

Roscoe Collegiate System Summary

Early College

Roscoe Collegiate ISD is now beginning year six as an Early College. The Early College program has experienced consistent growth over the past five years. The Fall 2014 Semester is expected to begin with record enrollment rates on college courses. Completion rates for the Associate Degree have also grown steadily from one student five years ago, to 52% of the 2011 graduating class, 58% of the 2012 graduating class, 73% of the 2013 graduating class, and 89% of the Class of 2014. The current expectation for the Class of 2015 and beyond is for 90% or greater of each class to complete the blended model Associate Degree through Roscoe Collegiate and Western Texas College.

Early College Support

As a result of the initial Early College endeavor, Roscoe Collegiate is also heavily invested in a college readiness program, AVID, for all students in grades 7 through 12. Additionally, the district has adopted a Common Instructional Framework that is comprised of the 21st Century skills, of which employers are demanding proficiency among their employees. As a means of assessing the level of student engagement in the Common Instructional Framework, the district has also adopted the Harvard Instructional Rounds Model, consisting of both internal and external assessment of student engagement on a weekly basis. Finally, the district has extensive focus on understanding and educating poverty in an attempt to close the literacy gap among low-socioeconomic learners by grade 3, thereby empowering these students to become truly college ready by grade 9 and beyond.

STEM Academy

Roscoe Collegiate is also now in year three as a STEM Academy. The purpose of STEM, an acronym for science, technology, engineering, and math, is to develop students who demonstrate high levels of aptitude in the STEM fields, thus empowering them to pursue the abundance of careers in STEM fields having been identified as having acute shortages of qualified applicants. As a result of the STEM designation, we have also now completed the second year of a two year investigative process, with assistance from a STEM Advisory Committee consisting of over 50 members from local, regional, and state universities, AgriLife Extension, T-STEM, Educate Texas, Region 14 Education Service Center, as well as the local, regional, and state business and political communities. After receiving voter approval in May 2013 to construct a \$3.5 million STEM Research Center, we now feel we have chosen the most effective design to enable the Research Center to complement the E-ON Center for Innovation and Higher Education and the Collegiate Wellness Center in the district's attempt to provide the real world relevance deemed necessary for successfully demanding the required rigor for true college and career readiness.

Student Research and Apprenticeship

As a member of the Texas High Performance Schools Consortium, Roscoe Collegiate continues in the development of a multiple measure accountability system. Two aspects of that system for Roscoe include student developed research presentations and evidence based electronic portfolios. The STEM Research Program has become the basis for student led research, data collection and analysis, and research poster development and presentation, as we have developed a lesson cycle for a research based institution. All students in grades 3-11 conduct 4H based research projects, culminating with a year long, career path relevant, capstone research project in grade 12. The purpose of the capstone research project is to create additional scholarship opportunities for students seeking financial assistance with the completion of undergraduate and graduate college degrees. By the fall of 2015, this model will also include student apprenticeship experiences consisting of both intern and extern opportunities in grades 10-12, leading to business and industry recognized endorsements, symbolic of true workforce readiness.

School-wide 4H Program

The Roscoe Collegiate School-wide 4H Program is the vehicle used to stimulate student interest and engagement in STEM related practices and research. Students in grades 3 through 12 work across the curriculum to develop 4H science research projects and posters. These research posters are presented at local, regional, and state 4H competitions in an attempt to elevate student STEM research skills, thereby enabling students to successfully manage the rigorous demands of a Research Based Early College and STEM Academy at the high school level.

System Model with Multiple Partners

During the developmental phase of The Roscoe Collegiate Model, the district has evolved away from the 20th Century concept of an Independent School District into more of a System Model approach. Currently, members of the Roscoe Collegiate System include the original two-year higher education partners, Western Texas College (WTC) in Snyder and Texas State Technical College (TSTC) in Sweetwater, as well as the original parent organization for Early College and T-STEM, Educate Texas. Additionally, the district now has a direct four-year university partnership with Angelo State University, indirect partnerships through WTC with Texas A&M University and Texas Tech University, as well as system partnerships with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, 4H, and the Texas Tech T-STEM Center. Current business partnerships include Collegiate Chiropractic and Wellness Center, Equine Sports Medicine and Surgery, Ludlum Measurements, and Nike, with other relationships in the developmental phase. This Systemic Model approach enables Roscoe Collegiate to better provide students with the resources necessary to engage in a much more globally competitive educational and work force environment, than students heretofore have experienced, upon graduation from high school. It is the goal of Educate Texas at the state level and Jobs for the Future at the national level for The Roscoe Collegiate System Model to become a model that can be replicated by other schools in Texas and the United States interested in 21st Century School Transformation.