



# Welcome.

LONESTAR<sup>RP3</sup> Data Council

Virtual Meeting

March 13, 2025



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# Council Leadership and Support



**Sam Boiser, Vice  
Chair**

Educate Texas  
Deputy Director  
Policy and Advocacy



**Jacob Kirksey, Chair**  
Texas Tech University  
Assistant Professor



**Carolyn Landel, Council  
Lead**

Director, LONESTAR<sup>RP3</sup>  
College of Education  
UT Austin



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# Agenda

- (Very quick!) Overview of Data Council
- Overview of the January kick-off meeting and key themes
- Top priorities based on impact and feasibility
- Summary of additional topics discussed
- Key takeaways and next steps for the Council
- Questions and feedback



# (Very Quick!) Overview of LONESTAR<sup>RP3</sup> Data Council

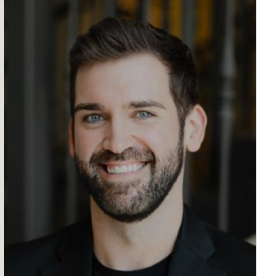
Texas P20W Data and Related Data Systems

Data Council Charter, Composition, Expectations and Benefits



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# Council Leadership and Support



**Jacob Kirksey, Chair**

Facilitates meetings, sets agendas, encourages inclusive discussion, and ensures the Council operates effectively. Maintains and distributes Council documentation and tracks action times and deliverables.



**Sam Boiser, Vice Chair**

Supports the Chair, assists with meeting planning, and serves as meeting facilitator when needed.



**Carolyn Landel, Council Lead**

Advises on focus areas ensure alignment with LONESTAR<sup>RP3</sup> mission. Endorses deliverables and engages on high-priority topics as needed.



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# DATA COUNCIL

## VISION

Increase visibility and use of Texas P20W data system, resources, and published research. Provide insights and recommendations to inform improvements to Texas data systems and tools to enhance their impact on education practice and policy.

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## PURPOSE

Address educational challenges through data-driven insights, and create shared, actionable knowledge to benefit Texas students, educators, and policymakers.

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## COUNCIL MEMBERS

- Non-profits, community colleges, and four-year institutions
- Research Practice Partnerships
- Workforce Boards and Education Service Providers
- Education Research Centers
- Ad Hoc

## COUNCIL CONTRIBUTORS

- Policy Advisors
- Agency Partners: TEA, THECB, TWC




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# Purpose

Address educational challenges through data-driven insights, and create shared, actionable knowledge to benefit Texas students, educators, and policymakers.

 **Amplify Data-Driven Insights**  
Raise awareness about research, resources, and tools from the Texas P20W data system.

 **Promote Problem Solving**  
Surface diverse perspectives to identify problems and surface actionable solutions to address systemic challenges within the Texas P20W data infrastructure.

 **Publish Annual Report**  
Release a “State of the State” report that highlights high-impact data points and trends from the Texas P20W data system.



# Kick-Off Meeting

Synthesis of Common Themes and Development of  
Council Priorities



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# Meeting Overview

The Data Council convened to identify and prioritize key data challenges and opportunities.



Discussions focused on:

- Data Accessibility – Improving access to key datasets and metrics.
- Alignment with Policy Frameworks – Standardizing definitions across agencies.
- Data Enhancements – Strengthening usability and integration of existing data.



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# Common Themes

## Bright Spots

- **Availability of Key Student & Workforce Metrics:** Existing datasets allow for tracking of student transitions, workforce outcomes, and institutional performance.
- **Growing Use of Research for Policy:** State and local agencies increasingly use data-driven insights to inform policy and funding decisions.
- **ERC Network Supports Research and Resources Access:** Education Research Centers provide a structured pathway for researchers to access valuable administrative data. ERCs + THECB have organized documentation to support researchers.



# Common Themes

## Challenges

- **Data Fragmentation & Access Barriers**
  - No centralized resource for understanding what data exists and how to request it.
- **Lack of Standardized Definitions Across Agencies**
  - Key metrics (e.g., transfer students, CCMR, workforce tracking) have multiple definitions.
  - Misalignment policy metrics and policy evaluation.
- **Workforce & Postsecondary Data Gaps**
  - Limited tracking of student transitions beyond Texas institutions.
  - Occupation and employment outcomes remain difficult to analyze due to UI data limitations.



Priority Topics	Impact	Consensus	Effort
Standardizing Definitions (e.g., transfer students, CCMR, CTE pathways)	High	High	Low
Data Access Guide for stakeholders (researchers, policymakers, districts)	High	High	Low
Common Data Sharing Agreement	High	Moderate	High
Workforce Data Gaps (e.g., occupation, hours worked, program-job alignment)	High	High	High
Better Communication of Research Findings	High	Moderate	Low
Regionalized Workforce & Education Data Dashboards	Moderate	Moderate	Low
K-12 & Postsecondary Data Integration and Availability	High	Moderate	Moderate
Qualitative Data & Survey Repository	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate

## Summary of Topics



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# Discussing the topics we surfaced

- How do these priority topics relate to your own work? What actions would you want to see related to these topics?
- Do you think anything is missing?
- What questions do you still have?



# Draft Priorities

Examples of Data Council work on two priorities within the breadth of topics

1. Develop a Cross-Agency Inventory of Key Definitions.
  - To complement existing/potential work of tri-agency partners
2. Create a Data Access Guide for Practitioners, Policymakers, and Researchers.



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# Draft Priority 1: Cross-Agency Inventory of Key Definitions

## Challenges

- Multiple definitions for key metrics (e.g., transfer students, CCMR, CTE pathways) exist across agencies, creating inconsistencies.
- Alignment issues were noted, particularly between HB 3's CCMR definitions and HB 8's community college funding.
- Researchers struggle with which definitions to use, impacting replicability and comparability.

## Potential Actions and Products

- Support creation of an inventory of commonly used definitions across agencies and policies
- Inform and co-create crosswalks highlighting where definitions differ and their implications
- Publish a Council Brief to summarize findings and propose alignment recommendations



## Draft Priority 2: Data Access Guide

### Challenges

- Stakeholders face challenges accessing data due to inconsistent processes across ERCs, P20W, and institutions.
- There is no central resource on how to request data, what's available, or how to access it without funding.
- A common question: "Where do I go to get X data, and who do I talk to?"

### Potential Actions & Products

- Create inventory of current data access pathways (e.g. ERCs, P20W, Clearinghouse, institutional sources).
- Inform Data Access Guides that outline how researchers, districts, and policymakers can request and use data
  - Make guides publicly available and integrate into ongoing Council communications





# Discussing Draft Priorities 1 & 2

- What challenges are you experiencing in Data Definition Alignment (Priority 1) or Data Access (Priority 2)?
- Do you have any suggestions for actions, next steps, products, or starting points?
- Would you have prioritized any other topics over these two?



# Next Steps

- Continue socializing draft priorities with policy advisors and agency partners for feedback
  - Use feedback from LONESTARP3 network, policy, and agency advisors to inform revisions
- Schedule and convene near-monthly meetings with Council to establish concrete insights and actions for each priority
- Prioritize actions on definitions and data access for early wins.
  - Priority 1: Key Definitions
    - Identify key priority metrics
  - Priority 2: Data Access
    - Inventory current data/resources
- Generate Draft Council Brief to summarize opportunities and efforts



# Questions and Additional Feedback

QUESTIONS?

SUGGESTIONS?

CONCERNS?



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