



Alamo Collegiate Network Launches in August

ACD and SAISD Begin New Partnership

After months of planning, the Alamo College Board of Trustees and the San Antonio ISD Board of Trustees along with the Texas Education Agency have approved a new SB 1882 Partnership launching the Alamo Collegiate Network (ACN) beginning with the 2020-2021 school year.

Senate Bill 1882, passed in 2017, allows school districts to enter into partnerships with charter schools, institutes of higher education, or other entities to expand program opportunities to students. Under the Partnership Agreement with SAISD, Alamo College District assumes management of Fox Tech High School, Travis Early College High School, and St. Philip's Early College High School.

Additional funding to support the partnership is provided to SAISD through the Texas Education Agency and distributed to each of the three partner campuses and to Alamo College District as defined within the Partnership Agreement.

Alamo Collegiate Network Board of Trustees

In accordance with SB 1882 guidelines, the Alamo Collegiate Network is governed by a Board of Trustees. The ACN Board will meet four times over the course of the academic year to address accountability and governance components of the partnership.

ACN Board of Trustees

Dr. Mike Flores—Chancellor

Dr. Yvonne Katz
Joe Jesse Sanchez
Dr. Adena Loston
Dr. Robert Vela
Dr. Robert Garza
Samantha Gallegos

The first ACN board meeting will be held during the week of October 5th to approve campus budgets, review and approve the Asynchronous Learning Plan required by TEA for K-12 institutions during pandemic instructional adjustments, and address other management components.

ACN Board meetings will follow the Texas Open Meetings Act. Board meeting agendas and minutes will be posted on the Alamo Collegiate Network webpage currently under development.

All ACN Board members must complete required training on the Texas Open Meeting Act and provide proof of training completion in the form of a certificate. The 90 minute virtual training can be found at:

<https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/open-government/open-meetings-act-training>.

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Special points of interest

- Board of Trustees required training
- New ACD staff within Academic Services
- Accountability and Performance Metrics



Alamo Collegiate Network Academic Services

The Alamo Collegiate Network will be housed within Academic Services for the Alamo College District and under the direction of Vice Chancellor of Academic Service Dr. George Railey.

Chief High School Programs Officer, Samantha Gallegos, also plays an instrumental role in the partnership overseeing the development of programs of study and course alignment within the partnership.

New to Alamo College District as part of the partnership is Director of District Charter Partnerships, Sara Mann. Mrs. Mann comes to the program with both K-12 and higher education experience.

As the Director of District Charter Partnerships, Mrs. Mann will provide oversight and leadership for the growth and quality of Charter Partnership Programs. She will oversee the effective implementation of the partnership including development of an operational plan, providing clear direction for partners, and work directly with and supervise the principals at partner schools Fox Tech High School, Travis Early College High School, and St. Philip's Early College High School.

As Director of District Charter Partnerships, Mrs. Mann will monitor and report to all stakeholders on accountability components defined in the Partnership Agreement performance metrics.

“SAISD will review ACN performance annually and evaluate the partnership for continuation after three years as defined by the performance metrics within the Partnership Agreement.”

Accountability & Performance Metrics

Outlined within the Partnership Agreement are performance metrics ACN must meet for each partner high school. SAISD will review ACN performance annually and evaluate the partnership for continuation after three years as defined by the performance metrics within the Partnership Agreement.

Key Performance Metrics include measures within three Domains:

- Academic Excellence
- Organizational Strength
- Financial Health

Additional details on specific performance metrics in each Domain will be outlined in future issues of the ACN Newsletter.

The Work Begins



The development of the partnership began months ago and Board of Trustee approvals were finalized in August. With those approvals, ACD hired Sara Mann as the Director of District Charter Partnerships to begin the implementation of the partnership; Mrs. Mann's first day was September 14, 2020. Together with Chief High School Programs Officer Samantha Gallegos, Mrs. Mann has completed all on-boarding training with SAISD and begun working with all stakeholders.

SAISD began providing remote instructional services to students on August 17, following COVID-19 protocols established by SAISD and has been slowly bringing small groups of students back to campuses for face-to-face instruction.

Mrs. Mann took time during her first days to begin visiting Fox Tech, Travis ECHS, and St. Philip's ECHS campuses to become familiar with the facilities and learn more about the programs of study offered by each campus. Moving forward, Mrs. Mann will work directly with campus principals, meeting with each at their respective campus weekly, to ensure effective implementation of the partnership and growth and development in services to students.

In the coming days, Sara Mann and Samantha Gallegos will work with ACD staff, along side campus principals, to review and develop MOUs for the 21-22 school year, to define implementation targets and goals for each campus and ACD, and begin the process of enhancing and expanding services to students.

