



**SOUTH TEXAS
COLLEGE**

Board of Trustees

Education and Workforce Development Committee Meeting

Tuesday, May 13, 2025

3:00 p.m.

**Ann Richards Administration Building
Board Room
Pecan Campus
McAllen, Texas**

Online Copy

**South Texas College
Board of Trustees
Education and Workforce Development Committee
Ann Richards Administration Building Board Room
Pecan Campus, McAllen, Texas
Tuesday, May 13, 2025 @ 3:00 p.m.**

AGENDA

“At anytime during the course of this meeting, the Board of Trustees may retire to Executive Session under Texas Government Code 551.071(2) to confer with its legal counsel on any subject matter on this agenda in which the duty of the attorney to the Board of Trustees under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code. Further, at anytime during the course of this meeting, the Board of Trustees may retire to Executive Session to deliberate on any subject slated for discussion at this meeting, as may be permitted under one or more of the exceptions to the Open Meetings Act set forth in Title 5, Subtitle A, Chapter 551, Subchapter D of the Texas Government Code.”

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Approval of Minutes for the Tuesday, April 8, 2025 Committee Meeting

The Minutes for the Education and Workforce Development Committee meetings of Tuesday, April 8, 2025 are presented for Committee approval.

**South Texas College
Board of Trustees
Education and Workforce Development Committee
Ann Richards Administration Building A-142 Conference Room
Pecan Campus, McAllen, Texas
April 8, 2025 @ 3:00 p.m.**

Minutes

The Education and Workforce Development Committee Meeting was held on Tuesday, April 8, 2025 in the Ann Richards Administration Building Board Room at the Pecan Campus in McAllen, Texas. The meeting commenced at 3:16 p.m. with Ms. Victoria Cantu presiding.

Members present: Ms. Victoria Cantu, Ms. Dalinda Gonzalez-Alcantar via teleconference, and Mr. David De Los Rios.

Other Trustees Present: Dr. Alejo Salinas, Jr. and Mr. Danny Guzman.

Members absent: None

Also present: Dr. Ricardo J. Solis, Dr. Jesus Camos, Dr. Anahid Petrosian, Dr. Brett Millan, Dr. Rodney Rodriguez, Mr. Javier Villalobos, Mr. Daniel A Montez, Ms. Lisa Aleman, Dr. Margo Vargas Ayala, Ms. Myra De La Garza, Ms. Olivia Gomez, Ms. Gardenia Perez, Ms. Kelly Nelson, Mr. Martin Villarreal, Mr. Arturo Solano, Ms. Elizabeth Hollenbeck, Ms. Lynell Williams, Ms. Marcela Beas, Mr. Andrew Fish, Ms. Lynda Lopez, Dr. Rebecca De Leon, Dr. Christopher Nelson, and Ms. Venisa Earhart.

**Approval of January 14, 2025 Education and Workforce
Development Committee Minutes**

The Minutes for the Education and Workforce Development Committee Meeting of January 14, 2025, were presented for Committee approval.

Ms. Victoria Cantu called for any corrections to the Minutes as written. Hearing no corrections, Ms. Victoria Cantu adopted the Minutes for the January 14, 2025 Committee Meeting as presented.

Review of Dual Credit Programs Eligibility Criteria Assessment and Recommendations

Purpose Administration will review recommended changes to the Dual Credit Program Eligibility Criteria, specifically regarding the implementation of a pilot program to offer a “non-degree seeking” option for dual credit students.

Justification The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has recently updated eligibility criteria for dual credit programs, introducing a classification for “non-degree seeking” students who have earned fewer than 15 credit hours. Under this new classification, students are not required to meet Texas Success Initiative (TSI) college readiness standards.

Once a non-degree seeking student completes 15 credit hours, they must demonstrate TSI compliance and transition to degree-seeking status to continue enrolling in dual credit courses.

Administration has collaborated with Instructional Deans to review the necessary framework for high school students to participate in this pathway. Policy and Interlocal Agreement revisions will be presented for Board approval as the pilot’s final preparations are completed in May 2025.

South Texas College administration has engaged with ISD superintendents, who have expressed strong support for this initiative. This model balances flexibility in dual credit enrollment with safeguards to promote student success, including adherence to academic standing and financial aid eligibility criteria. Key components of this approach include:

- **Internal Eligibility Review** by ISD – Ensuring students are academically supported and prepared for their college coursework.
- **Dual Credit Programs Advisement** – Providing guidance before students reach the 15-credit threshold.
- **Faculty Assessment** – Preparing for anticipated enrollment growth.
- **Adherence to an Established Instructional Plan**– Ensuring non-degree seeking students enroll in approved courses aligned with their academic progress.

Administration will seek Board approval in May 2025 of the necessary steps to pilot the Non-Degree Seeking Dual Credit pathway for the 2025–2026 academic year. The program’s performance will be assessed before determining recommendations for future implementation.

Funding

There are no immediate financial implications associated with this initiative. However, enrollment growth driven by the non-degree seeking option may result in increased revenue.

To manage potential faculty cost increases, the College will prioritize the use of ISD faculty where feasible and explore opportunities to consolidate dual credit course offerings across multiple districts when appropriate.

Staff Resources

Dr. Anahid Petrosian, Vice President and Provost for Academic Affairs and Economic Development

Dr. Rebecca De Leon, Associate Vice President for Dual Credit Programs and School District Partnerships

Recommendation No action was requested.

This item was to provide information and solicit feedback from the trustees.

No action was necessary on this item.

Presentation on Library & Learning Support Services

Purpose

Information Services, Planning, Performance, & Strategic Initiatives will review the role and operations of the Library & Learning Support Services group, including Library Services, Learning Commons & Open Labs, and Centers for Learning Excellence.

Justification

It is important for the Committee to be informed periodically about the operations and services offered by Library Services, Learning Commons & Open Labs, and Centers for Learning Excellence and how these departments serve to provide information materials, technology rich spaces, academic support services, and cultural enrichment opportunities to students, faculty, staff, and the community. These services promote teaching and learning at the College and contribute meaningfully to community engagement in furtherance of the Colleges mission, vision, and values.

Enclosed Documents

A copy of the presentation slides is included.

Funding

No funding is requested with this presentation.

Staff Resources

Interim VP of Information Services, Planning, Performance, & Strategic Initiatives and Dean of Library & Learning Support Services Dr. Jesús Campos; Associate Dean of Library Services Elizabeth Hollenbeck, Director of Learning Commons & Open Labs Arturo Solano, and Director of Centers for Learning Excellence Lynell Williams.

Recommendation

This presentation was for the Education and Workforce Development Committee's information and feedback. No action is requested.

No action was necessary on this item.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the Education and Workforce Development Committee Meeting of the South Texas College Board of Trustees adjourned at 4:24 p.m.

I certify that the foregoing are the true and correct Minutes of the April 8, 2025 Education and Workforce Development Committee Meeting of the South Texas College Board of Trustees.

Mrs. Victoria Cantu, Presiding

Presentation on Transformational Recruitment Strategy and Plan

Purpose Administration will present the initial assessment findings of the Valley Promise Program's Year 1 launch and progress.

Justification Under the leadership of the College President, the STC Board of Trustees, and the STC Foundation, South Texas College launched the Valley Promise program in April 2024. In November, the College appointed Ms. Melissa Peña-Montes as the inaugural Director of the Valley Promise to lead the initiative and promote the program across the College's service district.

In consultation with the Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, Ms. Peña-Montes conducted an initial assessment of the program's Year 1 launch and progress. She identified immediate gaps and areas for improvement, including the need to rebuild relationships with school district leaders and counselors, enhance promotion of the Promise program to prospective students and families, and establish clearer metrics for high school recruiter performance.

As a result of this assessment, the College placed the existing recruiting department under the Director's supervision to ensure strategic alignment and direct control over recruitment efforts. This transition has proven highly successful, resulting in a threefold increase in the number of pledges in Year 2 and sustained enrollment growth.

This spring, Ms. Peña-Montes and her team have led multiple enrollment drives across all College campuses, hosted One-Stop events at high schools, and participated in numerous community outreach efforts. These efforts have significantly transformed recruitment and outreach across the region. She has also developed an innovative, forward-thinking plan to engage students and parents as early as the 9th grade and to build strong relationships with prospective students, including former dual credit participants, to ensure a smooth transition to STC after graduation.

The Valley Promise program recently celebrated its first cohort of 45 graduates and continues its full-force push to increase enrollment for the upcoming fall semester. Ms. Peña-Montes has challenged her team with the bold goal of achieving 100% enrollment of all pledges while expanding the program's reach to serve students at every high school in the district.

She will present her vision for this transformative strategy, which centers on early engagement and making STC the regional leader in enrollment and student success. She will also showcase new

technology designed to track students as they transition from high school to STC.

Staff Resources Dr. Matt Hebbard, Vice President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management

Ms. Melissa Peña-Montes

Recommendation No action is requested.

This item is to provide information and solicit feedback from the trustees.

Review and Recommend Action on Proposed 2026-2027 Academic Calendar

Purpose	Administration seeks a committee recommendation for Board approval of the proposed 2026-2027 Academic Calendar.
Justification	<p>The Academic Calendar Steering Committee, which includes membership from each area of the College and Student Government representation, has developed the FY 2026 – 2027 Academic Calendar.</p> <p>The calendar was developed to be compatible with local area school district calendars and other higher education institutions in Texas. The calendar was presented to South Texas College faculty and staff for review, feedback, and input during the months of March and April. Input received from staff and faculty was incorporated into the proposed calendar.</p> <p>The proposed calendar has been approved by the Academic Calendar Committee and has been reviewed by Faculty Senate, Staff Council, Council of Chairs, Academic Council and the Institutional Leadership Council.</p>
Enclosed Documents	Proposed 2026 – 2027 Academic Calendar Calendar Committee Membership and Timeline
Funding	No funding impact
Staff Resources	Ms. Christina Cavazos, Director of Curriculum, Planning, and Compliance
Recommendation	The Committee recommends Board approval of the 2026-2027 Academic Calendar as presented.

2026-2027 Calendar



FINAL DRAFT 05/05/2025

Fall Semester 2026 (August 24 - December 13)

August 12 (Wednesday)	New Faculty Start Date – New Faculty Benefits & Orientation (Human Resources)
August 13 (Thursday)	New Faculty Orientation
August 14 (Friday)	New Faculty Service Area Tour
August 17 (Monday)	Faculty Return – Academic Affairs Assembly / Division Meetings
August 18 (Tuesday)	Faculty Preparation Day / Departmental Meetings
August 19 (Wednesday)	Faculty Preparation Day / Departmental Meetings
August 20 (Thursday)	Faculty Preparation Day / Full-Time Faculty Teaching Dual Credit Courses PD Day / Departmental Meetings
August 21 (Friday)	Faculty Preparation Day / Departmental Meetings
August 22 (Saturday)	Adjunct & Dual Credit Faculty Professional and Organizational Development Day
August 24 (Monday)	Classes Begin
September 7 (Monday)	College Closed – Labor Day
September 9 (Wednesday)	Census Day - Twelfth Class Day
September 18 (Friday)	College Closed – Fall Convocation*
October 5 (Monday)	Spring 2027 Registration Begins
November 13 (Friday)	Last Day to Withdraw
November 26 – 29 (Thursday – Sunday)	College Closed - Thanksgiving Holiday
December 7 – 13 (Monday – Sunday)	Finals
December 12 (Saturday)	Commencement Ceremonies*
December 12 (Saturday)	Certificate and Degree Award Date
December 13 (Sunday)	End of Term
December 14 (Monday)	Last Day to Submit Grades
December 17 – January 3 (Thurs. – Sun.)	Winter Break (College Closed)

** Subject to change depending on availability of venue.*

2026-2027 Calendar



Spring Semester 2027 (January 19 – May 13)

January 4 (Monday)	College Opens – Staff return
January 4 (Monday)	New Faculty Start Date – New Faculty Benefits & Orientation (Human Resources)
January 11 (Monday)	Faculty Return – Division / Department Meetings
January 12 – 15 (Tuesday-Friday)	Faculty Preparation Day / Departmental Meetings
January 16 (Saturday)	Adjunct & Dual Credit Faculty Professional and Organizational Development Day
January 18 (Monday)	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – College Closed
January 19 (Tuesday)	Classes Begin
January 26 – 29 (Tuesday – Friday)	Distance Learning Symposium*
February 3 (Wednesday)	Census Day - Twelfth Class Day
February 12 (Friday)	College Closed – College-Wide Professional Development Day*
March 15 - 21 (Monday - Sunday)	College Closed - Spring Break
March 25 – 28 (Thursday – Sunday)	College Closed - Semester Break
April 5 (Monday)	Summer/Fall 2027 Registration Begins ¹
April 19 (Monday)	Last Day to Withdraw
May 7 – 13 (Friday – Thursday)	Finals
May 13 (Thursday)	End of Term
May 14 – 15 (Friday - Saturday)	Commencement Ceremonies*
May 15 (Saturday)	Certificate and Degree Award Date
May 17 (Monday)	Last Day to Submit Grades
May 31 (Monday)	College Closed – Memorial Day

**Subject to change depending on availability of venue.*

¹ Tentative date: May change depending on Workday implementation.

2026-2027 Calendar



Summer Session 2027 (June 1 – August 6)

June 1 (Tuesday)	Classes Begin
June 16 (Wednesday)	Census Day - Twelfth Class Day
June 18 (Friday)	College Closed - Juneteenth
July 5 (Monday)	College Closed-Independence Day
July 5 – 6 (Monday & Tuesday)	No classes (For Summer III only)
July 23 (Friday)	Last Day to Withdraw
August 5 (Thursday)	End of Term/Finals (Classes Meeting M-R)
August 6 (Friday)	End of Term /Finals (Classes Meeting M-F)
August 7 (Saturday)	Certificate and Degree Award Date
August 9 (Monday)	Last Day to Submit Grades

SI – Minimester (June 1 – July 2)

June 1 (Tuesday)	Classes Begin
June 4 (Friday)	Census Day - Fourth Class Day
June 18 (Friday)	College Closed - Juneteenth
June 25 (Friday)	Last Day to Withdraw
July 2 (Friday)	End of Term/Finals
July 5 (Monday)	College Closed-Independence Day
July 6 (Tuesday)	Last Day to Submit Grades

SII – Minimester (July 7 – August 6)

July 7 (Wednesday)	Classes Begin
July 12 (Monday)	Census Day - Fourth Class Day
July 30 (Friday)	Last Day to Withdraw
August 5 (Thursday)	End of Term/Finals (Classes Meeting M-R)
August 6 (Friday)	End of Term /Finals (Classes Meeting M-F)
August 9 (Monday)	Last Day to Submit Grades

Committee Membership and Timeline

Academic Calendar 2026-2027

Rev. March 27, 2025

Committee Membership

Christina Cavazos, Curriculum	Jose. R Soto, Student Government (Starr)
Juan Miguel Galvan, Student Financial Services	Liyah Uvalle, Student Government (Mid Valley)
Elizabeth Hollenbeck, Library Public Services	Alejandra Cantu, Dual Credit Programs
Bradley Davis, IEA	Monica Perez, OVPPAAED
Cynthia Blanco, Admissions & Records	Monica Benitez, Staff Council
Jesus Ramirez, Admissions & Records	Fidel Rodriguez, Faculty Senate
Rosangela Mancillas, Communication & Creative Services	Joel Jason Rodriguez, Council of Chairs
Georgina Marr, Human Resources	Dr. Wendi JW Williams, MSITB (faculty)
Marittza Adame, Cashier's Office	Erika Guerra, BPST (faculty)
Willie Langley, Purchasing	Nathaniel Weber, LA (faculty)
Carla M. Rodriguez, Office of Sponsored Initiatives	Helen Meave, SBS (faculty)
Olivia de la Rosa, Continuing Education & Workforce Development	Dr. Theresa Garza, NAH (faculty)

Timeline and Process


February 27, 2025	Calendar Committee meet to propose a preliminary draft calendar. (Materials provided in advance)
February 28 – March 24, 2025	Time for review and feedback by faculty and staff. Committee members distribute the draft calendar to faculty and staff in their area for feedback. Feedback due by March 24, 2025.
March 28, 2025 (tentative)	Calendar Committee may meet to review collected feedback from faculty and staff and revise draft, if applicable.
April 1 – May 2, 2025	Draft Calendar will be presented to Academic Council, Institutional Leadership Council, Council of Chairs, Staff Council, and Faculty Senate.
May 5 – May 9, 2025	Calendar Committee members will vote on the Final Draft Calendar via email.
May 12, 2024	Final Calendar will be submitted to the Vice President and Provost for Academic Affairs and Economic Development.
June 10, 2025	Final Calendar will be presented at the Board of Trustees Education and Workforce Development Committee Meeting.
June 24, 2025	Final Calendar will be presented to the Board of Trustees for approval.


Presentation on the February 2025 Dual Credit Programs Summit

Purpose	Administration will provide a presentation with an overview of the 2025 Summit for Dual Credit Programs, hosted in collaboration with the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships. The Summit was held at the South Padre Island Convention Center on February 16-18, 2025.
Justification	<p>Background:</p> <p>In February 2025, South Texas College partnered with the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP) to host the fourth annual Dual Credit Programs Summit. The three-day event featured a national keynote speaker, breakout sessions, and drew over 250 participants from 35 states sharing insights on dual credit delivery for diverse student populations.</p> <p>Dr. Rebecca De Leon, Associate Vice President for Dual Credit Programs & School District Partnerships, will provide a summary of the event, including financials and key takeaways from participants.</p>
Staff Resources	Dr. Rebecca De Leon, Associate Vice President for Dual Credit Programs & School District Partnerships
Recommendation	No action is requested. Please note date for 2026 Summit for Dual Credit Programs: February 15-17.

SUMMIT FOR DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS

FEB. 16-18, 2025 | SOUTH PADRE ISLAND, TX



Presentation for the South Texas College EWD Committee
 May 13, 2025 | 3 PM
 Dr. Rebecca De Leon, Associate Vice President for Dual Credit Programs and School District Partnerships

Summit Overview

- ✓ Hosted by **South Texas College** and the **National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships**.
- ✓ A premier conference tailored for higher education institutions, school districts and state/national entities.
- ✓ The Summit provides attendees with valuable information and key takeaways regarding dual credit and college readiness.



SUMMIT FOR DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS




Participation & Representation



- ✓ 266 registered
- ✓ 258 attended
- ✓ 35 states represented
 - Institutions of Higher Education
 - State Agencies
 - Workforce Development
 - School Districts

**SUMMIT FOR
DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS**



25 Years of Success in Dual Credit Partnerships - Panelists



Chris Coxon
Managing Director
Educate Texas



Dr. Alejandro Elias
Superintendent of Schools
PSJA ISD



Dr. Daniel P. King
Executive Director
Region One Education Service Center



Dr. Rebecca De Leon
*Associate Vice President for
Dual Credit Programs and
School District Partnerships*
South Texas College

**SUMMIT FOR
DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS**



Keynote Speaker – Jason A. Hunt



- Jason Hunt is a dynamic, engaging, and passionate author, speaker, and trainer.
- Focused on helping people lead through influence rather than title.
- Provided unique tools to navigate the complicated world of relationships, resulting in less turnover, a stronger organizational culture, and more job satisfaction.



**SUMMIT FOR
DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS**



Summit Session

- ✓ **6 Conference Tracks**
 - Partnerships and Collaborations
 - Dual Credit for Beginners
 - Program Innovation
 - Student Pathways
 - Data, Measurement & Research
 - Policy and Funding
- ✓ **6 Breakout Rounds**
- ✓ **36 Sessions**



**SUMMIT FOR
DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS**



Preconference

Dual Credit Programs leadership provided insight for **48 attendees** from **34 institutions** on topics such as:

- ✓ Policies & Procedures
- ✓ Program Scheduling
- ✓ Faculty Credentialing
- ✓ Enrollment Services
- ✓ Support Services



**SUMMIT FOR
DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS**



Thank you, sponsors!

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DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS**

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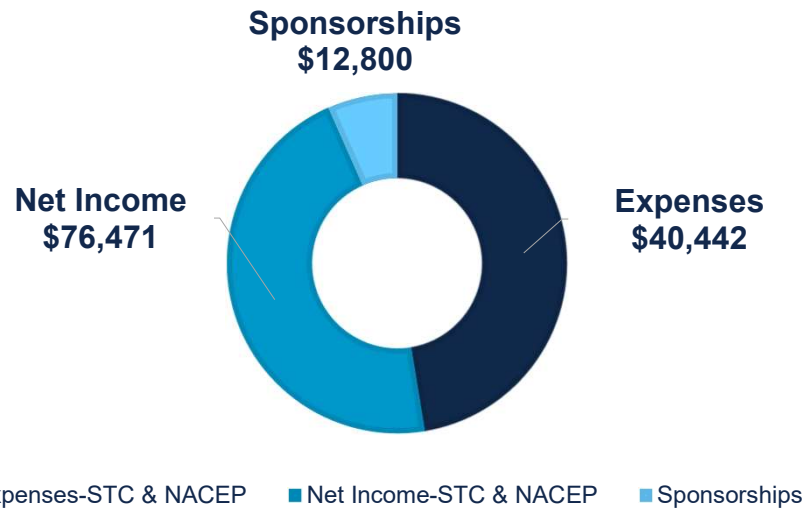
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2025 Conference Proceeds

Total Income
\$116,914

Net Income: \$76,470
STC Profit: \$38,235
NACEP Profit: \$38,235



**SUMMIT FOR
DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS**



Attendee Takeaways



"This was a **great opportunity** to learn the '**secret sauce**' STC is using to bring dual credit **opportunities to their service area**. We will need to adapt for scale."



"**Very practical information** that has the potential of **guiding the efforts** in my district."



"I really enjoyed **learning about the South Texas programs and partnerships**. It was a **great panel**."




"I **gained a wealth of knowledge and ideas** as well as **ways to improve our program**. It was very insightful."





**SUMMIT FOR
DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS**







**Join us for the
2026 SUMMIT FOR DUAL CREDIT PRGRAMS
Feb. 15-17, 2026 | South Padre Island, Tx**



**SUMMIT FOR
DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS**



**Thank you for your support,
on behalf of the
South Texas College
Dual Credit Programs.**

Review and Recommend Action on Proposed Interlocal Agreement for Dual Credit Programs

Purpose	Administration requests that the Education and Workforce Development Committee recommend Board approval of the Interlocal Agreement for Dual Credit Program partnerships with In-District school districts in Hidalgo and Starr counties for academic year 2025–2026.
Justification	<p>Background:</p> <p>South Texas College annually renews agreements with partner school districts to define terms for dual credit programs, incorporating any Board-approved changes to tuition, fees, and related policies. These agreements support consistent service and compliance across partnerships. They also facilitate communication and compliance efforts between the College and school districts.</p> <p>Agreement Summary:</p> <p>The proposed agreement includes the Non-Degree Seeking Option Pilot presented to the Education and Workforce Development Committee in April 2025. The agreement will be submitted to each partner district's governing board following Board approval.</p>
Funding	The College is not expected to incur unrecouped costs.
Staff Resources	Dr. Rebecca De Leon, Associate Vice President for Dual Credit Programs & School District Partnerships
Recommendation	The Committee recommends Board approval of the 2025–2026 Interlocal Agreement for In-District Dual Credit Program partnerships.

Review and Recommend Action on Proposed IDEA San Juan P-TECH Interlocal Agreement for Dual Credit Programs

Purpose	Administration seeks a committee recommendation for Board approval of an Interlocal Agreement with IDEA Public Schools, designating South Texas College as the higher education partner for their San Juan P-TECH Campus for FY 2025 – 2026.
Justification	<p>Background:</p> <p>The initial Agreement was presented to the Board in May 2024 where approval was given to establish and support a Computer Science pathway under the P-TECH (Pathways in Technology Early College High School) model, emphasizing career and work-based education. It is specific to the San Juan campus and does not apply to other IDEA campuses.</p> <p>Agreement Summary:</p> <p>The proposed agreement includes the Non-Degree Seeking Option Pilot presented to the Education and Workforce Development Committee in April 2025. The agreement will be submitted to the partner district's governing board following Board approval.</p>
Funding	The College is not expected to incur unrecouped costs.
Staff Resources	Dr. Rebecca De Leon, Associate Vice President for Dual Credit Programs & School District Partnerships
Recommendation	The Committee recommends Board approval of the 2025–2026 Interlocal Agreement with IDEA Public Schools for the San Juan P-TECH Campus.