



Huntsville ISD was recently notified by Texas Education Agency that we are one of only five districts selected to receive the Texas - Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (T-STEM) grant. This two-year grant is \$480,000 and will fund a brand new Science Mathematics Academy. The ***Science Mathematics Academy: Restructuring Tomorrow*** will be its own independent campus, but physically housed under the same roof as Huntsville High School. Registration will start in early spring of this year, with classes beginning this fall. The Academy is designed to prepare students strong in science and mathematics for Post-Secondary coursework in Engineering and Bio-Medical Sciences, with an emphasis on students who may not have otherwise chosen these fields of study.

In the first year, the Academy will host 100 students, primarily incoming high school freshman, adding 100 students per year to a maximum enrollment of 400 students over a four year period. The Academy will be an "open enrollment school," and Huntsville ISD students along with students from area public and private schools will be eligible to apply for admission. Students selected into the Academy will still be able to participate in the extra-curricular activities already in place at Huntsville High School. These students will simply be a part of a "smaller learning community" receiving innovative instruction that promotes student engagement in real-world learning situations. The Academy core courses/curriculum will be based on the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills, but delivered in a 21st Century learning environment, whereby students will participate in application-based learning, have 1 to 1 laptop usage, and by their junior year be taking dual credit courses.

Huntsville ISD will be collaborating with Sam Houston State University, Huntsville Memorial Hospital, Weatherford Industries, Lone Star College and Texas Department of Criminal Justice to build in attractive components to this new program such as college tuition for future mathematics and science teachers, as well as employment opportunities following graduation. Huntsville ISD is very excited about the new and abundant possibilities that this grant will afford to our students, but also to their families and the community as a whole.

More program information and specific details on how to apply to the Huntsville ISD ***Science Mathematics Academy: Restructuring Tomorrow*** will be available as early as March. In the coming months, Huntsville ISD also has plans to make informative presentations to students, parent groups and community organizations on the new school, its structure, as well as its benefits. Initially the outreach will be to students in the middle grades, particularly incoming freshman, and then expanding to the other grades. If this sounds like a program for your child, be watching for future information to be sent home, as well as on the district's website and in the local media.