

## **High-Technology Education Coalition of Collin County Memorandum of Understanding**

Whereas, the Plano Independent School District (PISD), the Collin County Community College District (CCCCD) and the University of Texas at Dallas (UTD) (hereafter referred to as “Education Entities”) play essential roles in educating and training citizens and building the workforce in North Texas;

Whereas, the high-tech business community (hereafter referred to as “Business Entities”) contributes significantly to the quality of life and the economic viability of the region and is reliant on the availability of engineering and technical talent for success;

Whereas, the future of the North Texas region depends, in great measure, on the ability of the area’s education institutions to produce qualified students to meet the needs of a rapidly evolving, high-technology work place;

As authorizing officials of the undersigned entities, we agree to provide leadership and support the development of the High Technology Education Coalition of Collin County (hereafter referred to as Hi-TECCC).

### **Member Entities agree to:**

- Establish an executive committee of senior officials from each entity who will help set the charter and provide counsel.
- Establish steering committees, reporting to the Executive Committee, which will set the strategy and priorities of Hi-TECCC and oversee implementation.
- Provide organizational and staff resources as needed to ensure successful implementation.
- Report results to community at large on an annual basis.

### **Education Entities agree to:**

- Participate in the establishment of a “community of scholars” through development of a seamless curricula in mathematics and science; deployment of the most effective instructional strategies and tools available; and promotion of leadership and fellowship among professionals at all levels of public and higher education.
- Designate senior staff members to serve on the Hi-TECCC steering committee and various other committees necessary to accomplish the mission.
- Ensure that students are made aware of available scholarship opportunities through partner educational institutions.
- Establish articulation agreements as needed among the education entities to ensure a smooth transition from one institution to another.
- Supply access to students and faculty members as appropriate.
- Participate in meetings and events related to Hi-TECCC.

**In Addition,**

**Plano ISD agrees to:**

- Ensure that faculty/staff members are informed of professional development opportunities available through partner educational institutions.
- Ensure that partner business entities are involved with advisory committees that assist with the district's technology and technology-related curriculum initiatives.

**Collin County Community College agrees to:**

- Ensure that faculty members are informed of professional development opportunities available through partner educational institutions.
- Establish (or maintain) a dual admissions program that will allow students concurrent admissions to both CCCCD and UTD.

**The University of Texas at Dallas agrees to:**

- Establish (or maintain) a dual admissions program that will allow students concurrent admissions to both CCCCD and UTD.
- Provide opportunities for PISD high school students completing their sophomore and junior years to participate in laboratory research on the UTD campus.
- Provide more extensive and broader training opportunities for PISD staff teaching Advanced Placement (AP) classes.
- Provide preferred enrollment opportunities to Plano teachers who want to continue their education.
- Assist full-time PISD and CCCCD faculty interested in pursuing doctoral degrees by providing up to 10 scholarships for each institution that will pay for state-mandated and designated tuition during the course of study. (Per Dr. Wildenthal)
- Provide Academic Excellence Scholarships for all qualifying PISD graduating seniors.

**Business Entities agree to:**

- Participate in the establishment of a "community of scholars" through development of a seamless curricula in mathematics and science; deployment of the most effective instructional strategies and tools available; and promotion of leadership and fellowship among professionals at all levels of public and higher education.
- Serve as resource and advisory partners with institutions to build student proficiency in science, technology, engineering and math.
- Enhance and strengthen current and future strategies and programs to improve student achievement in science, technology, engineering and math.
- Provide internships, co-op positions, mentors, recruiting outreach, math/science competitions and career exposure activities to area students.
- Share best practices with industry and institution partners regarding existing programs to enhance science, technology, engineering and math education.
- Participate in meetings and events related to Hi-TECCC.
- Provide senior level representation at Hi-TECCC Executive Committee meetings.

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We enter into this agreement on this 18<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2004, in full support of the goals of the High-Technology Education Coalition of Collin County.

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Dr. Cary Israel  
President  
Collin County Community College District

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Dr. Douglas Otto  
Superintendent  
Plano Independent School District

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Dr. Hobson Wildenthal  
Executive Vice President and Provost  
University of Texas at Dallas

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Mr. Philip Ritter  
Senior Vice President  
Texas Instruments

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Mr. Robert Holmes  
Vice President, Human Resources,  
Global Operations  
Nortel Networks

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Mr. Steve Chambers  
Director, Advanced Systems and  
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Ms. Whitney Strauss  
Community Relations Manager  
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