



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

TTU K-12™

**30 YEARS & 500,000 STUDENTS LATER:
SUCCESSFUL DISTANCE & ONLINE
K-12 EDUCATION AT TEXAS TECH**

Texas Commission on Virtual Education

March 30, 2022

AGENDA

- Overview of the TTU K-12 program
- Strategic priorities, key goals, and data
- Measuring progress
- Quality design and development





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OVERVIEW OF THE TTU K-12 PROGRAM



OVERVIEW

- TTU K-12 was established as a “Special Purpose District” in 1993 by the Texas Legislature and the State Board of Education to serve students whose educational needs were not adequately met by traditional school districts.
- In 2020, Texas added Texas Administrative Code §61.101 identifying TTU K-12 as a special purpose school district operated by a major university.
 - The only other school that falls in this TAC chapter is UT High School.
- Since 1993, TTU K-12 has transitioned to a fully online program serving over 500,000 students from 71 countries around the world.
- Our rigorous college-ready curriculum serves Kindergarten through 12th grade students and allows them to work ahead, make up failed credits, test out of courses, and graduate with a Texas High School Diploma.



**ANNUAL
STUDENT
POPULATION
SERVED**

PROGRAM	APPROX. STUDENTS
Full-Time Tuition Free Program for TX Residents (Est. 2021)	1,000
Full-Time Tuition Based Program	500
District Partnerships (Est 2021)	50
Supplemental Program	15,000
International Partnership Program	1,500
Credit By Exam (CBEs)	Avg. 25,000

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Being a part of a “Tier One” or a Very High Research Activity University brings TTU K-12 access to all that a productive, research-oriented environment can offer.

- Instructional Design/Support
- Institutional Research/Data Analysis
- IT Support and high-quality infrastructure
- Faculty experts and leaders in Education, Curriculum & Instructional, Online Learning, and Student Development



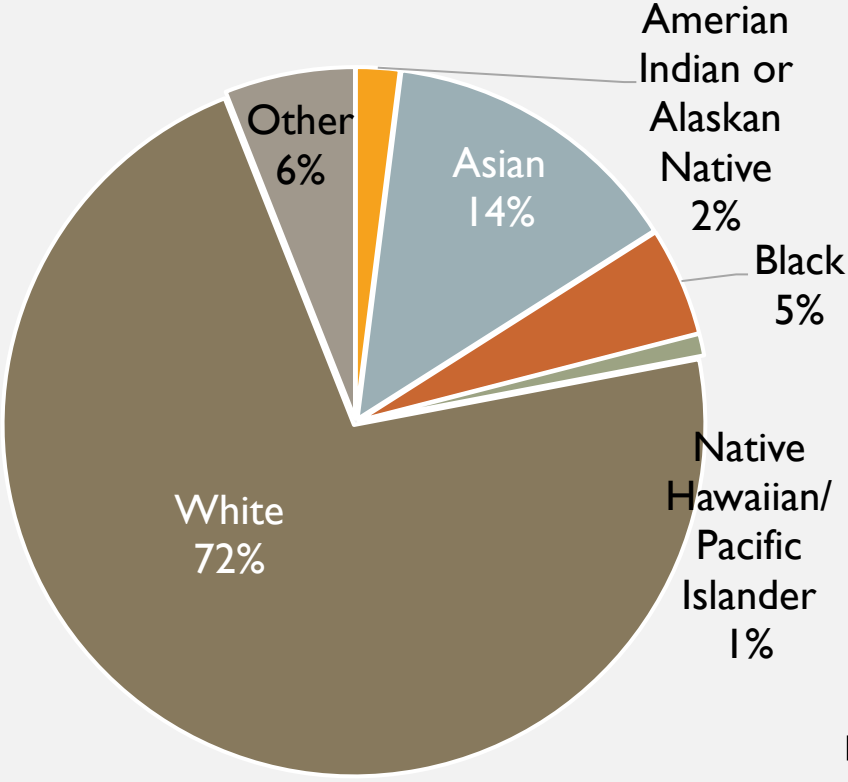
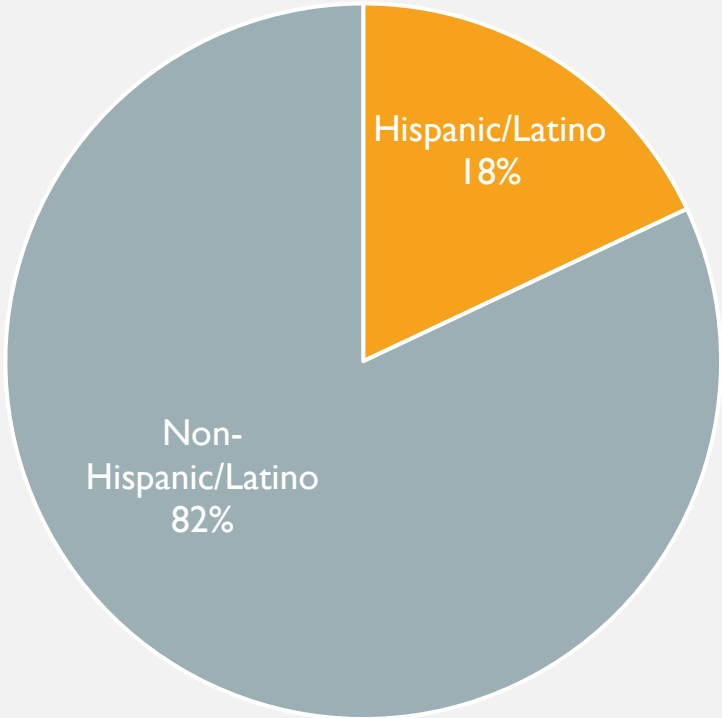


TTU K-12 TEACHERS

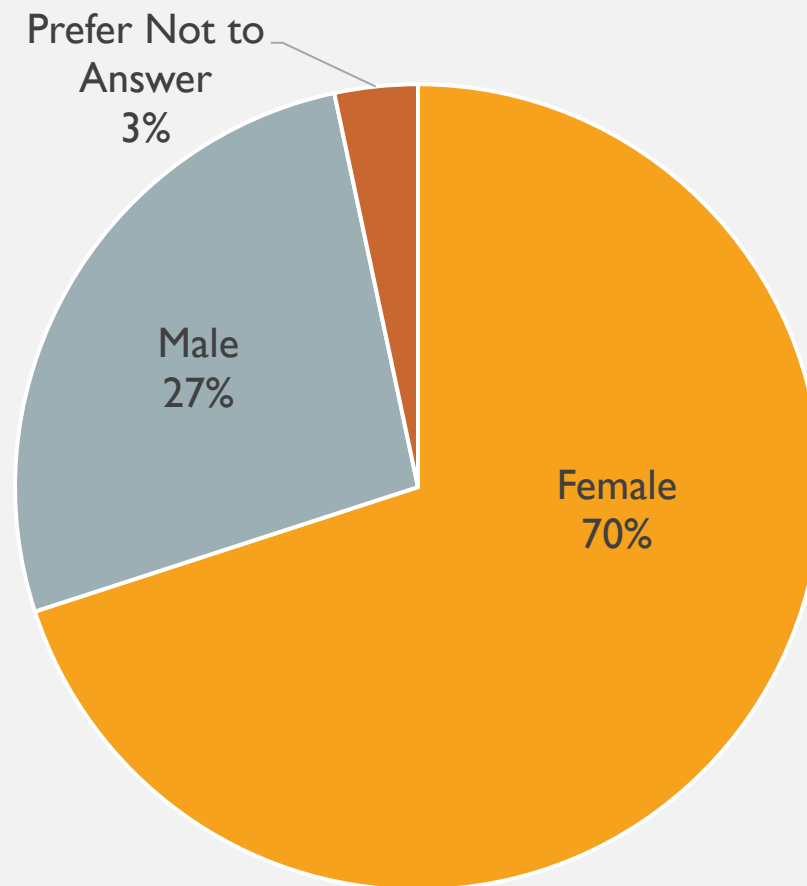
- All Texas-Certified
- 8 Department Chairs
- 53 Part-Time Teachers
- Average 20+ Years of Experience
- Consistently Hire and Retain Quality Teachers
- Focal Point: Teaching. Responsibilities include providing quality feedback, grading, holding virtual office hours, tutoring, remediation, and providing special services as needed



STUDENT SELF-IDENTIFIED RACE/ETHNICITY DATA



GENDER BREAKDOWN





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PROGRAM GOALS

VISION AND MISSION

- **Vision:** To create a strong online academic community that provides students an excellent education: anytime, anywhere.
- **Mission:** To provide an excellent academic program that engages, challenges, and prepares students for their futures.



STRATEGIC GOALS/PRIORITIES

- Clearly define and communicate teaching and learning philosophy and expectations.
- Implement quality course design, curriculum alignment, and best pedagogical practices for instruction and assessment.
- Provide outstanding instructor facilitation and feedback
- Conduct course analytics and use data for improvement
- Implement quality assurance processes for continual improvement
- Support student success by addressing learner attitudes, beliefs, and skills.
- Cultivate positive relationships between students and adults/peers.



STRATEGIC GOALS/PRIORITIES (CONT.)

- Streamline College and Career Readiness preparation activities across all grade levels.
- Identify learning needs, monitor learning progress, provide instructional support for struggling learners, and communicate progress to students and parents.
- Define expectations and provide targeted training for all staff.
- Improve collaboration and collegiality to improve learner performance.
- Increase efficiencies and effectiveness using available technology tools.
- Implement strategic resource management – human, material and fiscal resources.
- Improve technology infrastructure to mitigate technical challenges.
- Improve customer service at all levels of the organization.



Graduation Plans



Diploma Options

- Texas High School Graduation Plans
 - Foundation Plan
 - Foundation Plus Endorsement Plan
 - Distinguished Plan
- K-12 students are placed in the Distinguished Plan by default.

HOLISTIC STUDENT SUPPORT & ENGAGEMENT

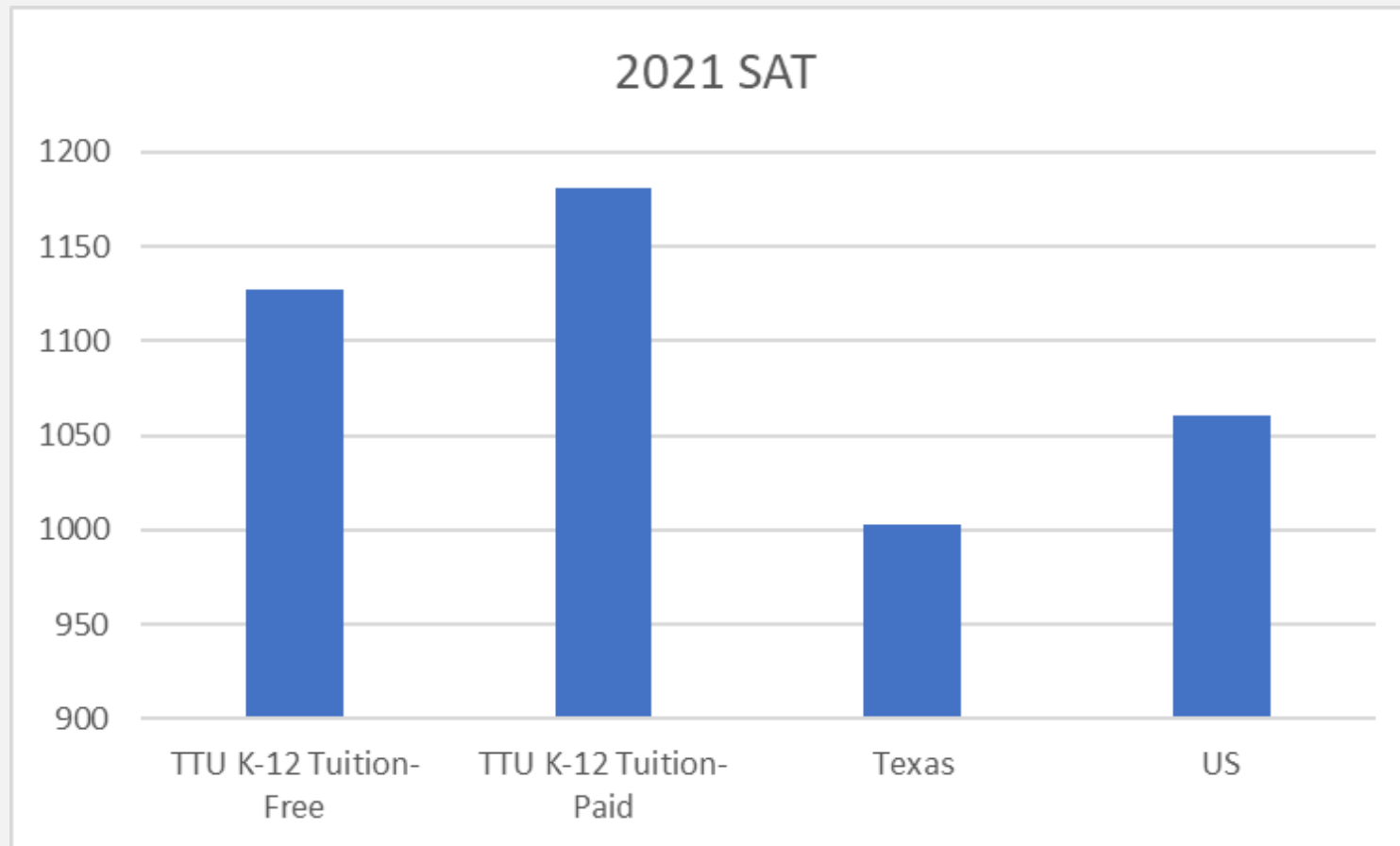
BUILDING COMMUNITY

- Newsletters
- National Honor and Jr Honor Society
- Student Council
- Class Meetings
- Special-Topic Seminars
- Tutoring Sessions
- In-Person Graduation Ceremony
- Optional Summer Camps

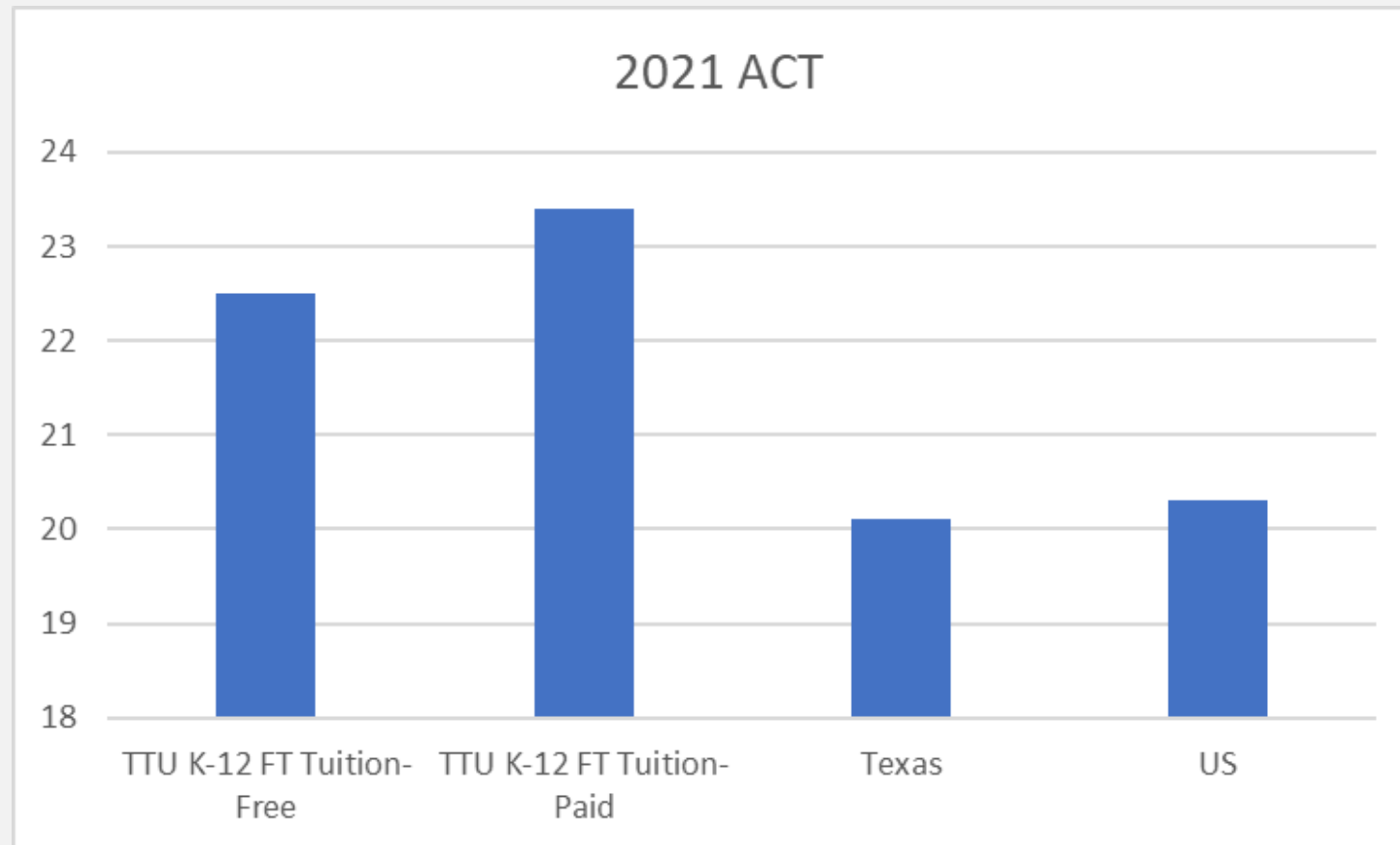
STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

- Advising and Counseling
- College and Career Readiness
- Testing
- Transcripts
- Communication with other schools
- Teacher office hours
- Teacher tutoring sessions
- Remediation, MTSS

2021 SAT SCORE COMPARISON



2021 ACT SCORE COMPARISON



2021 AP SCORES

Organization Summary (Total Students: 12)

	Calc AB	Eng Lang Comp	Eng Lit Comp	Env Sci	Micr Econ	Psyc	Stat	US Gov Pol	US Hist	Total Exams
Number of Exams	1	2	4	2	2	2	2	1	1	17
Average Score	5.0	3.0	2.0	2.5	3.0	2.0	4.5	3.0	2.0	2.8
Percent of Exams with Scores of 3 or Higher	100%	100%	25%	50%	50%	50%	100%	100%	0%	59%

Note: One student (full-time tuition free) made 5's on all 3 of the AP exams he took.

Completion & Pass Rates

	Completion Rate	Pass Rate	% Students who successfully complete
Sept 1, 2019 – Sept 1, 2020	78.4%	98.6%	77.3% 4 out of 5
Sept 1, 2018 – Sept 1, 2019	67.6%	94.4%	63.8% 3 out of 5

COURSE STRUCTURE

Completely asynchronous

- Start courses any time
- Self-paced

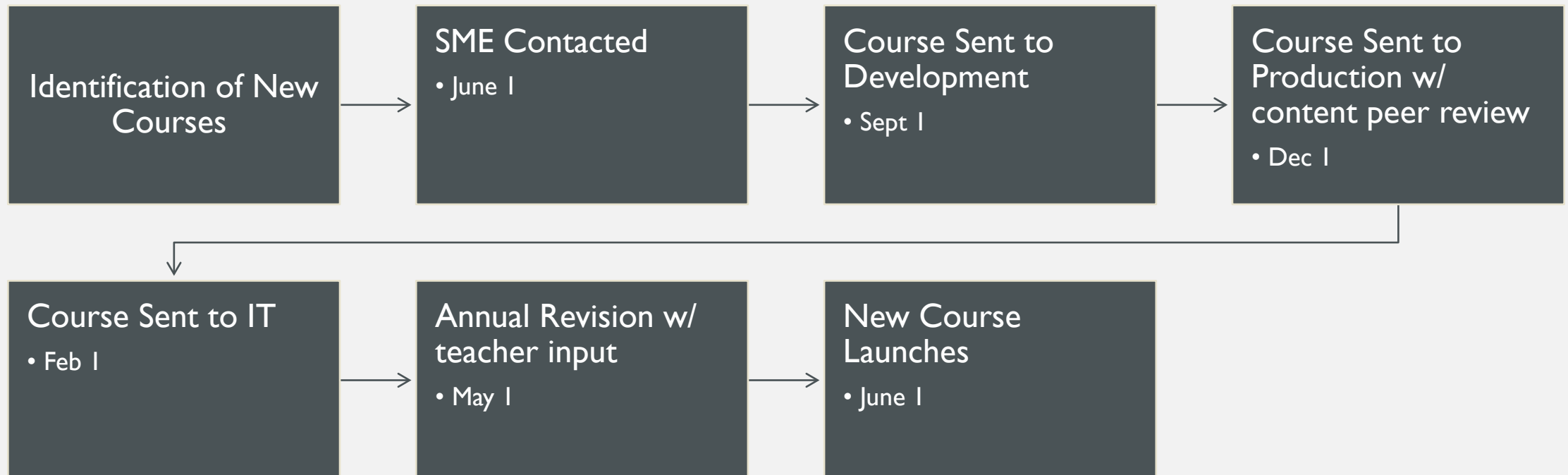
Fully aligned to Texas curriculum standards

Based on requirements for Texas HS diploma

Full course curriculum K-12

- Advanced Placement
- Remediation
- Graduation Endorsement Areas

CURRICULUM WORKFLOW



COURSE DEVELOPMENT

- Curriculum Development
 - Authors = Subject Matter Experts. Certified Texas Teachers with curriculum development expertise
 - TTU Instructional Designers
 - Courses designed to required state curriculum standards: Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS)
 - TEKS are revised cyclically, and courses must be redeveloped with all TEKS revisions.
- Ongoing Support
 - Regular course revision and improvement
 - Professional development for teachers
 - LMS/SIS
 - Course content and structure
 - Online Pedagogy
 - Cybersecurity

INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN PROCESS

ANALYSIS

- Course Authors + Instructional Designers
- Study/Analyze TEKS
- Plan scope and sequence
- Outline unit structure

DESIGN

- Course quality
- Objectives
- Content sequence
- Instructional strategies
- Assessment strategies
- Feedback opportunities

DEVELOPMENT

- Bb structure
- Navigation
- Module/lesson structure
- Accessibility
- Online course quality



Meet the standard



Plan alignment and course flow



Encourage interaction



Use focused activities and assessments



Provide for multiple learning styles



Make content accessible



Chunk the content

PEDAGOGY

BEST PRACTICES FOR ONLINE LEARNING

Provide explicit instructions on all course content.

LET STUDENTS KNOW:

- How to complete activities
- How to navigate the course
- When and how to interact with other students
- What teachers expect
- When and how to submit assignments
- When to expect a response from a teacher

FAMILY VOICES

- “We get to make our own schedule, which is fantastic. That's what I love about TTU K-12. **We haven't missed out on anything, and we can get all of our coursework done.**” – Mom of a current TTU K-12 5th Grader and 2nd Grader.
- “I can work on each class each day or if I have a project or paper, I can use my entire day to work on that subject. I can also work on things longer if I need more help. If I need to do extra work on a Saturday or Sunday, I can. **So far this is an amazing opportunity.**” – TTU K-12 Freshmen
- “We never considered distance learning or ‘school at home’ for our girls, but God had bigger plans for us, and we thought, ‘let’s just try it.’ This way of schooling also helped our family as we travel for business. **The ease of picking up school when and wherever we are made it fun and adventurous.**” – Mom of 3 (soon to be 4) TTU K-12 students





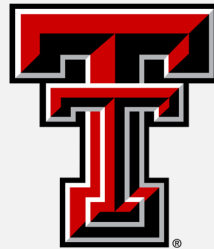
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Leadership Team

- Justin Louder, EdD – Associate Vice Provost & Interim Superintendent
- Lisa Leach, EdD – Senior Director, Curriculum & Instructional Design
- Cari Moye, MEd – Principal, TTU K-12
- Braxton Allison, MEd – Assistant Principal, TTU K-12
- Kelly Brownfield, MEd – Special Programs Director, TTU K-12
- Natasha Newman, MEd – Assistant Principal, TTU K-12
- Cary Sallee – Senior Director, Operations
- James Day, MS – Director, Technology Support & Operations
- James Preiss, MBA – Manager, TTU K-12 Finance
- Haylee Doss, MS – Program Manager, Institutional Effectiveness & Compliance
- Josh Engwer, PhD – Research Data Manager

THANK YOU



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