

TECH PREP OF THE RIO GRANDE VALLEY, INC.
MINUTES OF SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING OF THE VOTING MEMBERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS
9:30 AM – 11:30 AM Tuesday, April 18, 2006 - Best Western Palm Aire Motel & Suites, Weslaco, Texas

MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY VOTING DELEGATES OR PROXIES:

Independent School District Member:

Brownsville ISD
Edcouch-Elsa ISD
Harlingen CISD
Hidalgo ISD
La Feria ISD
Los Fresnos CISD
McAllen ISD
Mercedes ISD
Pharr-San Juan-Alamo ISD
Point Isabel ISD
Ramondville ISD
Rio Hondo ISD
Roma ISD
San Benito CISD
Sharyland ISD
Weslaco ISD

College/University Member:

Texas State Technical College, Harlingen
The University of Texas at Brownsville
The University of Texas-Pan American, Edinburg

Other Member:

Region One Education Service Center
South Texas Career and Technology Association

Voting Delegate:

Charles Champion, Special Projects Officer, CATE Department
Frank Perez, CATE Director
Dr. Linda Wade, Superintendent
Dr. Danny King, Superintendent
Rebecca (Becky) Stirzaker, Principal
Proxy – Delia Weaver, SBCISD CATE Administrator
Fred Fuentes, Teacher, Lamar Academy High School
Rafael Leal, CATE Director
Noelia Guajardo, Vocational Director
Diana Lopez, CATE Teacher
Eloy Castaneda, Superintendent
Richard Savage, Director of Secondary Curriculum
Victor M. Ramirez, CATE Director
Delia Weaver, CATE Administrator
Scott Owings, Superintendent
Ivanelle Guerra, CATE Director

Angel Mendez, Director, Collaborative Projects
Linda Fossen, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Planning
John A. Edwards, Ph.D., UTPA, Vice President for Enrollment and Student Services

Felipe Reyes, CATE Education Specialist
Proxy – Delia Weaver, SBCISD CATE Administrator

GUESTS PRESENT:

La Feria ISD
Texas State Technical College

Luis Garza, Superintendent
David Basler, Tech Prep Shared Advisor

MEMBERS ABSENT (NOT REPRESENTED BY VOTING DELEGATES OR PROXIES):

Independent School District Members:

Donna ISD	Mission CISD	Santa Maria ISD
Edinburg CISD	Monte Alto ISD	Santa Rosa ISD
La Joya ISD	Progreso ISD	South Texas ISD
La Villa ISD	Rio Grande City CISD	Valley View ISD
Lasara ISD	San Isidro ISD	
Lyford CISD	San Perlita ISD	

College/University Member:

South Texas College
Texas Southmost College at Brownsville

Other Members:

Area II, Region III Business Professionals of America
IDEA Academy
Teach for America – Rio Grande Valley
Texas Workforce Commission

DIRECTORS PRESENT:

John A. Edwards, Ph.D.
Linda Fossen
Daniel King, Ph.D.
Dean LaFever
Robert Leftwich
Minnie Lucio
Cesar Maldonado, P.E.
Sam Olivarez
Mark Rainey, PHR

UTPA, Vice President for Enrollment and Student Services
UTB/TSC, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Planning
Hidalgo ISD, Superintendent
Texas Gas Service Company, Director for Rio Grande Valley
Lockheed Martin, Material Planning
Cameron County Workforce Centers, Community Coordinator
Maverick Engineering, Inc., Vice President of Systems Development
Barrera’s Supply Co., Inc., President
South Texas Health Systems, Assistant Administrator, Human Resources

Linda Wade, Ph.D.

Harlingen CISD, Superintendent

DIRECTORS ABSENT:

Adrian A. Arriaga, CCIM, CIPS
Marilyn D. Gilbert
Nicolas (Nick) Gonzalez
Pat Hobbs
Hollis V. Rutledge, Jr.
Joey Treviño
Joe Vasquez
Perry A. Vaughn

AAA Real Estate & Investments, Broker/Owner
Brownsville Public Utilities Board, Energy Risk Manager
South Texas College, Director of Public School Relations
Texas State Technical College, Vice President for Student Learning
Hollis Rutledge and Associates, Inc., President and CEO
Half Associates, Planning/Business Development
Mid Valley Health Systems/Knapp Medical Center, Vice President of HR
Associated General Contractors-RGV, Executive Director

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Charles Champion, Jr.
Ron Tupper, M.S.

Brownsville ISD, Special Projects Officer
El Milagro Clinic, Chairman, Board of Directors

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Michael (Mike) Barrera, Ed.D.
Connie Guerra
Roberto F. Loreda
Jose G. Martin, Ph.D.
Shannon Milum
Janice Mumford
Arnold Pedraza
Estella L. Treviño
Rolando Vela
Romeo Villarreal

McAllen ISD, Lead Director for Middle School Instruction and CATE
Region One ESC, Director, Migrant, Bilingual and High School Programs
PSJA ISD, Assistant Superintendent for Administrators and School Operations
UTB/TSC, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Los Fresnos CISD, Vice President, South Texas Career & Technology Assoc.
Community Volunteer
Utility Engineering Specialists, Owner
Edinburg Housing Authority, Executive Director
Time Warner Cable, Public Affairs Manager
Romeo Villarreal Rental Properties, Owner

STAFF PRESENT:

Ray Anzaldua
Pat Bubb
Yvette Garza
Evelyn Gonzalez
Juan Leal

Manufacturing Program Specialist
Executive Director
Administrative Assistant
Secretary
First-Generation Specialist/Real World Advisor

Priscilla Martinez
Lilia Perez
Belinda Torres

College for Texas Field Specialist
Secretary, Credit Tracking/1st Gen.
Tech Prep Coordinator/Real World Advisor

Pursuant to notice duly given, the semi-annual meeting of the voting members and Board of Tech Prep of the Rio Grande Valley, Inc., was held at the above time and place with the above persons participating. Cesar Maldonado chaired the meeting, and Yvette Garza served as secretary.

Call to Order; Opening Ceremony. A quorum was present, and Cesar Maldonado called the meeting to order. Ray Anzaldua led the invocation and pledge of allegiance.

There were then self-introductions of everyone present.

Maldonado invited announcements or comments from the members. There were no public announcements or comments from the members at this time.

Board President Maldonado gave an overview of what was to be accomplished in the meeting. They would be focusing on updates, and feedback to align goals and missions along with those of our students with the needs of our community. Maldonado reported that work was still in process to complete the revision of the strategic plan, and thanked all for being present.

Updates from Regional Partners. Maldonado introduced Priscilla Martinez, P-16 Field Specialist, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, based at TSTC Harlingen. Martinez gave an overview of the College for Texans Campaign. Martinez reported that the goal is to enroll 630,000 students in higher education by the year 2015. There is an outreach plan in operation and it consists of targeted campuses, Go Center implementation, P-16 regional council, P-16 community council, and a P-16 regional plan. Regionally, 29 school districts are participating at this time. The P-16 community council is working on developing a regional plan. Input from higher education, public education, business and community leaders is needed for the plan to be successful. Development of a regional plan is in process, for which Martinez stated that input is welcomed. Martinez directed all to the College for Texans Campaign website (<http://www.collegefortexans.com>) to obtain more information.

Action Item: Consider and Approve Minutes of Members' Meeting of October 25, 2005. The group reviewed the minutes of the annual meeting, which were included in the packet for the meeting.

The minutes of the annual meeting were approved on motion made by Mark Rainey, seconded by Charles Champion, and unanimously carried.

Action Item: Ratify Board’s Actions from October 26, 2005, through April 17, 2006: A written report of the Board’s activities during the past six months was included in the packet for the meeting. There were reports by committee chairs, as follows:

Curriculum/Work-Based Learning Committee:	Dr. Linda Wade reported.
Executive Committee:	Cesar Maldonado reported.
Finance and Bylaws Committee:	Pat Bubb reported for Joe Vasquez.
Marketing and Awards Committee:	Dean LaFever reported.
Nominations Committee:	Pat Bubb reported for Perry A. Vaughn.
Partnerships Committee:	Pat Bubb reported for Adrian A. Arriaga.
Professional Development Committee:	Pat Bubb reported.
Technology Initiatives Committee:	Sam Olivarez reported.
Universities and Colleges Committee:	Pat Bubb reported for Pat Hobbs.

After all reports and discussions were completed, the Board’s actions during the past six months were ratified on motion made by Dean LaFever, seconded by Dr. Linda Wade, and unanimously carried.

Discussion Item: The new criteria for Tech Prep Texas Scholars was discussed. The Board will be considering adoption of the standards below at the Board’s May meeting and encouraged consortium members to give input at this meeting. Dr. Linda Wade shared that Harlingen CISD supports the more rigorous standards and has already adopted the new standards for the Texas Scholars: High School and Beyond program on which the proposed new Tech Prep Texas Scholars standards are based, as follows:

**TECH PREP OF THE RIO GRANDE VALLEY, INC.
TECH PREP TEXAS SCHOLARS PROGRAM
EFFECTIVE FOR THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 2010 AND BEYOND**

To be a Tech Prep Texas Scholar, a student must do all five of these things:

1. Complete all courses required by the Recommended High School Program or the Distinguished Achievement Program.
2. Achieve a Texas Ready standard on any one of the assessments identified below (for additional information, see www.texasscholars.org):
 - 11th Grade TAKS—a 2200 on the math test and 2200 on the English-language arts test with a subscore of 3 on the writing sample
 - ACT—a composite score of 21 and at least 19 on the English section and 22 on the math section

- SAT—a combined score of 1070 and at least a 500 on both the verbal and math sections
 - ACCUPLACER—Elementary Algebra, 63; Reading Comprehension, 78; and Written Essay 6 (or Written Essay 5 and Sentence Skills 80)
 - ASSET—Elementary Algebra - 38, Reading Skills - 41, and Written Essay 6 (or Written Essay 5 and Writing Skills [multiple choice] - 40)
 - COMPASS—Algebra - 39, Reading Skills - 81, and Written Essay - 6 or (Written Essay - 5 AND Writing Skills [multiple choice] - 59)
 - THEA—Mathematics-230*, Reading-230, and Writing-220
*NOTE: 270 is the college algebra readiness standard.
 - ASVAB—a score at the 40th percentile
 - WorkKeys—at least a score of three (3) on the *Reading for Information, Locating Information, and Applied Mathematics* assessments
3. Complete the high school portion of a six- or eight-year plan of study—that includes, in high school, two or more career and technology courses for 3 or more credits.
 4. Complete at least two college-level Tech-Prep courses as part of the student’s high school graduation plan. Each “college-level Tech Prep course” must meet all of the following requirements:
 - must be a career and technology course taken in high school
 - must be either an articulated course (local articulation or statewide articulation--ATC) or a dual/concurrent-enrollment course
 - must be a course for which the school district and one of our local colleges (South Texas College, Texas State Technical College Harlingen, Texas Southmost College, Coastal Bend College, or Laredo Community College) have agreed that a student can receive college credit as part of a Tech Prep graduation plan.
 5. Complete a declaration of intent to be a *Tech Prep Texas Scholar*.

The Recommended High School Program and the Distinguished Achievement Program

The Recommended High School Program and the Distinguished Achievement Program are rigorous academic programs recommended for all students by the State Board of Education. The curriculum creates a 24-credit high school graduation plan with choices of elective options:

English—4 credits
Mathematics—3 credits
Science—3 credits

Social Studies–4 credits
Foreign Language–2 or 3 credits*
Physical Education–1.5 credits
Health–0.5 credit
Technology–1 credit
Fine Arts–1 credit
Speech–0.5 credit
Electives–3.5 or 2.5 credits*

**Three years of foreign language for DAP. The DAP also requires “Advanced Measures.”*

Tech Prep Texas Scholars must follow approved Tech Prep plans of study that include career and technology courses (see programs at <http://www.techpreprgv.com/educators/articulation.html>). Taking the appropriate sequence of the career and technology courses included in Tech Prep graduation plans, with at least two being college-level Tech-Prep courses, will ensure that students meet the requirements to graduate as a Tech Prep Texas Scholars.

Rewards for Tech Prep Texas Scholars

Seniors who graduate as Tech Prep Texas Scholars are eligible for the following rewards:

Graduation Honors: Tech Prep Texas Scholars will receive a special Tech Prep Honor Cord and a special gold-sealed Tech Prep Texas Scholar certificate.

Scholarship Competition: Tech Prep Texas Scholars are eligible to compete for one of the *Dr. Lauro F. Cavazos Tech Prep Scholarships ... thousands of dollars for college!!*

Distinguished Achievement Program: College-level Tech Prep courses can satisfy requirements for the Distinguished Achievement Program.

Texas Grant: Having completed the requirements of either the Recommended High School Program or the Distinguished Achievement Program, Tech Prep Texas Scholars who qualify for financial assistance become eligible for a grant program passed by the Texas Legislature: the Texas Grant program. This may provide all tuition and fees for public colleges and universities in Texas; however, grant funds are administered on a first-come-first-served basis.

Briefing Items: Executive Director Pat Bubb gave an overview of upcoming meetings and events.

Adjournment: There was no further business; so the meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Yvette Garza, Secretary of the Meeting