa College is ranked to be in the top 10 Community Colleges in USA (ASPEN Prize Ranking)

Midland College integral part of Energy & Healthcare Workforce Development.

Workforce Solutions of Permian Basin: Oversight of the one of the highest growth areas in USA.

TTUHSC-Permian Basin: Backbone of highest quality healthcare & education in Permian Basin.

XTO ENERGY: A TRUE FOUNDATIONAL PARTNER SINCE 2019

ACCESS is proud to partner with best-in-class institutions !

Partnerships in the Permian Basin delivers policy intent in a true bottom-up model!

- Texas Workforce Solutions / Permian Basin Workforce Development Board
 - Region 18 ESC
 - Young Professionals of Odessa:
 - 160 members.
 - Texas CPA of the Permian Basin:
 - 600 members.
 - Texas Tech Health Sciences PB: Dr. Tim Benton: Hispanic Center of Excellence
 - School pathway including 180+ medical residents & faculty
 - Midland and Odessa Chambers of Commerce
 - Midland Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
 - MMH, ORMC & MCH Health Systems
 - Midland City & County
 - Odessa City
 - XTO Energy/ExxonMobil
 - Bobby Cox Companies
 - ConocoPhillips
 - Odessa College
 - Midland College & Odessa College
 - Adult Education, Business & Industry
 - Permian Basin Petroleum Association*
 - 600 Plus Energy & Gas Companies
- *In progress.*

State Level Guidance

TWC: Brian Daniel, Commissioner

- Kerry Ballast: Deputy Division Director, Workforce Education at Texas Workforce Commission: TRI-Agency Focus

THECB: Dr. Jenellie Strother: Asst. Commissioner

- Laura Brennan, Molly Gully & Jaslyn Rose
- ACCESS opportunity with Recruitment, Retention, Internships & Texas First

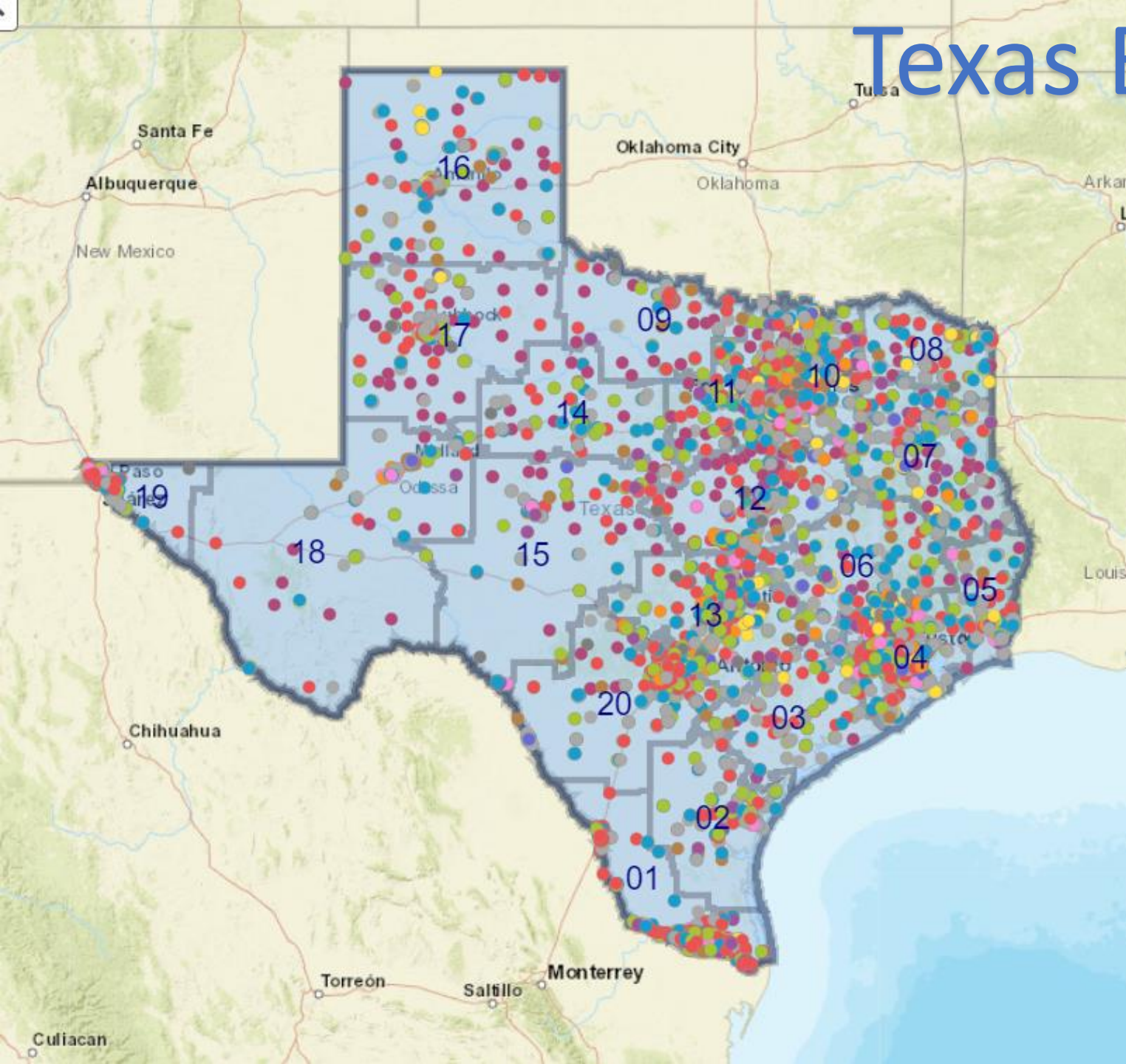
TEA: Mega Kansra, Asst. Commissioner

- Alexis Bauserman: Director: CCMR Division at Texas Education Agency

Dr. DeWitt Smith, Executive Director - Region 18 ESC

- Executive Directors of Regions 1-22 ESC Across Texas.

Texas Education Agency

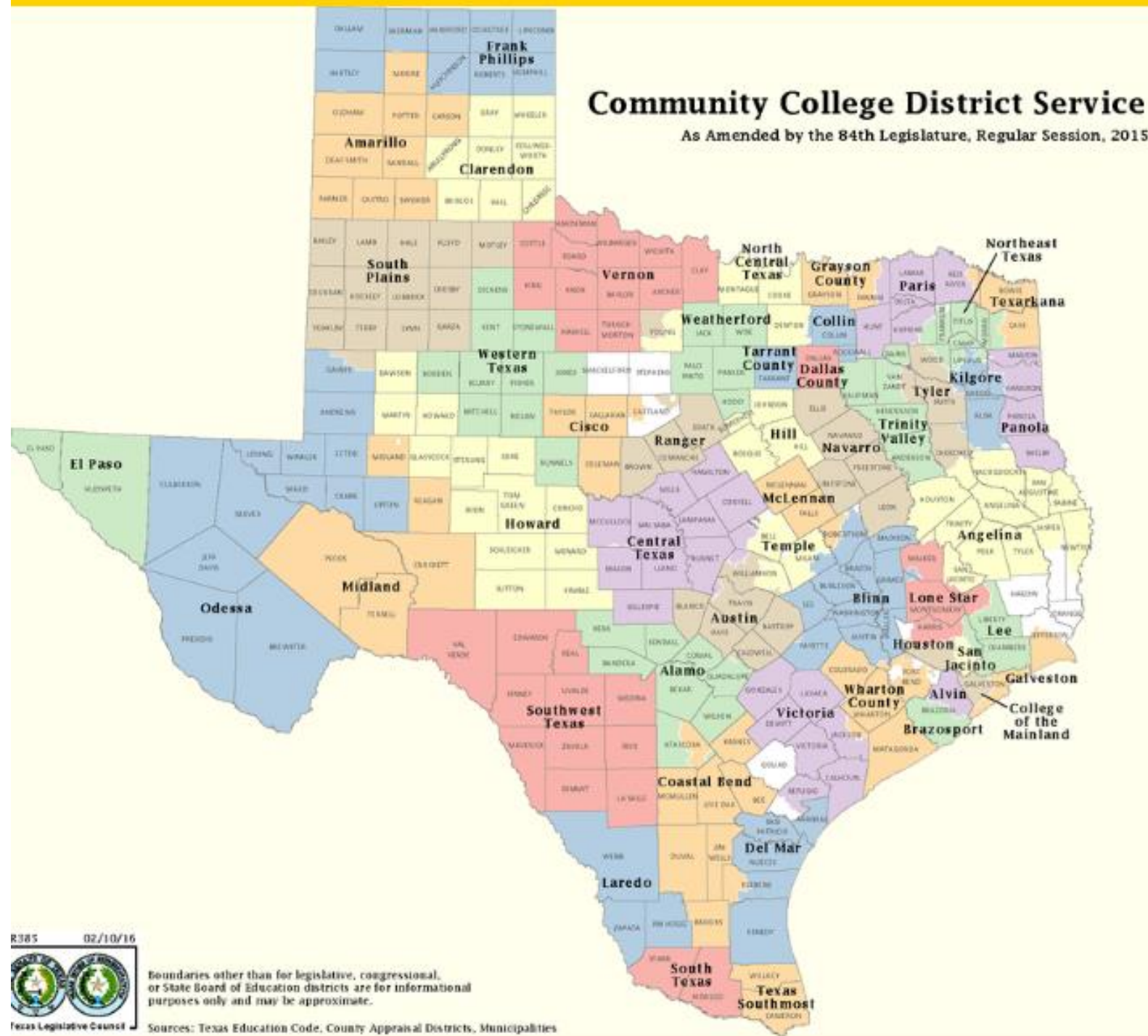


- 20 Education Service Center
- 1200 Independent School Districts
- 5 Million Students
- ACCESS Partner:
 - Current: Region 18 ESC
 - 70,000 students
 - Next:
 - Region 19
 - Region 15

Texas Higher Education Coordination Board

Community College District Service

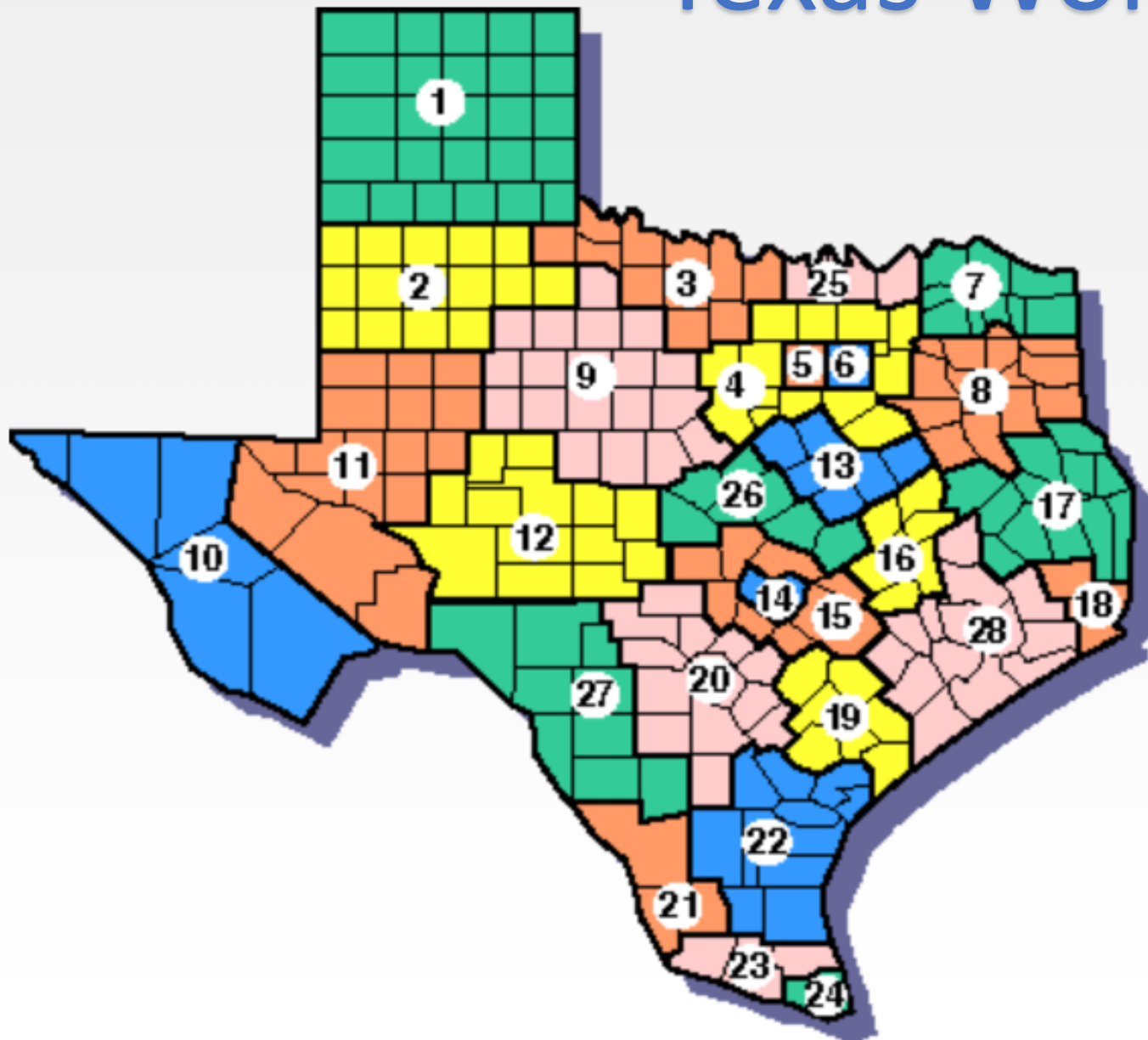
As Amended by the 84th Legislature, Regular Session, 2015



- 66 Community Colleges
- Covering 1200 ISD
- 1 Million Students

- ACCESS Partners:
 - Current:
 - Odessa College
 - Midland College
 - Next:
 - El Paso College
 - Howard College

Texas Workforce Commission



- 28 Districts
- Tri-Agency Initiative Coordinator
- Priorities:
 - Recruitment
 - Retention
 - Internships (Work Based Learning)
 - “Texas First” Initiative
- ACCESS Partners:
 - Current: District 11
 - 2023: Districts 10 & 12
 - 2024 Beyond: Statewide

ACCESS Team & Advisory Board Members

Team

Ravi Shakamuri

CEO: Design, Development & Strategy

Mike Mills

Executive Director for Public, Govt. & Enterprise Affairs

Dave Miller

Project Manager

Kyle McWilliams

Program Coordinator

Wendi Tucker

Career Advising Specialist

Alma Baeza

Career Advising Specialist

Abi Anderson

Career Advising Specialist

Advisory Board Members

Dr. Gregory Williams

President of Odessa College

Dr. Don Wood, CEO Muscular Dystrophy Association. Ex-VP for OC Institutional Effectiveness.

Dr. Steve Brown
32 Years of Admin. exp. @ Ector County ISD & Current Board President.

Dr. Denise Shetter
Executive Director BCFS Educational Services. 27 years of Public Ed Admin. Exp.

Mr. Wes Perry

3-Time Mayor of Midland, TX & Energy Sector Leader

Mrs. Courtney Wardlaw

Public & Government Affairs Advisor
XTO Energy/ExxonMobil

Dr. Timothy Benton

Regional Dean
Texas Tech Health Sciences Center – Permian Basin

Mr. Roy Lopez Assistant

Former VP Community Development
Federal Reserve of Dallas

Mr. Jim Nelson

Former Executive Director AVID & Former Commissioner of Texas Education Agency

Legal

Mark S. Solomon

Managing Partner
Strategic Advisor/
Advisory Board
Katten, Dallas, TX

- Ravi Shakamuri
 - Chief Executive Officer
 - Cell: (432) 349-5001
 - Email: Rshakamuri@startech365.net

- Mike Mills
 - Executive Director for Public, Government & Enterprise Affairs
 - Cell: (432) 413-3651
 - Email: Mmills@startech365.net

- Website: www.ACCESSforSUCCESS.net

ACCESS @ PERMIAN BASIN: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ACCESS is proven, demonstrated pipeline for local and regional workforce development / delivery solution that has been designed, developed and implemented in the Permian Basin.

- **ACCESS covers over 474** (and adding) **careers & jobs** in industries across the Permian Basin.
- **ACCESS Usage Stats** (as of May 26th, 2023):
 - Total Students: 24,606; Number of Logins: 101,397; Pageviews:10,480,617
- **ACCESS Current Contracts** with 16 School Districts and 2 Community Colleges in Permian Basin:
 - 70,000 students (80% of Permian Basin Students).
 - In Pipeline: 10,785 students added (10% of Permian Basin) by end of 2022-23 School year.
- District contracts to be signed: 10,358 (10% of Permian Basin) by end of 2023
- **Career Placement Events** (2022-23 School Year): 11 events in selective CTE Pathways & Districts across Permian Basin in Year 1 of implementation involves over 400 CTE Seniors.
- **Existing Partnerships (21)** Signed with Permian Basin Institutions including Odessa College, Midland College, ExxonMobil, Region 18 ESC, Permian Basin Workforce Solutions (17 Counties), Midland Health, Medical Center Health System, Odessa Regional Medical Center, Texas Tech Health Sciences of Permian Basin to name a few key institutional partners.
- **2023 Planned Expansion** (In-Discussions):
 - **Texas Workforce Districts:**
 - Borderplex (6 Counties): Brewster, Culberson, El Paso, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis, Presidio
 - Concho Valley (13); West Central (3); Central (1), Rio Grande (4)
 - **School Districts:**
 - San Angelo, El Paso, Big Spring
 - **Community Colleges:**
 - Howard Community College & El Paso Community College

ACCESS: Policy to Student Connected !

What: ACCESS is the last mile connector facilitating 60x30 policy, TEA, Higher Ed and TWC industry priorities to be effective and working for each and every student in the elementary to high school to guide them onto a self-determined career pathway locally, regionally or across the state.

Tri-Agency Workforce Initiative: The Tri-Agency Initiative is leading a statewide effort – in partnership with institutions of higher education, school districts, employers, and state and national organizations – to innovate and strengthen college and career advising. The aim is to ensure all Texas students – from middle school to adult learners – have access to high-quality college and career advising, including well-designed digital resources and well-trained counselors and advisors.

How: Intrinsic Interest & Individual Aptitude are the bedrock foundation for success in the 21st Century career environment. ACCESS aligns each campus, district programs & pathways with individual student's intrinsic interest. Aligning student's interest with student's aptitude connected to an engaged employer leads to growth and successful career for the student, and results in a high quality, dependable and retainable workforce for the employer.

Last Mile Connector: In a top-down traditional model, Public Policies on Education & Workforce are designed to be institution centric for the K12, College & Industries. ACCESS facilitates repositioning of public education system to connect to the student's interest, start on the pathway aligned with aptitude and connected to employers committed to provide a career and not a job. ACCESS is the bottom-up model with the student, teacher and parent as primary customers.

ACCESS Essential Skills for 21st Century: Even as Technology is wrecking traditional careers, 21st Century workforce mindset and expectations are dominated by the current generation need to connect to intrinsic interest. ACCESS seven essential skills (**Critical Thinking, Communication, Creativity, Collaboration, Trust, Relationship and Resiliency**) empower individual students to learn and adapt as careers and industries continue to evolve to meet market needs. ACCESS philosophy is to strengthen these essential skills indirectly even as the students engage in the ACCESS ecosystem.

Connecting STEM, Fine Arts and Athletics student engagement: ACCESS pathway in each district starts with the CTE program, establishing a strong district to employer relationship and builds on that foundation a focused effort for STEM, Fine Arts and Athletics focused students in partnership with Higher Ed, TWC and Employer engagement.

Delivering on the Promise of Tri-Agency Initiative: Connecting middle school, high school, college and workforce pathways of opportunity for each student and parent building on individual student's intrinsic interest, aptitude and academic capabilities.

ACCESS: Focus, Alignment & Student Engagement

1. **MISSION:** *Identify, Support and Strengthen individual student's intrinsic interest aligned with best-in-class career opportunities as a seamless partner to all involved institutional ecosystems.*
2. **FOCUS:** Student engagement from Elementary to College with a workforce alignment that delivers on the Tri-Agency Initiative (K12-College-Workforce) priorities.
3. **ALIGNMENT:** AVID, CTE, STEM focused careers aligned with the class curriculum in a cutting-edge digital environment captures the imagination of the current generation students, demystifying the “WHY” (study) the STEM subjects.
4. **ESSENTIAL SKILLS:** Students in the ACCESS program explore careers of interest (A) Online (B) Onsite, In-Class discussions with career experts and (C) Experience onsite work culture by visiting professional workspaces, coordinated with teacher preferences. This experience strengthens student’s “Access Seven Essentials” that are critical for 21st Century Careers: (1) Communication (2) Collaboration (3) Critical Thinking (4) Creativity (5) Trust (6) Relationships and (7) Resiliency.
5. **COLLABORATION:** Aligned with MISD’s priorities, campus principal and teacher (classroom) priority, Access Community Partners connect their employees to be part of the “ACCESS Career Experts” network available to mentor online, visit for onsite talks and welcome the students to these institutions to experience first-hand a world class career experience laying the foundation of understanding for each student on “HOW” the clearest pathway to a career of their choice.
6. **STUDENT CENTRIC:** ACCESS repositions student experience to be student centric. Students as interested customers utilize the resources of the aligned partners including the district, college, community and career opportunities. 19th century “push” strategy in K12 is preplaced by the “pull” of student interest strengthened by the essentials, understanding of the WHY and increasing understanding of the HOW in a truly digital 21st Century culture that students feel at home.
7. **INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS:** ACCESS aligns goals and objectives of campus programs and initiatives with an engaged student with increasing understanding, clarity and confidence through the middle school and high school environments to the Community College & University. Each campus and district start on a journey to provide a truly customized public education experience for each student with ACCESS.

ACCESS: What & How:

What: ACCESS strengthens each community by connecting the district-college-industry ecosystem initiatives and resources to individual student's interest and class curriculum.

How: ACCESS aligns community and district programs to identify student intrinsic interests, support exploration of careers and deliver the impact with an engaged student in the STEAM subjects. An engaged 21st Century learner leverages education to gain career traction & lead the family on a healthier lifestyle pathway. Protecting and strengthening the culture of Individual Student, Teacher, Campus, District and County with successful outcomes at each level is critical for a true consumer centric system that is a 21st Century focused "smart city".

ACCESS: Mission explained:

ACCESS facilitates repositioning of public education system to connect to the student's interest, to start on the pathway to make public education to be a student-teacher centric pathway.

Customized Public-Ed: Even as majority of the Public K12 systems struggle to deliver state mandated performance standards, one size fits all is the system's Achilles heel. ACCESS leverages technology to create an "ACCESS Pathway" that identifies student's intrinsic interest, connects to class curriculum to strengthen student engagement. This is the beginning of the K12 system working for the student of the 21st Century.

In Public Ed, ACCESS aligns Community interest (Industry & Chamber) with student intrinsic interest and teacher's priority to have an engaged student in the STEAM curriculum, positioning student specific pathway (6th to 12th) aligned with higher education capabilities, delivering engaged and qualified career starters to the local industry.

Customized Career Pathways: Even as Cloud based technologies are wrecking traditional careers, 21st Century workforce mindset and expectations are dominated by individual need to connect to intrinsic interest. ACCESS strengthens the 4Cs (Critical Thinking, Communication, Creativity and Collaboration) to empower individual students to be lifelong learners and doers by continuous adaptation skills. In addition to the 4Cs, ACCESS also reinforces Trust, Relationship and Resiliency characteristics in the students.

Connecting Arts, Athletics and Health to student engagement: Connecting the critical and integral characteristics of Arts, Athletics and Health programs to the STEM courses in the curriculum leverages student's passion for Arts and Athletics.

Culture: Individual Student, Teacher, Campus, District, City and County have their own unique cultural identity. ACCESS protects, supports and strengthens this belief system by integrating into 21st Century focused 4Cs skillsets for individuals and Institutions for a self-sustaining local & regional success story.

ACCESS: SEL OPTIMIZATION TO STRENGTHEN LEARNING CAPACITIES

1. ACCESS fundamental understanding is that all students are intelligent, with a varying degree of “Learning Capacity”.
2. ACCESS understanding is that “Learning Capacity” is significantly impacted by the environment of each student.
3. ACCESS focus is to strengthen the “Learning Capacity” in each student by building up their “Self Confidence”.
4. ACCESS approach to build confidence is to allow the students to identify their area of interest via career exploration.
5. ACCESS Career Exploration leads to student “Engagement” with the “Local Career Expert” answering their questions, talking with them in the classroom and meeting with them at worksites during their field trips.
6. ACCESS supports the student’s interest to be strengthened with engagement with a career expert leading to a connection to WHY study STEM subjects in the classroom.
7. ACCESS ability to clarify the WHY, helps the student to reason out the value of listening to the teacher in the classroom.
8. ACCESS engaged student gives an opportunity for the teacher to be effective in covering the curriculum and the student connects the curriculum value to his/her career interest.
9. ACCESS “Bridge” is designed to capture a graduating senior’s college plans and related concerns to make the transition from K12 to College easier for each student.
10. ACCESS “Senior” Bridge SEL component is to identify key SEL elements that need to be mastered by the student to be a successful college student.
11. ACCESS “M-H” Bridge will help students transition from Middle School to High School.
12. ACCESS “E-M” Bridge will help students transition from Elementary to Middle School.
13. ACCESS SEL is component with an intent to identify the “mind-blocks” the students have to overcome to strengthen the process above (Senior-College; M-H & E-M) bridges.



Linking Education and Workforce: Spurring Economic Growth Across Texas



TRI-AGENCY WORKFORCE INITIATIVE
2020 Commissioners' Report Executive Summary

Introduction

Governor Greg Abbott established the Tri-Agency Workforce Initiative in March 2016, when he tasked the Commissioners of the Texas Education Agency (TEA), the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), and the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) to work together on five initial charges centered on developing strong links between education and industry, with the goal of helping Texas grow in economic prosperity.

In 2019, the 86th Texas Legislature passed transformative school finance legislation, House Bill 3, that calls for sweeping reforms in education and will shape the future of the Texas workforce. To fully implement the vision of House Bill 3, Governor Abbott has charged the three agencies with streamlining implementation of the legislation and identifying solutions for long-term workforce needs across the state.

The governor laid out charges under these seven categories:

- Readiness
- Completion
- Transitions
- Upskilling
- Educator Pipeline
- Partnerships
- Infrastructure

Mission

To build a strong Texas workforce and ensure that Texans are prepared for jobs in the industries that power the state's economy today and tomorrow.

Vision

Texans of all ages should have access to high-quality education and workforce training that empowers them to achieve their full potential.

History of the Tri-Agency Workforce Initiative

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>➤ July 2015
60x30TX plan was adopted</p> | <p>➤ February 2020
Governor Abbott issued new charges to be addressed by the Tri-Agency Workforce Initiative</p> |
| <p>➤ March 2016
Governor Abbott established the Tri-Agency Workforce Initiative</p> | <p>➤ February 2020
Tri-Agency progress report was published</p> |
| <p>➤ March–June 2016
Commissioners conducted 7 regional meetings</p> | <p>➤ March 2020
COVID-19 pandemic began to affect Texas; regional Tri-Agency events were canceled</p> |
| <p>➤ November 2016
First Tri-Agency report was published with recommendations</p> | <p>➤ April–June 2020
Multiple virtual meetings were held to inform the development of the second Tri-Agency report</p> |
| <p>➤ June 2019
House Bill 3 was signed into law, transforming school finance in Texas</p> | <p>➤ November 2020
Second Tri-Agency report was published with recommendations</p> |

Key Priorities and Strategies to Advance Economic Growth and Prosperity

Priority 1: Support efficient and flexible pathways to earning degrees, certificates, and other credentials linked to high-wage, in-demand jobs.

Strategy 1.1

Identify students' most efficient paths to attaining high-value credentials by:

- Aligning training programs and associated credentials with in-demand, high-wage industries;
- Mapping clear pathways to high-value credentials for all Texans, including veterans, incumbent and dislocated workers, and youth involved with the justice system;
- Improving alignment across secondary and post-secondary CTE pathways; and
- Creating clear on- and off-ramps for pathways through expanded credit and credential portability.

Strategy 1.2

Strengthen and streamline collaboration among key education and workforce system stakeholders who are developing pathways at the regional level by:

- Integrating state strategies and supports for regional collaboration; and
- Leveraging existing structures to better connect regional education and workforce systems.

Strategy 1.3

Expand opportunities for work-based learning experiences by:

- Accelerating the development of high-quality work-based learning experiences that provide participants with meaningful opportunities; and
- Supporting engagement by industry partners.

Priority 2: Ensure students receive the supports necessary to succeed at all stages of their educations and in their transitions to the workforce.

Strategy 2.1

Ensure students and families have the support, tools, and resources needed to achieve education and career success by:

- Supporting early childhood education, foundational literacy pedagogy, and high school and postsecondary readiness in middle school; and
- Designing effective family engagement strategies.

Strategy 2.2

Expand access to effective college and career advising by:

- Streamlining and modernizing advising offerings and services for students to support informed decision-making about postsecondary education and careers; and
- Offering professional development to educators and guidance counselors on advising services.

Strategy 2.3

Reduce financial barriers in education by:

- Addressing gaps such as broadband internet and early child care;
- Refining the Texas financial aid system; and
- Providing financial supports to Texans who pursue careers in teaching.

Priority 3: Create a robust infrastructure for interagency collaboration around common goals, data, and processes to ensure improved student outcomes and meet employers' needs.

Strategy 3.1

Align statewide education and workforce systems with statewide priorities and goals by:

- Updating and aligning goals and priorities across the agencies;
- Ensuring finance systems support these goals and priorities; and
- Braiding funding to better leverage resources.

Strategy 3.2

Make educational and workforce data accessible and useful to the public, stakeholders, and decision-makers by:

- Developing a modern data infrastructure; and
- Integrating data systems and research and development efforts.

Strategy 3.3

Ensure coordination and collaboration across all three agencies' operations by:

- Adopting and working toward shared outcomes;
- Developing shared processes, including planning and monitoring processes, and infrastructure; and
- Creating clear communication channels.

