



**PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
HOUSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND
FORT BEND ISD FOR
DUAL CREDIT COURSES/HB5 COLLEGE PREP MATH AND ENGLISH
COURSES/STUDENT DATA SHARING/EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL/
MIDDLE COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL/P-SOAR PROJECT**

This Partnership Agreement (“PARENT AGREEMENT”) is entered into by and between Houston Community College System (“HCC”), a public community college district organized under Chapter 130 of the Texas Education Code, whose main office address is at 3100 Main Street, Houston, Texas, 77002, and FORT BEND ISD (“SECONDARY ENTITY”), a Texas independent school district whose main office address is, 16431 Lexington Blvd., Sugar Land, TX. 77479 (individually, “Party and collectively, “Parties”), effective upon full and complete execution.

RECITALS

Whereas, HCC and SECONDARY ENTITY desire and agree to partner to offer dual credit classes, college prep classes, early college programs, and share student data; and

Whereas, the purpose of this Agreement is to describe the entire relationship between the Parties including the benefits each may receive; and

Whereas, the Parties have entered into such similar partnerships and wish to restate their responsibilities and obligations; and

Whereas, the Parties intend to comply with Senate Bill 1004 through this PARENT AGREEMENT by contracting with HCC as one of the community colleges in the region to provide dual credit programs, for the benefit of students who have more opportunities to earn college credit and career training; and

Whereas, the Parties desire and agree to additionally implement “P-SOAR Project” (outlined in **Exhibit B**) on a mutually agreeable schedule to streamline the application and enrollment process for high school students for the purpose of increasing the number of SECONDARY ENTITY graduates who enroll at HCC; and

Whereas, the Parties find that it is within their mission and purpose to enter into such a partnership;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and conditions contained in this Agreement and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, HCC and SECONDARY ENTITY, agree as follows:

SECTION 1: TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Scope of Agreement

The Parties shall partner to provide the courses and programs in accordance with the general obligations and responsibilities of each party attached hereto and incorporated herein for all purposes and made part of this Agreement:

Some exhibits may not be applicable to you. Please see all applicable Exhibits specific to this Agreement in bold.

Exhibit A: College Prep Math and College Prep English Courses (HB5)

Exhibit B: P-SOAR Project (Exhibits B-1, B-2, B-3, and B-4)

Exhibit C: Early College High School and P-Tech Program

Exhibit D: Middle College High School

2. Term and Termination

The period of this Agreement shall be in effect from August 1, 2019 until July 31, 2022 (“Term”) unless renewed or earlier terminated. Either Party may terminate this Agreement with or without cause upon one-hundred and twenty (120) days prior written notice to the other Party. In the event of such termination, unless otherwise agreed by the parties, the date of termination shall be the last day of the current semester or year of the then current term. No termination as provided above however, shall be effective with regard to Students currently enrolled in courses under this Partnership Agreement until such Students are allowed to complete the semester in which the Student is currently enrolled.

3. Principles for Partnership

In furtherance of the objectives of this partnership, the Parties acknowledge the following principles:

- A. Establishment of a full and equal partnership between HCC and SECONDARY ENTITY that allows flexible and creative responses to the organizational, mission, and fiscal needs of both institutions.
- B. Collaboration in planning, implementation, and continuous improvement of programs, including the provision for faculty, staff, and administration; curriculum development; training; and student services.
- C. Provision of college readiness and dual credit courses for qualified students.
- D. Inclusion of personal/civic development programs that provide service learning and other external learning experiences for all students.
- E. Financial collaboration that addresses costs of both partners and assists each in obtaining necessary funds from local, state, federal, and private/foundation sources to operate the programs successfully and on a cost-neutral basis for both parties.
- F. Shared use of facilities, including designated classrooms, labs, offices, restrooms and libraries that reduce operating costs and promotes collaboration of students, faculty, staff, and community members in the program success.

4. Program Commitments

The programs covered under this Agreement include Dual Credit courses, College Prep Math and College Prep English courses (HB5), and Early College High School programs, P-Soar Project (“programs”). This Parent Agreement will also cover the transferring and sharing of student data between the Parties in support of these programs.

The Parties commit to:

- A. Implement purposeful and collaborative outreach efforts to inform all students and parents of the benefits and costs of dual credit, including enrollment and fee policies.
- B. Assist high school students in the successful transition to and acceleration through postsecondary education.
- C. Ensure all dual credit students will receive academic and college readiness advising with access to student support services to bridge them successfully into college course completion.
- D. Maintain quality and rigor of dual credit course to ensure student success in subsequent courses.

- E. Collaborate in the design and execution of challenging and innovative instructional programs (including Early College, Dual Credit, and College Prep Math and College Prep English courses).
- F. Comply with all applicable guidelines, standards and requirements in the offering of the programs, including but not limited to regulations promulgated by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACSCOC), and the Texas Education Agency (TEA).
- G. SECONDARY ENTITY will inform and collaborate with HCC during the application and implementation process of related grants that commit/depend and encumber HCC Resources in the grant application. SECONDARY ENTITY will provide and request HCC signature within reasonable time of at least two weeks.
- H. Schedule classes in support of these programs at a SECONDARY ENTITY or HCC facility.
- I. Recruit eligible students for academic or workforce programs.
- J. Evaluate the programs and share student data in order to track and evaluate student progress and program successes.
- K. Market the partnership to the parents of the SECONDARY ENTITY.

5. Understanding of the Parties

- A. Nothing in this Agreement is to be construed as transferring responsibility from one party to the other.
- B. **The College will waive in-district tuition or students participating in the Early College High School Program and charge a flat \$50 per course fee for out-of-district tuition. Each district may choose to cover the \$50 per course tuition fee for their out of district students.**
- C. Each party will each comply with all state and federal laws applicable to this Agreement, including but not limited to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975; the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended; applicable provisions of the Texas Education Code and Texas Government Code; and applicable HCC policies and procedures.
 - i. The parties agree to collaborate and develop a written specific plan to uniformly implement existing compliant ADA practices **LANGUAGE SHALL BE DEVELOPED, FINALIZED, AND IMPLEMENTED INTO THIS AGREEMENT VIA ADDENDUM.**
- D. Subject to the applicable laws and to the regulations of the respective organizations, information, data and reports of cooperative activities carried out under this Agreement

may be released by any of the Parties with the consent of the other party or as otherwise may be required by conditions and circumstances in connection with the program or as required by law.

- E. In the event that a SECONDARY ENTITY student engages in conduct that would result in disciplinary action in accordance with HCC Student Code of Conduct, HCC agrees to inform the SECONDARY ENTITY when HCC is made aware of the violation. However, HCC shall further have the right to demand immediate removal of any student from its premises, upon a determination by the administrator in charge that the student poses an immediate threat to the safety of HCC's enrolled students, clients, faculty, staff, and patrons or to the orderly functioning of HCC.
- F. Both parties understand the safety and security risks inherent with minors and agree that certain risks may be unforeseeable. Further, the parties agree that the public safety departments from both HCC and SECONDARY ENTITY will collaborate to develop and/or review safety and security standards and/or guidelines, including emergency response, within thirty (30) days of both parties executing the Agreement.

SECONDARY ENTITY Responsibilities

- A. Course Schedule: SECONDARY ENTITY shall provide a complete course schedule for requested dual credit courses a minimum of sixty (60) days prior to the start of the semester.
- B. Monthly Campus Pathway Fairs: SECONDARY ENTITY will allow routine access to students solely for informing students about academic and career pathways, financial aid coaching, and other topics related to transition to college.
- C. Career advising: SECONDARY ENTITY will provide support for HCC advisors, such as a working area and access to the internet. SECONDARY ENTITY will also provide support to students enrolling in post-secondary education, such as tutorial support as needed.
- D. Provide instructional materials, including textbooks and other instructional resources (lab materials, online access), necessary for operation of the programs (7) seven business days prior to the commencement of classes.
- E. Ensure dual credit courses held at the SECONDARY ENTITY meet the contact hours required and that extracurricular activities do not interfere with students completing the required contact hours.
 - i. Adjunct Instructors (Dual credit Faculty):
 - 1. Be credentialed and hired at sole discretion of HCC.
 - 2. Provide students the course syllabus on the first day of class.
 - 3. Maintain college-level rigor of the course.
 - 4. Follow the curriculum provided by HCC.
 - ii. Alert the department chair immediately if there is an issue with equipment or textbooks.

- iii. Follow the protocol for communicating with the department chair on any grading or student conduct items.
 - iv. Submit Rosters and Grades on time. Failure to do so will result in the following consequences:
 1. The first time it happens, the instructor will receive a warning from HCC.
 2. The second time it happens, the instructor will finish the current semester but will no longer teach college courses taught for dual credit through this PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT.
 - v. Check rosters daily to ensure all students in the class are on the college roster and report any discrepancies immediately to the assigned P-16 Director.
 - vi. Maintain communication with the department chair throughout the semester.
 - vii. Attend trainings provided by the P-16 office and HCC.
 - viii. Complete all mandated online trainings by the due date. Failure to do will result in not be rehired to teach a dual credit course.
 - ix. Communicate with dual credit students through HCC email only.
 - x. Must attend the annual Dual Credit Rigor Institute.
 - xi. Must attend the adjunct faculty meeting at the beginning of each semester. (Two options will be offered, and faculty must attend one of the two meetings.)
- F. Mandatory Orientation: As HCC students, dual credit students will complete mandatory orientation as part of their enrollment process.
- G. SECONDARY ENTITY will implement P-SOAR pre-registration program at all participating schools (See **Exhibit B**).

HCC Responsibilities

- A. Provide the course schedule to the SECONDARY ENTITY at the same time it becomes available to the general student population.
- B. Provide a list of required textbooks and other instructional materials forty-five days (45) prior to the start of each semester. If an instructor has not been identified within 45 days prior to the start of the semester, a default textbook will be assigned to that course.
- C. Credential and hire qualified faculty to teach dual credit courses.
- D. Provide adjunct training as needs are identified.
- E. Compensate adjuncts directly or distribute funds to the school districts based on the number of courses and enrollment so the schools may provide stipends to instructors in accordance with HCC's faculty salary rates.
- F. Provide support for teachers in accordance with HCC adjunct policies.
- G. Implement the PSOAR Program.
- H. Host Campus Pathways Fairs.
- I. Provide HCC advisors with information in order to assist them in counseling students about course sequencing for HCC programs.

- J. Provide students access to HCC campus tutoring services and the locations and hours these services are available.
- K. HCC will conduct class observations of dual credit faculty at least once per academic year.
- L. Will inform dual credit faculty of the dates that HCC will conduct the Student Evaluation of Instruction so that dual credit students are allowed to participate.

6. Financial

A. In-district Tuition:

- i. AY2020: Waive tuition for the 2019-2020 academic year
- ii. AY2021: (factored by goals in *HCC Goals for Target Populaton* section below)
- iii. AY2022: (factored by goals in *HCC Goals for Target Population* section below)

7. HCC Goals for Target Population

A. Dual Credit Enrollment Targets:

- i. AY2020: 15% of HCC's SCH enrollment
- ii. AY2021: 17% of HCC's SCH enrollment
- iii. AY2022: 19% of HCC's SCH enrollment

B. College Matriculation

- i. AY2020: 13% of high school graduates will enroll at HCC
- ii. AY2021: 14% of high school graduates will enroll at HCC
- iii. AY2022: 15% of high school graduates will enroll at HCC

8. Insurance

SECONDARY ENTITY shall obtain and maintain in force for the duration of this Agreement and any extensions thereof, at SECONDARY ENTITY's sole expense, all insurance required by state or federal law, including, but not limited to, General Liability Insurance. SECONDARY ENTITY will supply evidence of such insurance to HCC Risk Management or obtain Waiver of Insurance from HCC Risk Management prior to performing services.

The General Liability policy will name HCC as an Additional Insured. A Waiver of Subrogation in favor of HCC and notice of cancellation will be provided in writing in accordance with policy provisions. Certificates of insurance verifying the foregoing requirements will be provided to HCC prior to commencement of any services under this Agreement. If a policy contains deductible provisions, SECONDARY ENTITY will be responsible for payment of the deductible amount for any claim(s) or the pursuit of any claim(s) or asserted claim(s) against HCC, its agents, employees or representatives.

The original Verification of Insurance Coverage will be forwarded to:

Physical:

HCC Risk Management
3100 Main St., 4th Floor
Houston, TX 77002

Mailing:

Fort Bend ISD
16431 Lexington Blvd.
Sugar Land, TX 77479

SECONDARY ENTITY failure to comply with the requirements of this section shall be considered a breach of this Agreement.

9. Security Protocol

Both Parties shall exert due diligence in defining and implementing a written security protocol
LANGUAGE SHALL BE DEVELOPED, FINALIZED, AND IMPLEMENTED INTO THIS AGREEMENT VIA ADDENDUM.

10. EMERGENCY NOTICE

All matters related to emergencies to students and/or staff shall be immediately forwarded to:

HCC:

Chief Greg Cunningham
Greg.Cunningham@hccs.edu
713-718-7560
281-634-2457

SECONDARY ENTITY:

Terry Sheneman
Terry.shenman@fortbendisd.com

11. Indemnification

TO THE EXTENT PERMITTED BY THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF THE STATE OF TEXAS, SECONDARY ENTITY AGREES TO INDEMNIFY, RELEASE, AND HOLD HCC AND HCC'S TRUSTEES, OFFICERS, AGENTS, AND EMPLOYEES, HARMLESS FROM ANY AND ALL CLAIMS, DEMANDS, CAUSES OF ACTION, AND LIABILITIES (each as used herein shall be referred to as "Claim") OF ANY TYPE OR ANY NATURE WHATSOEVER (INCLUDING COSTS AND REASONABLE LEGAL AND EXPERT FEES) FOR DAMAGE TO, LOSS OF, OR DESTRUCTION OF ANY TANGIBLE PROPERTY OR BODILY INJURY OR DEATH TO ANY PERSON, ARISING FROM, IN CONNECTION WITH, OR ANY WAY INCIDENT TO THIS AGREEMENT, TO THE EXTENT FINALLY DETERMINED TO HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY SECONDARY ENTITY AND ITS PERSONNEL IN PERFORMANCE OF THE SERVICES.

12. Criminal History Background Check Requirements

Pursuant to Sections 22.0834, 22.0835 and 22.085 of the Texas Education Code, HCC hereby certifies that all employees and contractors of the HCC who are hired by HCC on or after January 1, 2008, and who have or will have continuing duties related to the contracted services, and have or will have direct contact with students, have passed a national criminal history background record information review as required by those sections.

HCC shall send or ensure that its employees and contractors send to the Texas Department of Public Safety (“DPS”) information that is required by the DPS for obtaining national criminal history record information, which may include fingerprints and photographs. DPS shall obtain the person’s national criminal history record information and report the results through the criminal history clearinghouse as provided by Section 411.0845, Government Code.

HCC must also obtain certifications from all subcontractors that their employees to whom Section 22.0834 applies have also passed a national criminal history background record information review.

13. Records Retention and Audits

The Parties shall comply with all applicable laws regarding records including but not limited to, the Family Educational and Privacy Rights Act (“FERPA”), the Freedom of Information Act (“FOIA”), the Texas Public Information Act (“TPIA”), and the Texas Records Retention laws (“RR laws”).

All records and reports generated, prepared, assembled, or maintained by SECONDARY ENTITY in relation to this Agreement shall be available for review, inspection, and audit by HCC and its auditors. Copies will be made available upon request and in conformity with FERPA, the FOIA, the TPIA, and the RR laws.

SECONDARY ENTITY understands that acceptance of funds under the Agreement constitutes acceptance of the authority of the Texas State Auditor’s Office, or any successor agency (collectively, “Auditor”) to conduct and audit or investigation in connection with any state funds distributed in furtherance of this Agreement. SECONDARY ENTITY agrees to cooperate with the Auditor in the conduct of the audit or investigation, including without limitation providing all records requested.

14. Confidential and Proprietary Information

The Parties may provide technical information, documentation and expertise to each other that is either (1) marked as being confidential, or (2) if delivered in oral form, is summarized in writing within 10 working days and identified as being confidential (“Confidential Information”). The receiving party shall for a period of five (5) years from the date of disclosure (1) hold the disclosing party’s Confidential Information in strict confidence, and (2) except as previously authorized in writing by the disclosing party, not publish or disclose the disclosing party’s Confidential Information to anyone other than the receiving party’s employees on a need-to-know basis, and (3) use the disclosing party’s Confidential Information solely for performance of this Agreement. The foregoing requirement shall not apply to any portion of a party’s confidential Information which (a) becomes publicly known through no wrongful act or omission on the part of the receiving party, (b) is already known to the receiving party at the time of the disclosure without similar nondisclosure obligations; (c) is rightfully received by the receiving party from a third party without similar nondisclosure obligations; (d) is approved for release by written authorization of the disclosing party, (e) is clearly demonstrated by the receiving party to have been independently developed by the receiving party without access to the disclosing party’s Confidential Information; or (f) is required to be disclosed by order of a court or governmental body or by applicable law, provided that the party intending to make such a required disclosure shall promptly notify the other party of such intended disclosure in order to allow such party seek protective order or other remedy.

A. Student Data Sharing between HCC and SECONDARY ENTITY

SECONDARY ENTITY agrees that the data transferred from HCC to SECONDARY ENTITY is and shall remain the sole and exclusive property of HCC. HCC agrees that the data transferred from SECONDARY ENTITY to HCC shall remain the sole and exclusive property of SECONDARY ENTITY. The Parties acknowledge under this Agreement that individually-identifiable health information that falls under the protection of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (“HIPAA”), data that deals with the confidentiality provisions of the Patient Safety Rule, and Social Security Numbers shall not be released by either party. Data that is released must be used consistent with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (“FERPA”), HIPAA and SECONDARY ENTITY and HCC policies and procedures for managing student education records and other confidential information. SECONDARY ENTITY grants HCC, and HCC grants SECONDARY ENTITY permission to use such data only for the following purpose and for no other purpose: To track current SECONDARY ENTITY students who earned credit in a dual credit course, or have graduated or completed a sequence of courses leading to

certification, licensure or an Associate Degree from HCC while maintaining dual enrollment at SECONDARY ENTITY.

- i. The scope of the data sharing between HCC and SECONDARY ENTITY addressed in this Agreement is limited to the following:
 1. Student Identifier
 - a. First Name, Last Name, Middle Initial.
 - b. Social Security Number (SSN) or other student record identifier.
 - c. Date of Birth (DOB).
 2. Semester End Date
 3. Dual Credit Course(s) Enrollment/Completion Information:
 - a. Course name;
 - b. Course ID;
 - c. Instructional Mode;
 - d. Semester Grade;
 - e. Semester & Cumulative GPA;
 - f. HCC Program and Plan
 - g. Associate Degree Earned (Y/N);
 - h. License Awarded (Y/N);
 - i. Certification Awarded (Y/N); and
 - j. If “Yes” to g, h or i, Provide Type and Program Name.
 4. Indicators of Student Academic Standing:
 - a. Early Alert;
 - b. Academica Probation/Suspension;
 - c. Dean’s List; and
 - d. Eligibility for Academic Honors (e.g., Honors Society)
 5. Provide SECONDARY ENTITY with TSI-A/diagnostic results of any SECONDARY ENTITY student who tests at HCC, as available.

ii. Data Sharing

A portion of the relevant student data shall be provided by SECONDARY ENTITY to HCC and a portion of the data shall be provided by HCC to SECONDARY ENTITY. The data shall be provided in the following format: either Microsoft Excel or Access.

1. SECONDARY ENTITY will provide:
 - a. Enrollment information for all students:
 - (i) First Name, Last Name, Middle Initial;
 - (ii) Texas Student Data Systems (TSDS) number or other student record identifier;
 - (iii) Date of Birth (DOB);
 - (iv) meningitis immunization record;

- b. High School Attendance, including semester identifiers;
 - c. Date of High School graduation;
 - d. Endorsement areas of each student;
 - e. Special group identification, for example Futures Academy or ECHS;
and
 - f. Cumulative GPAs.
2. HCC will provide persistence data:
 - a. Student Identifier;
 - b. Semester Identifier; and
 - c. Enrolled in credit course this semester (Y/N)
 - d. Available TSI-A/diagnostic results of students tested from SECONDARY ENTITY, as available.

iii. Confidentiality

SECONDARY ENTITY and HCC shall maintain the confidentiality of any and all student data exchanged pursuant to this Parent Agreement or any subsequent agreement intended to supersede the Agreement. To ensure the continued confidentiality and security of the student and staff data processed, stored, or transmitted, SECONDARY ENTITY and HCC shall establish a system of safeguards that shall at minimum include doing the following:

1. SECONDARY ENTITY and HCC shall develop, implement, maintain and use appropriate administrative, technical and physical security measures to preserve the confidentiality, integrity and availability of all data, including electronically-maintained or transmitted data received from, or on behalf of each other. These measures shall be extended by contract to all subcontractors used by SECONDARY ENTITY and HCC;
2. SECONDARY ENTITY and HCC employees, subcontractors and agents involved in the handling, transmittal, and/or processing of data provided under the agreement shall be required to maintain the confidentiality of all student and staff-related personally identifiable information;
3. SECONDARY ENTITY and HCC shall develop and implement procedures and systems that require the use of secured passwords to access computer databases used to process, store, or transmit data provided under the Agreement;
4. SECONDARY ENTITY and HCC shall develop and implement procedures and systems, such as good practices for assigning passwords, to maintain the integrity of the systems used to secure computer data bases which used to process, store, or transmit data provided under the Agreement;

5. SECONDARY ENTITY and HCC shall develop and implement procedures and systems that ensure that all confidential student and staff data processed, stored, and/or transmitted under the provisions of the Agreement shall be maintained in a secure manner that prevents the interception, diversion, or other unauthorized access to said data;
6. SECONDARY ENTITY and HCC shall develop and implement procedures and systems to process, store, or transmit data provided under the Agreement which ensure that any and all disclosures of confidential student and staff data comply with all provisions of federal laws (HIPAA, FERPA, E-government, etc.) and Texas state laws relating to the privacy rights of students and staff as such laws are applicable to the parties to the Agreement;
7. HCC shall return to SECONDARY ENTITY all data or any portions thereof requested by SECONDARY ENTITY or, at SECONDARY ENTITY's election and subject to proper notice to HCC, HCC shall destroy all or any part of SECONDARY ENTITY's data that is within the possession or control of HCC; and
8. HCC shall obtain permission from SECONDARY ENTITY prior to publications or disclosure of relevant data, or other uses not outlined in the Agreement.

15. Debarment and Suspension

HCC and SECONDARY ENTITY certify that it is not presently debarred, suspended for debarment, declared ineligible or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any federal department or agency.

16. General Provisions

A. Relationship of the Parties.

It is understood and agreed that HCC is a separate legal entity from SECONDARY ENTITY and neither it nor any of its employees, volunteers, or agents contracted by it shall be deemed for any purposes to be employees or agents of SECONDARY ENTITY. HCC and its contractors assume full responsibility for the actions of their personnel and volunteers while performing any services incident to this Agreement, and shall remain solely responsible for their supervision, daily direction and control, payment of salary (including withholding of supervision, daily direction and control, payment of salary (including withholding of income taxes and social security), workers' compensation, disability benefits and like requirements and obligations. Nothing in this Agreement shall

be deemed or construed to create any third party beneficiaries or otherwise give any third party any claim or right of action against any party to this Agreement.

B. No Personal Liability

Nothing in this Agreement may be construed as creating any personal liability on the part of any officer, director, employee or agent of HCC or SECONDARY ENTITY, and the parties expressly agree that the execution of this Agreement does not create any personal liability on the part of any officer, director, employee or agent of HCC or SECONDARY ENTITY. The parties shall be responsible for their own acts of negligence.

These provisions are solely for the benefit of the parties hereto and not for the benefit of any person or entity not a party to this Agreement. No provisions shall be deemed a waiver of any defenses available by law, including, but not limited to, governmental immunity.

C. Notice

Any routine notice not including *EMERGENCY NOTICES (SEE EMERGENCY NOTICE PROVISION)* required to be given under the provisions of this Agreement, shall be in writing and shall be duly served when it shall be hand-delivered to the addressees set out below, or shall have been deposited, duly registered or certified, return receipt requested, in a United States Post Office addressed to the other party at the following addresses:

To: Houston Community College
Norma Perez, Ph.D.
Chief Academic Officer
3100 Main Street, 12th Floor
Houston, TX 77002

Copy to: Houston Community College
Office of the General Counsel
3100 Main Street, 12th Floor
Houston, TX 77002

To: Fort Bend Independent School District
Terry Sheneman
16431 Lexington Blvd.
Sugar Land, TX 77479

Copy to: Fort Bend Independent School District

Department of Legal Services
16431 Lexington Blvd.
Sugar Land, TX 77479

Any party may designate a different address by giving the other party ten (10) days prior written notice in the manner provided above.

D. No Waiver of Immunity

Neither HCC nor SECONDARY ENTITY waives or relinquishes any immunity of defense on behalf of itself, its trustees, officers, employees, and agents as a result of its execution of this Agreement and performance of the functions or obligations described herein.

E. Authorization of Contract

Each party represents and warrants to the other that the execution of this Agreement has been duly authorized, and that this Agreement constitutes a valid and enforceable obligation of such party according to its terms.

F. No Waiver

No waiver of a breach of any provision of this Agreement shall be construed to be a waiver of any breach of any other provision. No delay in acting with regard to any breach of any provision shall be construed to be a waiver of such breach.

G. No Assignment

No assignment of this Agreement or of any duty or obligation or performance hereunder shall be made in whole or in part by either party without the prior written consent of the other party.

H. Governing Law; Venue

Parties agree that this Agreement will be construed by the laws of the State of Texas (exclusive of its conflict of laws provision), and, for purposes of resolving claims or litigation relating to this Agreement, the parties irrevocably consent to the sole and exclusive jurisdiction and venue of the courts of Harris County, Texas.

I. Section Headings

The headings of sections contained in this Agreement are for convenience only, and they shall not, expressly or by implication, limit, define, extend, or construe the terms or provisions of the sections of this Agreement.

J. Complete Understanding

This Agreement shall constitute the complete understanding of HCC and SECONDARY ENTITY, and may not be modified in any manner without the express written consent of both parties and supersedes any other representations, agreements, arrangements, negotiations, or understanding, oral or written, between the parties of the Agreement.

By signing the Agreement, both parties affirm that there is no personal or financial conflict of interest between its employees and contractors or their families and the institution.

This Agreement is executed in counterparts, each of which shall have the full force and effect of an original Agreement, and each of which shall constitute but one and the same instrument.

HCC and SECONDARY ENTITY have executed and delivered this Agreement to be effective as of the Effective Date.

SECTION 2: ELIGIBLE DUAL CREDIT COURSES

Courses offered for dual credit by HCC must be identified as college-level academic courses in the current edition of the Lower Division Academic Course Guide Manual adopted by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) or as college-level workforce education courses in the current edition of the Workforce Education Course Manual adopted by the THECB. In addition, S.B. 1004 allows school districts in Harris County and surrounding counties to contract with any of the 10 community college districts in the region to provide dual credit programs, to the benefit of students who would have expanded choices of programs and more opportunities to earn college credit and career training. The first administration of the TSI assessment is free to the high school students; however, any subsequent test administrations be paid per the testing rate. Dual Credit students must meet the same eligibility requirements as any other HCC students. NOTE: Eligibility requirements are subject to change. All HCC students (including Dual Credit

Students) must meet TSI requirements unless an exception applies. Eligibility requirements are found online at: <http://www.hccs.edu/TSI>

(A) Eligibility

- (1) A high school student is eligible to enroll in HCC dual credit courses if the student:
 - (a) Demonstrates college readiness by achieving the minimum passing standards under the provisions of the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) on relevant section(s) of the TSI assessment instrument; or
 - (b) Demonstrates that he or she is exempt under the provisions of the Texas Success Initiative and is otherwise approved by HCC according to the provisions indicated below.
 - (c) Chart below is updated from time to time-official and most current scores are found on TSI website referenced above.

<u>TYPE OF ASSESSMENT</u>	<u>Minimum</u> scores for Reading & Writing based classes e.g., English/History/ Government	<u>Minimum</u> scores for Reading, Writing and Math based classes e.g., Economics	<u>Minimum</u> scores for Math based classes e.g., College Algebra
ACT (TSI exemption)	English 19 Composite 23	English 19, Math 19 Composite 23	Math 19 Composite 23
PLAN (TSI waiver)	English 19 Composite 23	English 19, Math 19 Composite 23	Math 19 Composite 23
SAT (before 3/2016) (TSI exemption)	Critical Reading 500 Total (Critical Reading + Math) 1070	Critical Reading 500 Math 500 Total (Critical Reading + Math) 1070	Math 500 Total (Critical Reading + Math) 1070
SAT (after 3/2016) (TSI exemption)	Evidence-Based Reading & Writing 480	Evidence-Based Reading & Writing 480 Math Section Score 530	Math Section Score 530
PSAT (TSI waiver)	Critical Reading 50 Total (Critical Reading + Math) 107	Critical Reading 50 Math 50 Total (Critical Reading + Math) 107	Math 50 Total (Critical Reading + Math) 107
STAAR EOC (TSI exemption)	PRIOR TO SPRING 2014 English III reading 2000 English III writing 2000 SPRING 2014 : Combined English III	PRIOR TO SPRING 2014 English III reading 2000 English III writing 2000 SPRING 2014 : Combined English III	Algebra II 4000

<u>TYPE OF ASSESSMENT</u>	<u>Minimum</u> scores for Reading & Writing based classes e.g., English/History/ Government	<u>Minimum</u> scores for Reading, Writing and Math based classes e.g., Economics	<u>Minimum</u> scores for Math based classes e.g., College Algebra
	4000	4000 & Algebra II 4000	
STAAR EOC (TSI waiver)	PRIOR TO SPRING 2014 English II reading 2000 English II writing 2000 SPRING 2014 : Combined English II 4000	PRIOR TO SPRING 2014 English II reading 2000 English II writing 2000 SPRING 2014 : Combined English II 4000 & Algebra I 4000 Algebra 2 A & B (need ALL FOUR)	Algebra I 4000 Algebra 2 A & B (need ALL THREE)
TSI Assessment	ABEWD 4-6 & WS 5-8 & Read 351-390 (need ALL THREE) OR WRITE 340-390 & WS 4-8 & Read 351-390 (need ALL THREE) OR WRITE <340 & ABE 4 & WS 5-8 & Read 351-390 (need ALL FOUR)	WS: 5-8 & Read 351-390 & Math 336-347 & IA 4-15 (need ALL FOUR) OR WRITE 340-390 & WS 4-8 & Read 351-390 & Math 336-347 & IA 4-15 (need ALL FIVE) OR WRITE <340 & ABE 4 & WS 5-8 & Read 351-390 & Math 336-347 & IA 4-15 (need ALL SIX)	Math 350-390

- (2) A high school student is eligible to enroll in HCC workforce education dual credit courses as follows:
- (a) Level One certificate courses: no testing or end-of-course assessment minimum required.
 - (b) Level Two certificate courses: the student must demonstrate that he or she has achieved the designated minimum final phase-in score on the Algebra I (i.e. 3872 or higher) end-of-course assessment and/or the English II reading (i.e. 1929 or higher) or English II Writing (i.e. 1928 or higher) end-of-course assessments relevant to the courses to be attempted.
 - (c) A student may enroll only in the workforce education dual credit courses for which the student has demonstrated eligibility.

- (d) A student who is exempt from taking TAKS or STAAR end-of-course assessments may be otherwise evaluated by an institution to determine eligibility for enrolling in workforce education dual credit courses.
- (3) Students who are enrolled in private or non-accredited secondary schools or who are home-schooled must satisfy paragraphs (1) – (3) of this subsection.
- (4) To be eligible for enrollment in an HCC dual credit course, students must meet all of the college's regular prerequisite requirements designated for that course (e.g., minimum score on a specified placement test, minimum grade in a specified previous course, etc.)
 - (a) HCC and SECONDARY ENTITY agree that a student enrolling in more than two dual credit courses in a semester must pass all courses during that semester with a grade of C or better to continue to enroll in more than two dual credit courses in following semesters.
 - (b) This provision does not apply to students enrolled in approved early college high school programs.
- (5) Freshmen and sophomore students wishing to enroll in dual credit courses must have principal or counselor recommendation for consideration to take a dual credit course.
- (6) HCC and SECONDARY ENTITY will make a collaborative decision of which dual credit courses will be available for students based on the identified pathway of each student. (See section on SB 1091.)

(B) Location of Class

- (1) Dual credit courses may be taught at an HCC campus, electronically, or at the SECONDARY ENTITY campus. For dual credit courses taught exclusively to high school students on the high school campus and for dual credit courses taught electronically, HCC will comply with applicable THECB rules and procedures for offering courses at a distance.
- (2) In addition, dual credit courses taught electronically shall comply with the THECB's adopted Principles of Good Practice for Courses Offered Electronically and offered at the discretion of the College.

(C) Composition of Class

Dual credit courses must be composed of dual credit students only or of dual and college credit students in accordance with Southern Association of schools Commission on College (SACSCOC), classes shall not contain students enrolled for AP credit/testing for example. (See section on SACS requirements.)

(D) Faculty Selection, Supervision and Evaluation

- (1) HCC shall select or credential recommended SECONDARY ENTITY instructors of dual credit courses. These instructors must be regularly employed faculty members of

- the college or must meet the same standards (including minimal requirements of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools) and approval procedures used by the college to select faculty responsible for teaching the same courses at HCC; and
- (2) HCC shall supervise and evaluate instructors of dual credit courses using the same or comparable procedures used for faculty at HCC.

(E) Course Curriculum, Instruction and Grading

HCC shall ensure that a dual credit course and the corresponding course offered at HCC are equivalent with respect to the curriculum, materials, instruction, and method/rigor of student evaluation. These standards must be upheld regardless of the student composition of the class.

(F) Funding

- (1) **Dual credit courses are offered free of charge to any student who lives in-district or who is a student in an ECHS. Dual credit courses are offered at a reduced flat fee of \$50 per course for students who live out of district.**
- (2) **HCC Board reserves its right to change funding structure during its periodic review and approval of waivers without altering funding structure mid-academic year. Compliance with Program Commitments, Principles of Partnership, and Joint Goals outlined in this agreement will be communicated to HCC Board of Trustees as they review continuation of the dual credit partnership funding.**
- (3) The state funding for dual credit courses will be available to both public school districts and colleges based on the current funding rules of the State Board of Education and the Board.
- (4) HCC may only claim funding for students getting college credit in core curriculum, career and technical education, and foreign language dual credit courses.
- (5) This provision does not apply to students enrolled in approved Early College High School programs.
- (6) HCC may waive all or part of tuition and fees for a Texas high school student enrolled in a course for which the student may receive dual course credit.
- (7) HCC will pay SECONDARY ENTITY in accordance with HCC's compensation structure per completed section of dual credit courses, as invoiced by SECONDARY ENTITY, provided course sections have a minimum of 15 students for Career and Technical Education Courses or 20 students for Academic Transfer courses. Courses with enrollment below the minimum may still take place, based on HCC's discretion; however, the amount paid will be on a per pupil basis. Payment is due 30 days from the invoice date. Any overage of funds may only be used for dual credit program expenditures. If the adjunct rate changes, it will be adjusted per the new rate.
- (8) If the minimum enrollment is not met and the district decides to run the class, the compensation will be pro-rated based on the student count.
- (9) SECONDARY ENTITY will invoice within 30 days of the withdrawal day.

(G) Academic Policies and Student Support Services

- (1) Regular academic policies applicable to courses taught at HCC must also apply to dual credit courses. These policies should include the appeal process for disputed grades, drop policy, the communication of grading policy to students, when the syllabus must be distributed, etc.; and
- (2) Students in dual credit courses must be eligible to utilize the same or comparable support services that are afforded to HCC students, including athletics and other extracurricular opportunities. HCC is responsible for ensuring timely and efficient access to such services (e.g., academic advising and counseling), to learning materials (e.g., library resources}, and to other benefits for which the student may be eligible. Disability-related accommodations in a course for which college credit is awarded will be assigned by HCC's Ability Services in accordance with current HCC policies, procedures, and applicable laws that govern the College. Students requesting accommodations are required to self-disclose with the appropriate HCC Ability Services office. Service coordination and costs of required accommodations will be afforded through a collaborative effort.

(H) Transcription of Credit

For dual credit courses, high school as well as college credit should be transcribed immediately upon a student's completion of the performance required in the course.

(I) Dual Credit Faculty

- (1) Embedded Faculty are defined as full-time high school teachers who teach college courses for dual credit during the regular high school day.
- (2) HCC Faculty are professors who work full-time or part-time teaching college courses for dual credit.

HCC will:

- (1) Provide curriculum and common assessments as well as identify a textbook.
- (2) Ensure that Department Chairs communicate with the dual credit faculty.

(J) TSI Academies

TSI Academies will be planned and offered at schools based on school need. The timing for each Academy will be created based on the time constraints of each school. High School teachers are allowed to teach the TSI Academies since there is no credentialing requirement, other than being a certified English teacher or a certified Math teacher. Transportation for the TSI Academies will be the school's responsibility.

(K) SB 1091

- (1) According to Senate Bill 1091, students must take college courses that are:
 - (a) In the core curriculum of the public institution of higher education providing college credit;
 - (b) In a career and technical education course;
 - (c) In a foreign language course.
- (2) Early College High Schools are exempt from the limitations listed above.
- (3) HCC requires all students to identify a pathway and stay on that pathway unless they work with an advisor to change it. All students must follow one of the above-listed pathways. HCC will not offer courses outside of the pathway.

(L) SACS

All SACS requirements must be followed by the school district. Section II has all of the approved SACS requirements for the dual credit program. *Please note that the newly adopted statement regarding curriculum states: "Institutions may not offer courses which combine students enrolled in the college course with students who are only receiving high school credit. (Please see the SACSCOC policy "Quality and Integrity of the Undergraduate Degree.") This means that dual credit courses must only have students who are enrolled in the college course.*

HCC will:

- (1) Provide updates related to any changes in the SACS policies.
- (2) Process requests for substantive changes.
- (3) Check the overall school schedule to ensure that the school is not offering 25% or 50% of a program without the proper notification being sent to SACS for approval.

SECONDARY ENTITY will:

- (1) Follow all SACS policies and requirements. Any violation puts the both the program and HCC at risk.
- (2) Work with the College P-16 Directors to establish the schedule and will review the schedule with the College P-16 Director to ensure the proper SACS notifications occur at the 25% and 50% points of offering a full certificate or degree program.
- (3) Allow access to department chairs, associate chairs, deans, or designees to conduct visits at each school location prior to each semester and in the middle of each semester in order to document facilities, materials, and textbooks and to allow HCC to offer support as needed for each program.
- (4) Allow access to HCC individuals who arrive to observe dual credit faculty during the school day.

SECTION 3: SACS COC DUAL ENROLLMENT POLICY

STATEMENT

- A. For SACSCOC purposes, “dual enrollment” refers to courses taught to high school students for which the students receive both high school credit and college credit, regardless of location or mode of delivery. This would include such coursework offered at the high school, on the institution’s campus, or via distance education. This also includes programs and courses that may be offered under different names such as “early college,” “dual credit,” or “concurrent enrollment.” The academic rigor of such coursework matches the quality of other institutional coursework, regardless of location or mode of delivery.
- B. Institutions must ensure that their dual enrollment courses and programs comply with the *Principles of Accreditation*. This applies to all such educational programs and services, wherever located or however delivered. In addition, institutions being reviewed should also be prepared to demonstrate clear institutional control over these dual enrollment courses and programs.
- C. Applying the Principles of Accreditation to Dual Enrollment
 - i. With the underlying concept that the *Principles of Accreditation* apply to all programs of the institution, regardless of mode of delivery, institutions should consider the following statements in implementing and reporting on dual enrollment programs. Similarly, reviewers should consider these statements when approving or evaluating dual enrollment programs.
- D. Substantive Change
 - i. An institution offering dual enrollment ensures appropriate notification and prior approval (if needed) of off-campus instructional sites where dual enrollment courses and programs are offered. Another aspect of dual enrollment that may require notification or approval could be the use of a cooperative academic arrangement to deliver courses. (Please refer to the SACSCOC policy “Substantive Change for SACSCOC Accredited Institutions.”)
- E. Faculty
 - i. SACSCOC defines an “instructor of record” as the faculty member qualified to teach the course. This person has overall responsibility for the development and implementation of the syllabus and for issuing grades. With very limited exceptions—particularly in the context of a dual enrollment course taught at a high school—this faculty member will provide direct instruction for the course.
 - ii. The institution ensures appropriate faculty qualifications for those who provide instruction for dual enrollment courses; these faculty members possess the same academic credentials and/or documented professional experience required by the institution of all of its faculty. Graduate teaching assistants, if they are the instructor of record and providing direct instruction,

should meet the same academic and/or professional criteria. In all cases, the institution bears responsibility for documenting and justifying the qualifications of its dual enrollment instructors, and they are included on the Faculty Roster when appropriate for review by a SACSCOC committee. (Please refer to the Resource Manual, Standard 6.2.b, for a broader discussion of faculty qualifications.)

- iii. An institution offering dual enrollment courses or programs ensures that a sufficient number of full-time faculty members teach and/or provide appropriate oversight for the courses/programs. Materials submitted for review by SACSCOC explain the nature of faculty oversight that ensures the quality and integrity of the courses offered. The institution has clear criteria for the evaluation of faculty teaching dual enrollment courses and demonstrates the use of these criteria.

F. Curriculum and Instruction

- i. For all dual enrollment courses offered, the institution employs sound and acceptable practices for determining the amount and level of credit awarded. Course content and rigor of dual enrollment courses are comparable to that of the same courses taught to the institution's other students. Institutions may not offer courses which combine students enrolled in the college course with students who are only receiving high school credit. (Please see the SACSCOC policy "Quality and Integrity of the Undergraduate Degree.")
- ii. The faculty assumes primary responsibility for dual enrollment courses. Such oversight ensures both the rigor of programs/courses and the quality of instruction.

G. Institutional Effectiveness

- i. Dual enrollment students are included within the processes used to ensure the effectiveness of campus programs. If dual enrollment students can earn a credential, then that credential and those students should be part of the institutional effectiveness process of the institution. The institution regularly assesses the effectiveness of its provision of library/learning resources and student support services for dual enrollment.

H. Library and Learning Resources

- i. Students have access to appropriate library resources, and the institution demonstrates that students are able to use such resources effectively. If the high school is the provider of these materials, the institution establishes the appropriateness of the collections for the courses and programs offered. The institution ensures that its students have access to regular and timely instruction in the use of library and other learning resources.

I. Academic and Student Support Services

- i. Academic support services are appropriate for the courses and programs

offered. Institutions ensure that dual enrollment students are appropriately advised regarding the collegiate curriculum. Student support services are appropriate for dual enrollment students.

- ii. Institutions have an adequate and published procedure for resolving written student complaints, and the institution follows its policies and procedures. The institution ensures that its dual enrolled students are appropriately oriented regarding their rights and responsibilities. Documented procedures assure that security of personal information is protected.

J. Admissions and Transparency

- i. The institution implements appropriate eligibility and placement procedures to ensure that potential dual enrollment students are prepared for college-level courses. Dual enrollment students are usually admitted under exceptions to an institution's published admissions policies, and the institution follows commonly accepted practices in making such exceptions. Advertising, recruiting, and admissions information adequately and accurately represent the programs, requirements, and services available to students.
- ii. Statements and other representations regarding the ability to transfer credit earned in dual enrollment programs and courses are accurate and complete. The institution ensures that its registration and transcripting practices for dual enrollment students are consistent with those in effect for all other students

K. Faculties

- i. Dual enrollment courses are offered in adequate physical facilities, whether under the control of the institution or under the control of the high school.

Exhibits Included:

*Please note that all Exhibits applicable to this Agreement are in **BOLD***

Exhibit A: College Prep Math and College Prep English Courses (HB5)

Exhibit B: P-Soar Project (Exhibits B-1, B-2, B-3, and B-4)

Exhibit C: Early College High School and P-Tech Program

Exhibit D: Middle College High School

Signature Page to Follow

SIGNATURE PAGE

HOUSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

By: Cesar Maldonado 09-10-19
Cesar Maldonado, Ph.D., P.E. Date
Chancellor
Houston Community College

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

By: _____
Charles E. Dupre, Ed.D. Date
Superintendent of Schools

APPROVED AS TO FUNDING/BUSINESS TERMS

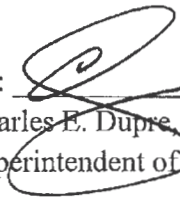
By: _____
Date
Chief Financial Officer

SIGNATURE PAGE

HOUSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

By: _____
Dr. Cesar Maldonado Date
Chancellor

By:  _____ 9-17-19
Charles E. Dupre, Ed.D. Date
Superintendent of Schools

**APPROVED AS TO
FUNDING/BUSINESS TERMS**


By:  _____ 9/11/19
Bryan Guinn Date
Chief Financial Officer, Interim

Exhibit A

College Prep Math and College Prep English Courses (HB5)

HCC and SECONDARY ENTITY agree to collaborate to develop and maintain College Prep Math and College Prep English courses that meet the requirements under Texas Education Code Section 28.014 which states that each school district shall partner with at least one institution of higher education to develop and provide courses in College Preparatory Mathematics and College Preparatory English.

- (A) HCC agrees to provide Student Learning Outcomes for the courses being offered and provide syllabi of the courses being offered at the start of each school year. HCC will provide the departmental final exams for the courses no later than three weeks before the exams.

- (B) HCC agrees to the following for both the Mathematics and Developmental Reading and Writing (INRW) courses:
 - (1) To post TSI exemption status for the component area relevant to the HB 5 course(s) passed on the student's official HCC transcript;
 - (2) To share data and provide feedback regarding student success on entry level college mathematics and English courses;
 - (3) To train advisors to recognize and honor course(s) on school district transcripts;
 - (4) To ensure that students are counseled directly into the appropriate college level mathematics, English, and all other courses that require mathematics and English language arts college readiness;
 - (5) To provide the Student Learning Outcomes for INRW 0420;
 - (6) To provide the types of essays required (expository, persuasive, and literary analysis);
 - (7) To provide the final exam for the Integrated Reading and Writing (INRW 0420) course no later than three weeks prior to the administration of the exams.
 - (8) In order to receive a TSI exemption, the student must earn at least a grade of C in the College Prep Course.
 - (9) Information regarding acceleration for *students who are not successful being able to accelerate through our corequisite remediation model. They will take the college-level course with a support course attached.*

- (C) SECONDARY ENTITY agrees to the following for both the Mathematics and English courses:
 - (1) To provide highly qualified instructors for the courses being taught;
 - (2) To identify students who are not college ready as stated in HB 5;

- (3) To provide professional development and resources required to teach the Mathematics and English courses;
 - (4) To identify successful completion of the course(s) and students' final exam grades as applicable on the student transcripts as determined by the State of Texas PEIMS number;
 - (5) To provide curriculum for the course that is consistent with HCC Student Learning Outcomes per the standards established by HCC;
 - (6) To follow the school district's Grading Expectations;
 - (7) To deny students enrolled in these courses exemptions from HCC final exams;
 - (8) To ensure that students fill out either an HCC online application or an ApplyTexas.org application; and
 - (9) To provide assistance with college applications, enrollment and financial aid applications.
- (D) SECONDARY ENTITY agrees to the following for the College Preparatory Mathematics courses:
- (1) To administer the HCC departmental final exam. Students may use calculators on the exam only when permitted by the course;
 - (2) To provide and utilize Math XL as possible (the use of Math XL is optional so long as all course topics are taught). No calculator may be used by students on the final exam for each student enrolled in the course;
 - (3) In order for a student to receive TSI exemption in Mathematics at HCC, the student's grade must be a C or above according to SECONDARY ENTITY's grading scale; and
 - (4) The course(s) will each be posted on the student transcript as independent one-semester courses designated by course name.
- (E) SECONDARY ENTITY agrees to the following for the College Preparatory English courses:
- (1) To administer the HCC INRW final exam as part of the students' course grade;
 - (2) To teach and grade the required essays according to the rubrics agreed upon by HCC. (TEA Rubrics for Expository, Persuasive, and Literacy Analysis); and
 - (3) In order for a student to receive TSI exemption in ELA at HCC, the student's grade for each semester must be at least a C according to SECONDARY ENTITY's grading scale. HCC and SECONDARY ENTITY will attempt to collaborate as much as possible to ensure that the essay grading standards are consistent with those of HCC. There is no essay revision allowed once the final exam and course ends.
- (F) SECONDARY ENTITY agrees to the following for both the Mathematics and English courses:
- (1) To provide highly qualified instructors for the courses being taught;

- (2) To identify students who are not college ready
- (3) To attend professional development offered by HCC; and
- (4) To provide professional development and resources.

(G) TSI Exemption

The TSI Exemption for high school College Prep courses is now 24 months. A student must enroll in HCC within 24 months of a student's graduation from high school. If the student does not pass the College Prep English and/or the College Prep Math course, the student must be advised of accelerated options. THECB must track and report outcomes to both the school district and the higher education institute.

Exhibit B

P-SOAR PROJECT

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

17. Purpose

The purpose of this partnership is to increase the enrollment, persistence and degree completion of FortBend ISD graduates at HCC through the shared access to institutional platforms and resources. The objective of this partnership is to remove barriers to access of critical information about students across institutions so that both can provide a continuity of support for FortBend ISD alumni transitioning to HCC for their post-secondary academic pursuits. To successfully achieve the objective, HCC and FortBend ISD are partnering to share technological data, and intend to grant each other log-in access and credentials to key platforms with designated representatives from each institution and the consent of their students. Each designated representative will have access to the information related to the students who have granted consent to share their information or students who have been notified about the planned disclosure and who have not objected within a reasonable time-frame. The Parties also explicitly acknowledge that certain third parties acting as agents of the Parties, such as third party researchers gathering data to measure the partnership's success, may be necessary to achieve the project goals. The Parties agree to collaborate to effectuate these purposes, and to make sure that any such agents are aware of and fully subject to the requirements of this agreement. The Parties agree to implement this partnership in accordance with the general obligations and responsibilities of each Party as set out in this Agreement and the Exhibits below, which are hereby incorporated for all purposes and made part of this Agreement:

- A. Exhibit A: HCC Student Interest Inventory
- B. Exhibit B: HCC Acceptance Letter
- C. Exhibit C: FortBend ISD Automatic Admission FERPA Notification/Consent for Automatic Admission Form

18. Responsibilities of Partnership

In furtherance of the objectives of this partnership, the Parties acknowledge the following responsibilities:

FortBend ISD commits to:

- L. FortBend ISD agrees to provide designated HCC staff with credentials and access to the ACCUPLACER / Texas Success Initiative Assessment (TSIA) platform;

- M. FortBend ISD agrees to identify and recruit FortBend ISD students and facilitate their participation in designated HCC programs that support students' transition to HCC;
- N. FortBend ISD agrees to provide designated HCC personnel access to FortBend ISD campuses and students for program recruitment and enrollment activities;
- O. FortBend ISD agrees to use access to any technological resources granted by HCC solely for the purpose of accessing relevant student information for supporting students through the enrollment process and their persistence and completion of their designated programs;
- P. FortBend ISD agrees to provide HCC the necessary student information to allow HCC to match IDs for the purpose of providing FortBend ISD the HCC ID numbers for FortBend ISD seniors. HCC will provide the HCC ID number for all FortBend ISD seniors who have one;
- Q. FortBend ISD agrees to provide HCC with parent contact information for seniors and other specified groups of FortBend ISD students for the purpose of outreach and recruiting by HCC staff for P-SOAR and other related programs. Contact information will include student name, enrolled high school, parent/guardian name, address, phone number and email;
- R. FortBend ISD agrees to provide HCC names and contact information as requested for FortBend ISD alumni students not presently enrolled in college for the purpose of outreach and recruiting by HCC staff;
- S. FortBend ISD agrees to coordinate attendance requirements for seniors enrolling in P-SOAR related programs to allow concurrent high school or advanced enrollment prior to students' graduation date;
- T. FortBend ISD agrees to have all program participants apply to HCC using the ApplyTexas application;
- U. FortBend ISD agrees to have all program participants complete the FERPA consent form, Exhibit C to this Agreement;
- V. FortBend ISD shall provide FortBend ISD seniors and parents with notice of FortBend ISD's participation in "P-SOAR Project." FortBend ISD shall distribute to FortBend ISD seniors the "ISD/HCC Student Interest Inventory form as part of the admissions application process;
- W. FortBend ISD agrees to participate in activities, including in-person interviews, designed to evaluate the efficacy of the PSOAR program;
- X. FortBend ISD agrees to collaborate with HCC leadership and staff to achieve the goals of this project, and to do so in a manner that is consistent with both parties policies, procedures, and applicable law.

HCC commits to:

- A. HCC agrees to provide designated FortBend ISD staff with credentials and access to technological resources to access approved and relevant student data applicable to this project;
- B. HCC agrees to allow designated FortBend ISD staff access to space on requested HCC campuses to “office” and provide enhanced support to FortBend ISD alumni;
- C. HCC agrees to allow designated FortBend ISD staff to attend and participate in professional development opportunities, including training conducted for academic advisors;
- D. HCC agrees to use ACCUPLACER access solely for the purpose of accessing students TSIA scores and transferring those scores in to the HCC student record;
- E. HCC agrees to provide FortBend ISD with the HCC ID numbers for all FortBend ISD seniors, subject to the other requirements of this agreement. FortBend ISD will provide HCC the necessary student information to allow HCC to match IDs for the purpose of providing FortBend ISD the HCC ID numbers for FortBend ISD seniors;
- F. HCC agrees to provide FortBend ISD, subject to the other terms of this agreement, with the names and contact information of FortBend ISD graduates from the last three years who are currently enrolled at HCC, along with relevant enrollment information such as number of credit hours completed, number of credit hours currently enrolled, and academic program enrolled as well as persistence risk indicators like current academic probation status or students at-risk of losing financial aid eligibility due to SAP;
- G. HCC agrees to provide FortBend ISD, subject to the other terms of this agreement, with the names and contact information of FortBend ISD graduates from the last three years who were at one time enrolled at HCC but who are not currently enrolled (have “stopped-out”);
- H. HCC agrees to make the necessary accommodations to allow FortBend ISD seniors to enroll in P-SOAR related programs prior to the students’ high school graduation date;
- I. HCC agrees to waive initial TSIA fees for FortBend ISD students testing in HCC testing centers. Subsequent administrations of the TSIA at HCC testing centers will be subject to existing, standard fee structures;
- J. HCC agrees to collaborate in having all program participants complete the FERPA consent form, Exhibit C to this Agreement;
- K. HCC agrees to participate in activities, including in-person interviews, designed to evaluate the efficacy of the PSOAR program;
- L. HCC agrees to collaborate with FortBend ISD leadership and staff to achieve the goals of this project, and to do so in a manner that is consistent with both parties policies, procedures, and applicable law.

19. NOTICE: Project Managers

The Project Managers for each party shall be the principal point of contact for each institution regarding “P-SOAR Project.”

HCC

Indra Pelaez.

Interim Associate Vice Chancellor, Enrollment Management & Student Success

3100 Main Street

Houston, Texas 77002

P: 713.718.7497

Copy:

Dr. Norma Perez

Chief Academic Officer

3100 Main Street

Houston, Texas 77002

P: 713-718-5042

FortBend ISD

Terry Sheneman

16431 Lexington Blvd.

Sugar Land, TX 77479

Copy:

Fort Bend Independent School District

Department of Legal Services

16431 Lexington Blvd.

Sugar Land, TX 77479

20. Understanding of the Parties

- A. Nothing in this Agreement is to be construed as transferring responsibility from one Party to the other.
- B. Parent Agreement controls any area not specifically addressed within this Exhibit.
- C. Subject to the applicable laws and to the regulations of the respective Parties, information, data and reports of cooperative activities carried out under this Agreement may be released by a Party with the consent of the other Party or as otherwise may be required by conditions and circumstances in connection with the program or as required by law.

EXHIBIT B1

**FortBend ISD and HCC
P-SOAR STUDENT INTEREST INVENTORY**

In order to better assist you with, HCC would like you to answer a few questions. The responses you provide will be used to learn more about your long-term academic and career goals.

Please check all that apply:

- I am currently enrolled at HCC as a Dual Credit student.
- I have already completed an application for admission to HCC.
- I have taken the TSI exam.
- I have completed the federal application for financial aid (FAFSA) for next year.
- I plan to attend another institution of higher education upon graduation.
- I plan to attend HCC upon graduation.
- I plan to take my core courses at HCC then transfer to another institution.
- I need help determining my career or educational pathway.
- I have already decided on a major/program of study.
- I am interested in short-term training programs.
- I am interested in participating in club sports and intramural sports.
- I am interested in participating in student organizations and student government.

Student Name: _____

School ID: _____

HCC Student ID: _____
(If applicable)

Date: _____

EXHIBIT B-2

HCC ACCEPTANCE LETTER

[Office of the Chancellor Letterhead]

[HCC LOGO]

Subject: HCC Admission

HCC Student ID:

Dear [student name],

Congratulations, you are accepted!

Welcome and thank you for choosing Houston Community College-one of the largest and finest community colleges in the nation.

HCC is committed to the educational success of our students. Whether you choose to transfer to a four-year university, decide to enter the workforce, or earn a degree or certificate, we will provide you the opportunity to acquire the knowledge and skills to be successful in today's technological and global economy.

As a future graduate of FortBend Independent School District you will have the unique opportunity to participate in **the Priority Student Onboarding, Admissions & Registration (P-SOAR) program.** P-SOAR is a partnership between Houston Community College and FortBend ISD designed to make your transition to college as seamless as possible through an accelerated enrollment and registration process. You and your parent/guardian will be invited to attend a special pre-enrollment event where you will learn more about career options, programs of study, and receive assistance with completing the Federal Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and initiate the enrollment process.

We look forward to having you in our Eagle community!

Sincerely,

[Insert Chancellor's Signature]



EXHIBIT B-3

**Authorization to Release Information
FERPA Release Form
HCC & FortBend ISD P-SOAR Program**

Student Name (Please Print)

Student I.D. Number (FortBend ISD)

Dear Student

Participation in the FortBend ISD-HCC P-SOAR (Priority, Student Onboarding, Admission, & Registration) provides you additional levels of support as you transition from high school into college. This program streamlines your application and enrollment process, allows advisors at both institution to better support your, and gives you priority notice of incredible opportunities, such as summer bridge programs, career fairs, and financial aid workshops.

In order to best support participating students, HCC and FortBend ISD ask participating students to sign a FERPA Release Form, authorizing the release of his/her educational records to designated FortBend ISD College Readiness and HCC Admission and Enrollment personnel. The information will only be used for advising, program evaluation, and promotion of educational opportunities.

In accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), the undersigned student hereby permits FortBend ISD and Houston Community College to disclose the information specified below to the following agencies:

Name: HCC Office of Admission and Enrollment

Name: FortBend ISD College Readiness Department

If you have any questions about this form, please contact the HCC Office of Admissions at admissions@hccs.edu.

The student authorizing the release of his/her educational records must sign & present this form to the appropriate office with a photo ID to verify authenticity of this release.

Each and every record requested below is to assist in the P-SOAR program helping with your success. Check the boxes below to indicate which records you wish to make available:

- HCC: All Financial Aid Records** (records include: status of file, award and disbursement of funds information, Satisfactory Academic Progress status, income information, and any other information contained in the application or financial aid file).

HCC: All Academic/Transcript Records (records include: transcripts, admission and registration information, schedule documentation contained in the academic records, advising notes, and TSIA scores).

HCC: Student Account Records related to holds or any items preventing the student from successfully enrolling at HCC.

HCC: All College Records

HCC: Other (Please Specify) _____

Please Note: Records for Counseling and services for Students with Disabilities are considered medical records and are not covered under FERPA rules. A separate release form must be obtained from these departments.

FortBend ISD: All Academic/Transcript Records (records include: TSI, SAT, and ACT test scores, transcripts, admission and schedule documentation contained in the academic records).

FortBend ISD: Contact Information (records include address, email, and phone number).

I understand the information may be released orally or in the form of copies of written records, as preferred by the requester. This authorization will remain in effect from the date it is executed until revoked by me, in writing, and delivered to the Department(s) identified above.

Student Signature

Date

EXHIBIT B-4
DATA SHARING

The scope of the data sharing between HCC and FortBend ISD addressed in the following is limited to the following (for students who have signed the relevant FERPA release or who have been made aware of the planned release and have not objected within a reasonable time-frame):

(A) Student Identifier

- a. First Name, Last Name, Middle Initial
- b. Social Security Number (SSN) or other student record identifier
- c. Date of Birth (DOB)
- d. Address
- e. Grad date
- f. Gender
- g. Personal email
- h. FortBend ISD ID
- i. HCC ID
- j. High School
- k. Phone number
- l. Consent to receive text messages
- m. Surveys and inventories completed by the student at FortBend ISD relevant to student's career interests and plans
- n. HS endorsement area

(B) All academic/transcript records

- a. transcripts, admission and registration information including all checklist items, schedule documentation contained in the academic records, advisor notes, early alert, TSI scores, financial aid status, cumulative credits completed, degree/credential awarded,
- b. Enrollment information including enrollment status, program plan, enrollment intensity, cumulative credits completed, academic progress, disciplinary or other account holds or student financial account information

Exhibit C

Early College High School

Early College High School provides SECONDARY ENTITY students a “seamless” pathway from high school to college and career exploration. It also allows high school students to gradually integrate into college course work through a traditional high school degree plan. This integration requires dual enrollment, with students demonstrating mastery of the knowledge and skills on a HCC designated placement test. Upon successful completion of the SECONDARY ENTITY standards for graduation, students may elect to leave Early College High School for higher education, or they may choose to remain for an additional year. During this additional year, the student will be enrolled primarily in college credit-bearing courses. Individualized support will be provided by the Early College High School. Students who graduate from Early College High School at the end of this additional year will have not only a Texas Scholar diploma, but also may have accumulated 60 college credits, transferable to a post-secondary institution inside the state of Texas.

(A) Duties of College. HCC agrees to:

- (1) Collaborate with SECONDARY ENTITY and ECHS officials in participation with a nationally recognized organization which offers professional development, support documentation, research, national/state recognized standards for dual credit programs;
- (2) Collaborate with SECONDARY ENTITY and ECHS officials to fulfill grant expectations and seek additional grant dollars in support of the partnership;
- (3) Collaborate with SECONDARY ENTITY and ECHS officials to fulfill all Texas Education Agency requirements, including to:
 - (a) Provide academic support (tutoring) from the Institution of Higher Education (“IHE”) partner for the more difficult courses such as ECON 2301, and communicate the tutoring services and schedules to the ECHS;
 - (b) Provide TSI preparation courses to support students in college-readiness efforts;
 - (c) Have more consistency in the utilization of the Early Alert System to make ECHS aware of failing students;
 - (d) Provide a synchronized and user friendly academic plan for students, parents, the IHE and the ECHS academic advisory team;
 - (e) Ensure that the academic plan which leads to the associate’s degree is also a pathway to the bachelor’s degree;
 - (f) Permit/ensure ECHS participation in all P-16 meetings;
 - (g) Ensure approved dual credit courses are available to all Early College students on a continual basis as required to meet graduation requirements for both high school and the college;

- (h) Provide academic counseling and guidance for ECHS students by the IHE partner;
- (i) Ensure that required textbooks for HCC courses remain in use for a minimum of three years.
- (4) Collaborate with SECONDARY ENTITY on the building plans and funding arrangements for the agreed upon shared space by ECHS and HCC;
- (5) Provide routine and normal maintenance to the areas occupied by students, faculty, and staff of ECHS including, but not limited to locks, HVAC, plumbing and custodial services; and
- (6) Schedule to lock or unlock buildings and rooms so that ECHS personnel have appropriate access to campus and staff.

(B) Duties of High School. SECONDARY ENTITY agrees to:

- (1) Collaborate with HCC and ECHS officials in participation with a nationally recognized organization which offers professional development, support documentation, research, national/state recognized standards for dual credit programs;
- (2) Collaborate with HCC and ECHS officials to fulfill grant expectations and seek additional grant dollars in support of the partnership;
- (3) Pay all costs associated with HCC's set up of telephone, electronic mail and other telecommunication equipment and services for use of the ECHS students, faculty and staff;
- (4) Provide its own computer equipment, network and software needs;
- (5) Abide by HCC rules and regulations regarding building use, security, and students' rights and responsibilities; and
- (6) Collaborate with HCC officials on all matters pertaining to student responsibilities, rights, discipline, and insurance, including:
 - (a) The ECHS will post IHE grades to the High School transcript in a timely manner so that no course duplication occurs;
 - (b) The ECHS will utilize information from the Early Alert System in order to assist students in the class and address the problem/issue which has initiated the alert; and
 - (c) The ECHS will closely monitor attendance reports to discourage excessive absentees and/or skipping IHE classes.

(C) Expenses Relating to Use of College Facilities

- (1) Classrooms, faculty and administrative space:
 - (a) SECONDARY ENTITY agrees to reimburse HCC for actual costs of utilities, security, and custodial costs on an actual use basis for the ECHS space;

- (b) ECHS shall furnish its own personal property including office equipment to furnish its space. Personal property shall be portable, and not become a fixture by permanently adhering to the same to the floors, ceiling, walls, or the building; and
- (c) SECONDARY ENTITY will be responsible for the construction of any expansion of the ECHS space in the future.

(2) Shared Space:

- (a) HCC and SECONDARY ENTITY agree to share usage, without cost, of certain rooms, the coordination of which will be the responsibility of SECONDARY ENTITY's Assistant Superintendent, College Readiness, or his designee, and HCC Campus Manager in affiliation with HCC's Associate Vice Chancellor of College Readiness or her designee.

(D) Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH)

- (a) Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) is an open enrollment work-based education program available to 9th through 12th grade students that allows students to complete college coursework through dual enrollment. This Early College learning experience will develop partnerships with School Districts, Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs), Business and Industry to develop internships, apprenticeships, and job training, giving students work-based learning opportunities. The P-TECH program will allow students the opportunity to complete an associate degree, post-secondary certificate, or industry certification while completing work-based training and earning a high school diploma.
- (b) The P-TECH high school concept is a collaboration between the Texas Education Agency (TEA), Texas Workforce Commission (TWC), and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECHB), working together to ensure these common goals:
 - i. Meeting regional workforce needs
 - ii. Transferability of courses among Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs)
 - iii. Internships, apprenticeships, and other work-based education programs

(c) Relevant Legislation

- i. General Appropriations Act, Article III, Rider 67, 85th Texas Legislature, 2017
- ii. Texas Education Code (TEC) §§29.551 -29.557

(d) Reference:

- i. Pathways in Early College High School (P-TECH). (February 2019). Retrieved from <https://tea.texas.gov/ptech/>

Exhibit D

Middle College High School

This agreement is made and entered into by and between Houston Community College District (hereinafter HCC) and the **Fort Bend ISD** (hereinafter SECONDARY ENTITY) on behalf of Middle College High Schools (MCHS) to be located on the Gulfton Campus of HCC Southwest College and the Fraga Campus of HCC Southeast College for the purpose of HCC allowing SECONDARY ENTITY to use HCC premises for conducting high school classes under the following terms and conditions.

The Middle College High School (MCHS) and the Early College High School (ECHS) are variations of an innovation first started at LaGuardia (NY) Community College in 1974. The basic idea is to group a small number of students in a high school located on a college campus. The goals of the school are to reduce the high dropout rates that typically characterize crowded urban schools, better prepare students for college, and attract more students to higher education.

Whereas the ECHS is intended to prepare high school students to complete as many college-level credit hours as possible, up to and including those for the award of an associate's degree, the Middle College High School serves students at a lower academic level and greater risk of drop-out. The MCHS is smaller (150 students), has a similar high school staff (principal, faculty, counselor), operate on a college site during "off-peak" hours (e.g., late morning – 5 PM), and has reduced expectations in terms of students' completion of college level hours while students are still in high school.

(A) Scope of Agreement: The scope of the agreement and the parties agree as follows:

- (1) **The purpose of this agreement** is to allow the MCHS to use designated areas of the Gulfton Campus of HCC-Southwest College and the Fraga Campus of HCC-Southeast College for:
 - (a) Conducting classes for its high school students;
 - (b) Office space for faculty and administrators.

(B) Cost. HCC will charge SECONDARY ENTITY \$0.20/per square foot per month for maintenance, house-keeping, and utilities for the space utilized by the MCHS. For example: 7,000 sq. ft. x \$0.20 per square foot = \$1,400 per month or \$14,000 for 10 months.

(C) Principles for Partnership

- (1) Establishment of a full and equal partnership between HCC and SECONDARY ENTITY that allows a flexible and creative response to the organizational, mission, and fiscal needs of both institutions.
- (2) Collaboration in planning, implementation, and continuous improvement of MCHS programs, including the provision for faculty, staff, and administration; curriculum development; training; and student services.
- (3) Provision of college readiness and dual credit courses for which MCHS might qualify.
- (4) Inclusion of personal/civic development programs that provide service learning and other external learning experiences for all students.
- (5) Financial collaboration that addresses costs of both partners and assists each in obtaining necessary funds from local, state, federal, and private/foundation sources to operate the program successfully and at a cost-neutral basis for HCC.
- (6) Shared use of facilities, including designated classrooms, labs, offices, and libraries that reduce the operating cost and promotes collaboration of students, faculty, staff, and community members in program success.
- (7) Selection of students that reflects the diversity of Houston.

(D) Duties of College. HCC agrees to:

- (1) Collaboration with SECONDARY ENTITY officials in the design and execution of challenging and innovative instructional programs including college prep, dual credit, and developmental education classes; scheduling of classes; recruitment/admission of eligible students; program evaluation; and marketing of the partnership.
- (2) Collaborate with SECONDARY ENTITY to fulfill all requirements of the Texas Education Agency, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and the Commission on Colleges, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS).
- (3) Collaborate with SECONDARY ENTITY officials to fulfill any grant expectations and seek additional grant dollars in support of the partnership.
- (4) Provide routine and normal maintenance to the areas occupied by students, faculty, and staff of MCHS including, but not limited to locks, HVAC, plumbing, and custodial services.
- (5) Include the MCHS Principal in College Executive Team meetings as appropriate.
- (6) Provide MCHS faculty, staff, and students with college ID cards as appropriate and at no charge.
- (7) Provide shared security with SECONDARY ENTITY.
- (8) Collaborate with SECONDARY ENTITY officials on all matters pertaining to student responsibilities, rights, discipline, and insurance.

(E) Duties of High School. SECONDARY ENTITY agrees to:

- (1) Collaborate with HCC officials in the design and execution of challenging and innovative instructional programs (including early college, dual credit, and developmental education classes); scheduling of classes; recruitment of eligible students; program evaluation; and marketing of the partnership.
- (2) Collaborate with HCC to fulfill all Partnership Agreements guidelines in the offering of any Dual Credit, college prep, and developmental classes.
- (3) Collaborate with HCC to fulfill all requirements of the Texas Education Agency, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and Commission on Colleges, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS).
- (4) Collaborate with HCC officials to fulfill any grant expectations and seek additional grant dollars in support of the partnership.
- (5) Collaborate with HCC on any plans for use of shared space for the MCHS.
- (6) Pay all costs in relation to instructional and student services personnel for operation of the MCHS, including one-half salary for a dedicated "liaison position" to ensure smooth communications between SECONDARY ENTITY and HCC.
- (7) Pay all costs associated with the set up and ongoing operation of telephone, electric mail, and other telecommunication equipment and services, electricity, security, and other designated costs of the MCHS.
- (8) Pay all costs associated with intentional damage to the building space, such as graffiti or intentionally damaging equipment in the building space.
- (9) Provide shared security HCC.
- (10) Provide its own computer equipment, network and software needs as well as instructional materials and equipment, including labs.
- (11) Allow MCHS Principal to participate in HCC College Executive Team meetings as appropriate.
- (12) Abide by HCC rules and regulations regarding building use, security, and students' rights and responsibilities.
- (13) Collaborate with HCC officials on all matters pertaining to student responsibilities, rights, discipline, and insurance.
- (14) Collaborate and mutually agree with HCC on students' restricted use of parking. HCC and SECONDARY ENTITY will provide parking fees consistent with the fees charged HCC students and employees.

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