

Venture High School
Campus Improvement Plan
2008-2009

Arlington
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



Campus Improvement Plan 2008-2009 Venture High School

Overview

Venture Alternative High School is registered with TEA as an AEC (Alternative Education Campus) of Choice, and has been serving the at-risk high school population of the AISD since 1985. Venture offers students who are not reaching their potential at the regular high school, an alternative program that includes self-paced work, flexible scheduling, smaller classes, and increased access to additional services such as daycare, social work, GED preparation and testing, and night classes. Venture students are accepted by application, and are considered for admission based on a variety of criteria including: meeting one or more of the state definitions of an at-risk student, demonstrating the ability to be able to work in an independent, self-paced, instructional packet driven environment, and the desire to attend. New students are accepted weekly and students are able to graduate as soon as work is completed. Diplomas are given by the student's home high school campus.

Under the state accountability system, Venture is evaluated under alternative education accountability (AEA) procedures and receives accountability ratings based on different performance standards and indicators/measures than those used for regular campuses. For example, TAKS scores are summed across grades and subjects resulting in an overall campus score. Academically Acceptable and Academically Unacceptable are the only two ratings that Venture can receive. In order to be rated Academically Acceptable, the overall TAKS score must be at least 45%, the completion rate (# graduates + continuing students + GED recipients) must be at least 70% of the number of students in the class, and the annual dropout rate (as defined by NCES) may not exceed 10% of the total school enrollment. Under AYP accountability, Venture is required to meet the same standards as a regular high school campus.

The following data have been analyzed by the Venture faculty and staff in department and faculty meetings: Venture School has been rated Academically Acceptable by TEA for the 2007-2008 school year. Our overall TAKS Progress Measure was 80% which far exceeded the 45% requirement. However, economically disadvantaged students scored 73%. The overall Completion Rate II score was 80% with economically disadvantaged students scoring 73%. The overall Annual Dropout Rate based on 2005-2006 data was 14% for all students, which did not meet the state minimum. Due to the change in the dropout definition (NCES), TEA has acknowledged that dropout rates have increased dramatically statewide, and have allowed AEC's of Choice to remain Academically Acceptable if this is the only indicator that does not meet the standard. In addition, a required campus-based Technical Assistance Team has been formed to address this issue. Our AYP results indicate that standards for improvement in math and the graduation rate have not been met. In conclusion, areas for improvement at Venture School must include reducing the annual dropout rate, increasing the percentage of students passing the 10th grade math TAKS exam, and increasing the number of students who graduate on time.

The Venture School faculty and staff are committed to providing the best possible educational experience for our students and will continue to work together to improve the quality of programs and procedures to assure students academic success. We will also continue to work diligently to



Campus Improvement Plan 2008-2009
Venture High School

provide the support services necessary to help our students overcome the barriers and obstacles that have prevented them from reaching their full potential in mainstream schools.

Goal #1: To develop and implement a system of academic interventions.

Improvement Areas	Resource Allocations	Person Responsible for Monitoring	Timeline for Monitoring	Formative Evaluation
Students identified as needing additional learning time to meet academic standards or to prevent them from dropping out, will be provided with appropriate intervention strategies based upon their needs. These decisions will be made by the RAP committee, which is composed of the child's teacher(s), counselor and other campus staff.	SCE	John DeMore (principal) Greg McQuitty (assist. principal) Department Chairs: Barbara Poteet Pam Lacanienta Frances Lampkin Sherry Feltner All Faculty	Every 6 weeks	Students' Instructional Packet Scores Results of October TAKS Results of Benchmark tests 08-09 TAKS results
To improve the performance of 10 th grade students in all academic areas	SCE	John DeMore (principal) Greg McQuitty (assist. principal) Department Chairs: Barbara Poteet Pam Lacanienta Frances Lampkin Sherry Feltner Faculty teaching 10 th grade	Every 6 weeks	Students' Instructional Packet Scores Results of Benchmark tests 08-09 TAKS results
To reduce the number of dropouts to 10% or less of cumulative enrollment	SCE Dropout Prevention Office Funds	John DeMore Greg McQuitty Connie Grossman (social work) Gary Grossman (social work) Pam Durall (counselor) Office staff Director of Dropout Prevention	Weekly	Dropout rate as indicated on 08-09 AEIS Report
To increase the Completion Rate II and graduation rate for all students	SCE	John DeMore Greg McQuitty Connie Grossman (social work) Gary Grossman (social work) Pam Durall (counselor) Office staff Director of Dropout Prevention	Every 6 weeks	Completion Rate II results as indicated on 08-09 AEIS Report

Goal #2: To reduce course/subject failure rates.

Improvement Strategies	Resource Allocations	Person Responsible for Monitoring	Timeline for Monitoring	Formative Evaluation
Campus Administration will ensure that teachers are placed in classroom/subject area assignments that match the certification of each teacher. (HQ)	SCE Local Funding	Principal	September & Januar	Master schedule Teacher certification Principal attestation
Teachers will participate in high quality, ongoing professional development based upon campus needs. (PD)	SCE	Principal	December & April	ERO attendance reports Campus staff development records
Identify and refer pregnant/parenting students (male/female) to PRS department for verification.	PRS weighted funding Life Skills Program for Student Parents (formerly Pregnancy, Education and Parenting) Grant	Pregnancy Related Services Coordinator Campus PEP Counselors	End of each six weeks	AISD PEP Database PRS files

Goal #2: To reduce course/subject failure rates.

Improvement Strategies	Resource Allocations	Person Responsible for Monitoring	Timeline for Monitoring	Formative Evaluation
Pregnancy Related services will include: counseling services; transportation for the student and/or the student's children, child care, community referrals, instruction related to parenting knowledge and skills, and job readiness training. Also included, CEHI (Compensatory Education Home Instruction) as mandated. CEHI teachers will maintain a log of home instruction dates and times for students out of school per physician order.	PRS weighted funding Life Skills Program for Student Parents (formerly Pregnancy, Education and Parenting) Grant	Campus PEP Counselors	End of each six weeks	AISD PEP Database referral forms PRS file
Documentation (PRS file) will include: verification of pregnancy, CEHI teacher log, PRS entry date, date of delivery, and physician request (s) if necessary, SPED documentation where applicable and PRS exit date.	PRS weighted funding Life Skills Program for Student Parents (formerly Pregnancy, Education and Parenting) Grant	PRS Coordinator Campus PEP Counselors	December & May	PRS file
Students' academic progress will be carefully monitored on a regular basis.	None	Advisory Teachers	Weekly	Student Goal Sheets VSPR (Venture School Progress Reports)

Goal #2: To reduce course/subject failure rates.

Improvement Strategies	Resource Allocations	Person Responsible for Monitoring	Timeline for Monitoring	Formative Evaluation
Tutoring will be provided for students who are struggling academically	SCE	Department Chairs	Ongoing	TAKS results of students who received tutoring
Incentives will be provided to help increase student attendance	Student Activity Fund (Cell Phone Fees) Private Donations	Faculty Incentive Committee John DeMore	Weekly	6 week attendance reports
Department meetings will be held to discuss students academic progress and trends	None	John DeMore Greg McQuitty Department Chairs	Monthly	Meeting schedules and minutes
Students will be assigned to Plato classes for credit recovery	None	Pam Durall (counselor) Classroom teachers Plato instructors	Ongoing	Number of credits recovered in Plato
Transcripts and report cards of incoming students will be carefully reviewed to award credit when possible	None	Pam Durall (counselor) Advisory Teachers	Ongoing	Credit Analysis Book
Tuition-free night school will be provided for students with 20 or more credits	SCE	Pam Durall (counselor) John DeMore Advisory Teachers	Ongoing	Night school enrollment data

Goal #3: To develop subject area vertical alignment.

Improvement Strategies	Resource Allocations	Person Responsible for Monitoring	Timeline for Monitoring	Formative Evaluation
All faculty will attend district level vertical alignment meetings	None	John DeMore	District Staff Development Calendar	Sign up sheets from inservice meetings
Instructional packets will be reviewed and updated to align with TEKS and TAKS	SCE	Department Chairs John DeMore	Each Semester	Copies of updated curriculum packets
Department meetings will be held to discuss academic concerns, scheduling and alignment issues	None	Department Chairs John DeMore Greg McQuitty	Monthly	Meeting minutes

Goal #4: To engage parents and the community in the educational process.

Improvement Strategies	Resource Allocations	Person Responsible for Monitoring	Timeline for Monitoring	Formative Evaluation
Parents will attend intake meetings with their children for an overview of campus procedures, resources, and contacts.	None	John DeMore (principal) Greg McQuitty (assistant principal)	Weekly	Parent and student sign in sheets
Teachers will communicate student academic progress and assessment reports with parents every 6 weeks via Venture School Progress Reports.(FI)	None	Principal Assistant Principal Students' Teacher Advisors	End of each six weeks	Teacher documentation of communications with parents
Librarians will engage parents and the community by promoting, participating, and/or conducting three family oriented campus or district events such as Book Fairs, Author Visits, Meet the Teacher Night, Open House, Public Library Presentations, Storytellers, College Night, Title 1 Family Events, Title 1 Literacy Fair, or Guest Speakers.	Campus Library Budgets Campus Library Activity Budget LS Dept. Library Budget Title 1 Library Services Budget	Campus Librarians Lorie Bruns, Library Services Director Julie Moore, Title 1 Carole Hagler, Director of State and Federal Programs	Fall 2008 Spring 2009	Library Services Monthly Activity Reports Campus and District Calendars



Goal #5: To prevent campus violence and ensure appropriate methods of intervention.

Improvement Strategies	Resource Allocations	Person Responsible for Monitoring	Timeline for Monitoring	Formative Evaluation
Lockdown drills will be conducted on a regular basis.	None	John DeMore	Each Semester	Debriefing with staff after drills
Fire drills will be conducted on a regular basis.	None	Greg McQuitty	Monthly	Record of drills
All students will have a Venture I.D.	Campus Funds	John DeMore Connie Healer	Ongoing	Periodic check for I.D.
Metal detectors will be used to search students at random times during each month.	None	Greg McQuitty	Monthly	Records of checks
All exterior doors except one main entry will remain locked during the day.	None	Mina Talavera Greg McQuitty Don Standlee	Daily	Periodic checks of exterior doors

Bibliography

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"Common Core of Data." NCES. 2008. National Center for Education Statistics. 31 Oct 2008 <<http://nces.ed.gov/ccd/ccfaq.asp#f4>>.

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Lein, Laura, Joseph Johnson, and Mary Ragland. (1997). *Successful Texas Schoolwide Programs*.

Woods, Gregory (March, 1995). *Reducing the Dropout Rate* . *NW Regional Educational Laboratory School Improvement Research Series , Close-up 17*, Retrieved June 3, 2008, from <http://www.nwrel.org/scpd/sirs/9/c017.html>

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Lange, Cheryl M. & Camilla A. Lehr. (1999). *At-risk students attending second chance programs: Measuring performance in desired outcome domains*. *Journal of Education for Students Placed At Risk*, 4(2), Retrieved June 3, 2008, from <http://ici.umn.edu/alternativeschools/publications/eoppubs.html>

Taylor, S. E. (1987). *The impact of an alternative high school program on students labeled 'deviant'*. *Educational Research Quarterly*. 11, 8-12.

Other attachments:

- **SCE, NCLB & ARI/AMI budget**
- **SBDM Team List**
- **List of interventions (RTI tier 2 & 3) provided at the campus**

VENTURE ALTERNATIVE HIGH SCHOOL
SITE-BASED DECISION MAKING TEAM
2008-2009

Department	Member
Principal	John DeMore
Assistant Principal	Greg McQuitty
English	Honey Burns
Math	Julie Horner
Social Studies/GED	Mary Catherine Monroe
Science/PE/Self-Contain	Natalie Green
Career & Technology	Autumn Thomas
At-Large	Toni Henson
At-Large	Danielle Fitch
At-Large	Chelsea Escalon
Non-Teaching Professional	Malinda Cannon
Non-Teaching Professional	Pam Durall
Community Resident	Phil Porter
Community Resident	Tom Andress
Parent/Community	Robbin Jadael
Parent	Stephen Barnes
Parent	Rebecca Wilson
Business Rep.	Tom Katsadas
Business Rep.	Barbara Hagman
District Level Prof.	Karen Hill



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Venture School

State Compensatory Education

Intended Purpose - to increase the academic achievement and reduce the drop out rate of students

Intended Beneficiaries - students identified as at risk of dropping out of school as defined in Subchapter B, Chapter 39 TEC

Description	Acct Code	Original Budget	09/30/2008 Budget
Comp. Ed. Budget			
SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS	199.11.6112.00.006.9.26.0.00	0.00	26,240.00
SALARIES-TEACH & OTH PROF	199.11.6119.00.006.9.26.0.00	1,712,706.48	1,712,706.48
TEACH COMP ALLOT SUPPL	199.11.6119.04.006.9.26.0.00	18,000.00	18,000.00
CONTRACT ADDENDA-STIPEND	199.11.6119.09.006.9.26.0.00	2,572.17	2,572.17
ADVANCED DEGREE-STIPEND	199.11.6119.10.006.9.26.0.00	10,500.00	10,500.00
SAL & WAGES-SUPPORT PERS	199.11.6129.00.006.9.26.0.00	33,880.76	33,880.76
EMPLOYEE TRAVEL ALLOWANCE	199.11.6139.00.006.9.26.0.00	3,000.58	3,000.58
MEDICARE	199.11.6141.00.006.9.26.0.00	22,805.21	22,805.21
MAINT-CPY MACH-DIST PROVI	199.11.6249.97.006.9.26.0.00	10,098.00	10,098.00
READING MATERIALS	199.11.6329.00.006.9.26.0.10	400.00	400.00
READING MATERIALS	199.11.6329.00.006.9.26.0.30	125.30	125.30
READING MATERIALS	199.11.6329.00.006.9.26.0.12	50.00	50.00
READING MATERIALS	199.11.6329.00.006.9.26.0.44	37.26	37.26
READING MATERIALS	199.11.6329.00.006.9.26.0.17	100.00	100.00
GENERAL SUPPLIES	199.11.6399.01.006.9.26.0.44	1,000.00	1,000.00
GENERAL SUPPLIES	199.11.6399.01.006.9.26.0.10	2,520.00	2,520.00
GENERAL SUPPLIES	199.11.6399.01.006.9.26.0.00	1,530.00	1,530.00
GENERAL SUPPLIES	199.11.6399.01.006.9.26.0.PN	465.00	465.00
GENERAL SUPPLIES	199.11.6399.01.006.9.26.0.GD	477.00	477.00
GENERAL SUPPLIES	199.11.6399.01.006.9.26.0.12	228.00	228.00
GENERAL SUPPLIES	199.11.6399.01.006.9.26.0.17	490.00	490.00
GENERAL SUPPLIES	199.11.6399.01.006.9.26.0.40	2,980.00	2,980.00
GENERAL SUPPLIES	199.11.6399.01.006.9.26.0.50	650.00	650.00

GENERAL SUPPLIES	199.11.6399.01.006.9.26.0.51	650.00	650.00
GENERAL SUPPLIES	199.11.6399.01.006.9.26.0.60	1,540.00	1,540.00
GENERAL SUPPLIES	199.11.6399.01.006.9.26.0.11	515.00	515.00
GENERAL SUPPLIES	199.11.6399.01.006.9.26.0.30	2,625.00	2,625.00
GENERAL SUPPLIES	199.11.6399.01.006.9.26.0.20	3,699.00	3,699.00
DIST TRANS FOR STDNT TRAV	199.11.6494.00.006.9.26.0.00	250.00	250.00
SALARIES-TEACH & OTH PROF	199.12.6119.00.006.9.26.0.00	59,283.52	59,283.52
ADVANCED DEGREE-STIPEND	199.12.6119.10.006.9.26.0.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
MEDICARE	199.12.6141.00.006.9.26.0.00	860.16	860.16
READING MATERIALS	199.12.6329.00.006.9.26.0.LB	424.96	424.96
LIBRARY BOOKS	199.12.6329.10.006.9.26.0.LB	2,400.00	2,400.00
GENERAL SUPPLIES	199.12.6399.01.006.9.26.0.LB	500.00	500.00
EXTRA DUTY-TEACH/OTH PROF	199.13.6119.01.006.9.26.0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
MISC PURCH & CONTR SERV	199.13.6299.00.006.9.26.0.00	500.00	500.00
EMPLOYEE TRAVEL	199.13.6411.00.006.9.26.0.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
SALARIES-TEACH & OTH PROF	199.23.6119.00.006.9.26.0.00	176,645.08	176,645.08
EXTRA DUTY-TEACH/OTH PROF	199.23.6119.01.006.9.26.0.05	6,600.00	6,600.00
EXTRA DUTY-SUPPORT PERS	199.23.6121.00.006.9.26.0.05	5,000.00	5,000.00
SAL & WAGES-SUPPORT PERS	199.23.6129.00.006.9.26.0.00	92,315.93	92,315.93
EMPLOYEE TRAVEL ALLOWANCE	199.23.6139.00.006.9.26.0.00	611.00	611.00
MEDICARE	199.23.6141.00.006.9.26.0.00	3,822.77	3,822.77
MISC PURCH & CONTR SERV	199.23.6299.00.006.9.26.0.00	852.50	852.50
GENERAL SUPPLIES	199.23.6399.01.006.9.26.0.00	5,200.00	5,200.00
GENERAL SUPPLIES	199.23.6399.01.006.9.26.0.05	250.00	250.00
STAMPS & POSTAGE	199.23.6399.03.006.9.26.0.00	500.00	500.00
SALARIES-TEACH & OTH PROF	199.31.6119.00.006.9.26.0.00	84,236.29	84,236.29
EXTRA DUTY-TEACH/OTH PROF	199.31.6119.01.006.9.26.0.GC	500.00	500.00
SAL & WAGES-SUPPORT PERS	199.31.6129.00.006.9.26.0.00	21,502.16	21,502.16
MEDICARE	199.31.6141.00.006.9.26.0.00	299.79	299.79
READING MATERIALS	199.31.6329.00.006.9.26.0.GC	200.00	200.00
GENERAL SUPPLIES	199.31.6399.01.006.9.26.0.GC	600.00	600.00
SALARIES-TEACH & OTH PROF	199.32.6119.00.006.9.26.0.00	115,582.41	115,582.41
ADVANCED DEGREE-STIPEND	199.32.6119.10.006.9.26.0.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
MEDICARE	199.32.6141.00.006.9.26.0.00	1,686.58	1,686.58
MISC PURCH & CONTR SERV	199.32.6299.00.006.9.26.0.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
SALARIES-TEACH & OTH PROF	199.33.6119.00.006.9.26.0.00	48,749.32	48,749.32

MEDICARE	199.33.6141.00.006.9.26.0.00	693.01	693.01
GENERAL SUPPLIES	199.33.6399.01.006.9.26.0.00	600.00	600.00
SAL & WAGES-SUPPORT PERS	199.51.6129.00.006.9.26.0.00	70,598.60	70,598.60
MEDICARE	199.51.6141.00.006.9.26.0.00	998.20	998.20
CAMPUS JANITOR SUPPLIES	199.51.6319.01.006.9.26.0.00	4,400.00	4,400.00
SAL & WAGES-SUPPORT PERS	199.52.6129.00.006.9.26.0.00	29,880.53	29,880.53
MEDICARE	199.52.6141.00.006.9.26.0.00	424.77	424.77
SAL & WAGES-SUPPORT PERS	199.53.6129.00.006.9.26.0.00	18,080.40	18,080.40
EDUCATIONAL STIPEND	199.53.6129.10.006.9.26.0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
MEDICARE	199.53.6141.00.006.9.26.0.00	266.58	266.58
TOTAL		2,600,659.32	2,626,899.32
FTE Count			
PERSONNEL			49.93
TOTAL			49.93