
Counseling Department-November 2017

STISD Business, Education & Technology Academy (BETA)

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<http://beta.stisd.net> T: 956.383.1684



Texas Success Initiative (TSI)

The Texas Success Initiative (TSI) was instituted by the Texas Legislature and is a program of diagnostic testing and developmental instruction designed to improve student success rates in Texas colleges.

The Texas Success Initiative (TSI) Assessment is a program designed to assess students' readiness for college-level work in reading, writing and mathematics. This exam is an entrance exam for students wanting college courses.

SENIORS

TSI testing for seniors who have not met college readiness standards will test on November 14, 15, & 16. If you want to know if your son/daughter needs to test, please ask them for their Senior Interview Form. This form will indicate if he/she needs to test. Senior Interviews were concluded the second week of school.

SOPHOMORES

We will begin afterschool tutorials for TSI testing on October 23, 2017 in room 509. Any sophomore wanting to test TSI for qualification to enroll in Dual Enrollment courses either at UTRGV or STC need to attend four (4) **MANDATORY** tutorials to be eligible to test.

Testing for 10th grade students will take place December 12th.

Students can begin studying using PLATO software. www.ple.platoweb.com

Account Login: STISD

User Name and password: School ID #

Freshmen Class Presentations

We have conducted freshmen level classroom presentations. We covered all graduation requirements, 4 year course sequence, volunteer hours, and testing information, such as EOC, PSAT, TSI, SAT, & ACT. Ask your child for their folder to review the information.

Senior Class Presentations

In the senior class presentations, we covered, financial aid information, scholarship information, CSS profile, applying to college and submitting all documentation in a timely manner, as well as volunteer hours. Ask your child for their folder to review the information.

Calendar of Events

10/19/17 – STC Dual Enrollment Academies Presentation @ 10:00 AM for 10th Grade

10/20-23/17 – Freshmen class presentations through World Geography classes

10/23/17 – Afterschool TSI tutorials will begin for 10th grade in Room 509. Time: 4:05-5:05 PM

10/25-26/17 – Senior Class presentations through Senior Science classes

10/30/17 – Honor Roll & Perfect Attendance Celebration during Enrichment time

10/31/17 – Halloween

11/1/2017 – AP Exam Registration Opens for May 2018 testing.

11/14-16/17- TSI testing for seniors will take place

11/17/17 – Medieval Fair (Enrichment Day)

11/20-24/17 – THANKSGIVING VACATION (NO SCHOOL)

11/27/17 – Instructional design day (NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS)

11/29-12/1 – Apply Texas drive for 10th grade for Dual Enrollment Programs

**Other University/College Visits are being scheduled on a daily basis

College Applications & Financial Aid

Please talk to your child in regards to where they are at with their college applications and ensure that they turn them in as early as possible. Also, the FAFSA is officially opened. You and your child will need to sit down to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. One parent and child will need an FSA ID to sign your application electronically. If you require assistance please call us to schedule an appointment. A completed college application is required for an appointment. FAFSA website is www.fafsa.gov

AP Registration

Registration for the AP exams is opening **November 1, 2017**. Cost of the AP exams are: **Free/Reduced lunch: \$30.00 Non-Free/Reduced lunch \$75.00**. Students who have registered before only need to log in to the website. Students who will be registering for the first time, must create a username and password.

After School Tutorials

After school tutorials have begun. We hold tutorials for Core classes on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. Wednesday is designated as Club/Organization Meeting day. Late buses will be running Monday-Thursday with the exception of Final Exam week.

Dual Enrollment Programs

UTRGV

The Dual Credit Program at UTRGV provides highly qualified high school students preparing for pathways into post-secondary studies with opportunities to challenge themselves academically through university-level coursework. Dual credit courses will be provided at no cost to students or districts; however, neither UTRGV nor BETA will provide textbooks or required course materials.

- **Requirements**

- Be classified as a high school junior or senior on target toward graduating.
- All students must test the TSI and show they have passed the appropriate area required by the course(s) in which they hope to register.
- Must meet at least **ONE (1)** of the following criteria:
 - Rank in the Top 10% of your graduating class
 - Have a 90 GPA or higher (on 100 pt. scale)
 - Have a minimum ACT composite score of 22

STC Dual Enrollment Academies

Since 2005, South Texas College has offered a unique opportunity for high-achieving high school juniors to earn an Associate degree from STC while they complete their high school graduation requirements. The Academies are two-year dual enrollment programs for high school juniors who are interested in pursuing a career in health care, engineering, computer science, criminal justice or business. Students who complete the program earn an Associate of Arts degree in Criminal Justice, Biology, Computer Science, Engineering, or Business Administration.

Students may apply during their 10th grade year to complete the program during their 11th and 12th grade years. TSI is a requirement for this program.

Visit the website below for more information.

<https://academicaffairs.southtexascollege.edu/highschool/academies/index.html>



Announcements:

Subscribe to Remind!

Text The messages below to 81010 to receive messages from the counseling department!

@betasrs21 -9th grade Remind
@betasrs20 -10th grade Remind
@betasrs19-11th grade Remind
@betasrs18 -12th grade Remind



School Community

Counselors

Christina Sprawls	9th—12th A—Ga
Julie Ramos	9th—12th Gb—M
Mario Garcia*	9th—12th N—Z
Gabriel Hernandez	Special Ed Counselor
Maricela Hinojosa	Wellness Specialist
Cynthia Ponce	Social Worker
Lisa Canchola	Counselors' Secretary

*Head Counselor

Administration

Dr. Nora Casarez –Principal
Efrain Garza-Assistant Principal
Lydia Gonzalez-Assistant Principal
Marianna Reyna-Campus Secretary