

LONESTAR**P3**  
**CONNECT**  
IN PERSON

February 18-19, 2025

UT San Antonio



LONESTAR**P3**



# Welcome.

Mario Torres, Ph.D.

Dean, College of Education and Human Development

UT San Antonio



LONESTAR**RP3**



# Let's Get Started!

Carolyn Landel

Director, LONESTAR P3

UT Austin, College of Education



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# AGENDA PREVIEW

## FEB 18

- 12:00 Opt, Networking Lunch
- 1:30 Welcome, Preview & Updates
- 2:00 Network Connections
- 3:00 Research Collaboratives  
Overview and Status
- 4:00 Break
- 4:30 Policy Perspectives
- 5:30 Preview Day 2
- 6:00 Reception and Dinner

## FEB 19

- 7:30 Breakfast
- 8:30 Welcome and Framing
- 8:45 Texas ERCs: What to Know
- 9:15 TWC and TWB: What to Know
- 10:30 Transition and Break
- 10:45 Research Collaboratives, Breakouts
- 12:30 Grab and Go Lunch
- 1:00 Breakouts, con't
- 2:30 Research Collaboratives, Report
- 3:15 Reflections and Evaluations



# LONESTARP3 Overview

LONESTARP3 is a statewide network that brings **researchers, practitioners, and policy advocates** together to identify and address community needs. Our partners collectively design, conduct, and **translate research into accessible and actionable solutions**. Our collaborative approach produces research with clear and immediate **use in classroom teaching, system change, policy making**.



LONESTARP3



# LONESTAR<sup>RP3</sup> Approach



## Create Shared Understanding and Goals

Bring multiple perspectives together and look for areas of agreement to tackle shared challenges.



## Investigate Common Challenges

Conduct applied and responsive research on shared problems of practice and policy with direct community engagement from design through implementation.



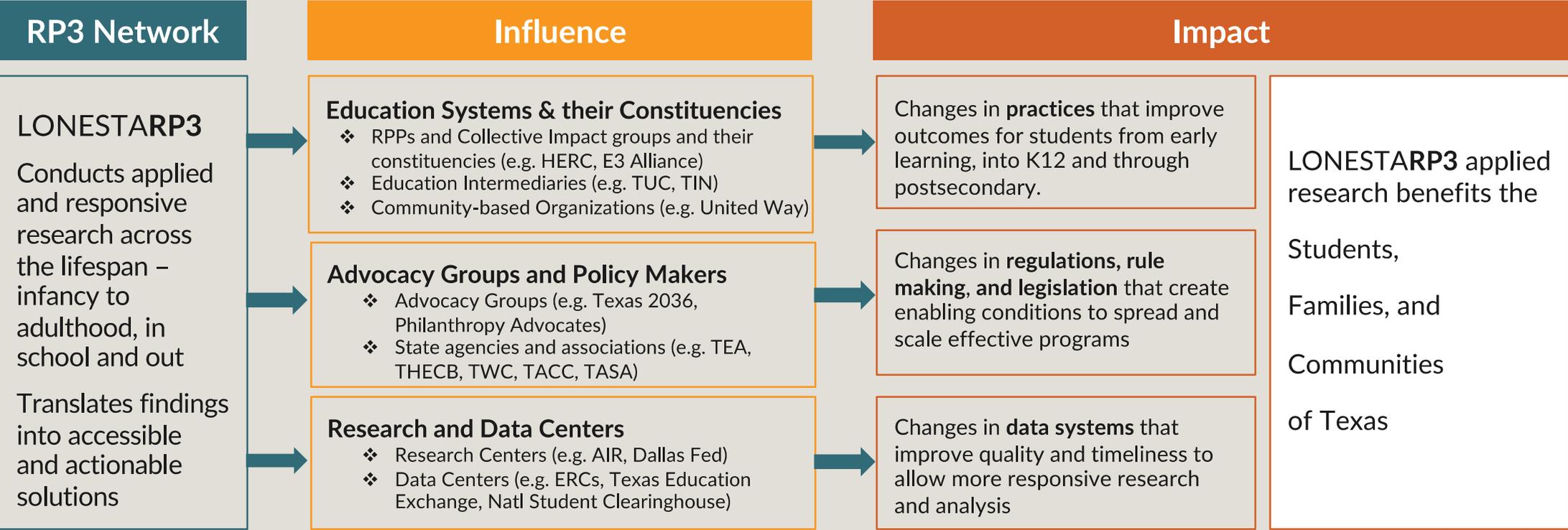
## Deploy accessible and actionable solutions

Translate research into actionable tools, products and experiences that benefit students. Put findings into the right hands at the right time.



# LONESTAR P3 Influence and Impact Model

LONESTAR P3 is a statewide network that brings multiple perspectives together—inviting **researchers, practitioners, and policy advocates** to work together to identify and address community needs. Our partners collectively design, conduct, and translate research into accessible and actionable solutions. Our collaborative approach produces research with clear and immediate use in classroom teaching, policy making, and system change.



# LONESTAR P3 Activities



## Revisiting our Founding Charter

Texas Education Research Practice Policy  
Partnership Network

**FOUNDING CHARTER**

[rp3.education.utexas.edu](http://rp3.education.utexas.edu)



June 2023



June 2024



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# LONESTAR<sup>P3</sup> Activities

## ➤ Build Community

### LONESTAR<sup>P3</sup> **CONNECT** VIRTUAL

Near monthly virtual sessions to stay connected, share insights, and gather support for your work

- 3 events: Nov, Dec, Jan (archived)
- 100+ ppl registered for Jan session
- New process for members to submit and present a breakout session



### LONESTAR<sup>P3</sup> **LIVE!**

Livestream interviews with leaders at the intersection of data, practice and policy

- 134 individual viewers (archived)
- Average retention, 30 min
- More than 44% retained for the full 60 min



LONESTAR<sup>P3</sup>

# LONESTAR P3 Activities

## ▲ Improve Data Systems

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### DATA COUNCIL

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.

- 24 Member Council selected and confirmed
- Kick-off meeting held Jan 23
- Documentation underway; update scheduled for Mar virtual meeting

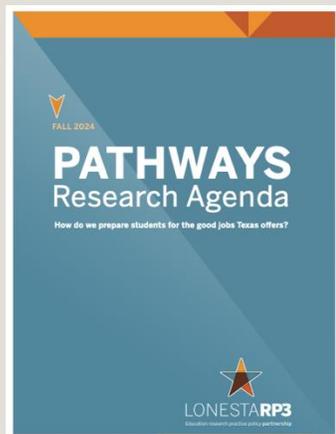


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# LONESTAR P3 Activities

## ➤ Conduct Partnership Research

LONESTAR P3  
**CONNECT**  
IN PERSON



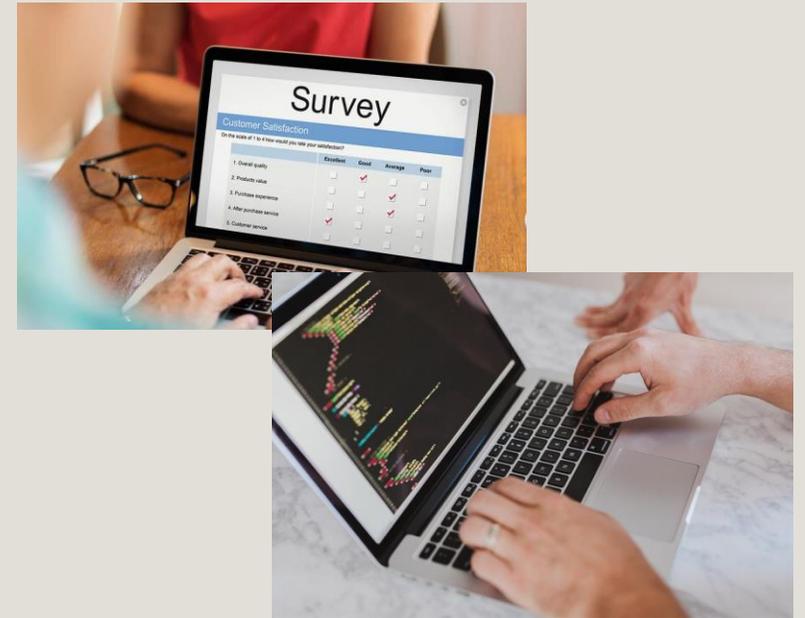
**Sep:** Pathways Research Agenda released

**Oct:** Invited Research Collaborative Leads for each strand

**Nov:** Virtual meeting to kick off Collaboratives

**Dec:** Collaboratives identifying partners, refining questions, developing methods

**Feb:** Breakout groups [HERE](#) to help refine and finalize designs!



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# LONESTAR<sup>RP3</sup> CORE RPP MEMBER UPDATES

Highlights and Invites



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### HIGHLIGHT

Governor Abbott named **expanding career education** as 1 of 7 emergency items - meaning that lawmakers can take action on it earlier in the legislative session than other topics. His [one pager](#) on the topic highlights R-PEP, P-TECHs, advising, and more.

<https://bit.ly/4gF1ZnK>

### INVITE

We would like to find ways to incorporate ACT/SAT/TSIA results in the ERC so that we can further connect readiness metrics to postsecondary and wage outcomes. We would also like TIA designations to be added to teacher records in the ERC.





### HIGHLIGHT

Released our 2024 Success Highlights with from our cradle to career work, man our accomplishments of which were achieved in collaboration with local and statewide partners. Launched a new initiative focusing on increasing access to CTE among students with special needs.

<https://bit.ly/4k12ews>

### INVITE

Launching a new cohort-based strategy to help improve school and student outcomes along four key domains: (1) early childhood, (2) middle school math pathways, (3) post secondary readiness, and (4) workforce readiness. Looking for best practices in student, family, and educator engagement.





## EDUCATE TEXAS

at COMMUNITIES FOUNDATION of TEXAS

### HIGHLIGHT

**Dr. Kerri Briggs** named as the Executive Director of Educate Texas in Nov. She has begun meeting with stakeholders to explore how Texas' public and higher education systems can better prepare students for success in school, work, and life.

<https://bit.ly/4i000OT>

### INVITE

Seeking colleagues to help understand the decisions and supports ISDs need to sustain P-TECH and ECHS models including how higher education institutions and workforce can support those models.





RICE UNIVERSITY

Kinder Institute for Urban Research

## HIGHLIGHT

Hosting an event where we share workforce demand in the Houston region, especially around jobs where individuals would be earning a "sustainable wage". Brining together districts, non-profits, business, and community to think about how to use this information and share a web tool with families.

<https://bit.ly/3X0OjMS>

## INVITE

Wondering if anyone is doing any work around population change in their region and what it's likely to mean for school districts and enrollment.



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Center for Innovative Research *in*  
Change, Leadership, *and* Education

HIGHLIGHT

Co-hosted with Philanthropy Advocates

an event with educators, staffers, and community leaders to address the shortage of certified teachers and its impact on student learning.

Superintendents from two of our RPPs presented. Discussions addressed need for state investment in teacher residencies and improved compensation structures.

<https://bit.ly/3QjdarC>

INVITE

Seeking feedback on how to grow our center's capacity for producing and disseminating research and community engagement. What strategies have been most effective in building sustainable infrastructure, securing funding, and increasing visibility?



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## The University of Texas at Austin College of Education

### HIGHLIGHT

Strengthening and growing our connection with Austin ISD, mapping out a plan create a more formal RPP to ensure a consistent and long-term relationship in service to the priorities of the district. Initiating conversations within education, business, and community leaders in the Permian Basin to support a plan for educational improvement in the region.

### INVITE

Seeking lots and lots of input on how to build and grow a LONESTAR3 LinkedIn community. A page is up and ready...now what? Please help!





## HIGHLIGHT

We have co-developed a set of study designs with one district partner on the impacts of school closures resulting from declining enrollment and fiscal constraints. We have an emerging partnership research study with our ESC region that focuses on emergent bilingual student success across levels. And we are participating in the E3 Data Portal support services. All of the above have been facilitated or accelerated by LONESTAR<sup>P3</sup>.

## INVITE

We are interested in other members' experiences with and strategies for navigating the complexities that emerge from partnership work with multiple community partners at the same time. Related, we are interested in whether there are other experiences statewide with adding community college partners into partnership and how these partnerships operate?





.....  
*College of Education  
& P-16 Integration*

## HIGHLIGHT

Brownsville ISD CTE department collaborated with UTRGV faculty to provide professional development to CTE faculty on Lesson Planning for Workforce soft skills. Introduced RP3 to employers (Next Decade, Bechtel, SA Recycling) at the Port of Brownsville, and others (ESC1 Tri-Agency Convener Grant Participants; Workforce Solutions of Cameron County, College and Career Readiness and Educational Opportunity Consultants) to invite partnership

## INVITE

Seeking researchers to help implement the Education-to-Workforce Indicator Framework into the current research on Workforce-Aligned Instruction.



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## HIGHLIGHT

Growing our network of research collaborations to include faculty from across the university and community partners from non-profits and the City of San Antonio. Proud of our collaboration with the City of San Antonio to evaluate **Ready to Work program** - one of the largest job training/placement efforts in the country.

<https://bit.ly/3WXLhsP>

## INVITE

Seeking ways to better disseminate our work. Always looking for research collaborators and mechanisms for finding them!



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# Research Collaboratives

Ginger Gossman

Research Program Manager, LONESTAR<sup>RP3</sup>

UT Austin, College of Education



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# LONESTAR<sup>RP3</sup> Research Collaboratives

Research Collaboratives include a **minimum of two RP3 Members** to work collectively to **investigate the research questions** from our shared **Pathways Research Agenda**.

Leads will build Collaboratives that include:

- local **community partners with expressed interest** in the problem of practice
- participant sites with diverse **geographic and demographic characteristics**
- **expertise on the topic** and necessary **research methods**
- capacity to **complete agile investigations** that surface meaningful insights in 12-18 months.



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## Process

- Collaborative Leads engage members and their partners to secure **research sites, refine questions, develop data collection and analysis plans.**
  - Leads **submit a statement of work and budget** needed to support proposed designs over 18 months.
  - Leads facilitate member engagement within their Collaborative through regular meetings, and across the network through status updates and virtual meetings.
- 

## *The Fine Print*

- While **all Members may not directly be involved in all studies**, all **Members do have voice in study designs.**
- The **Pathways Research Agenda should serve as a guide**; conversations between **researchers and community partners may lead to revisions** that differ from the published questions but still **honor the broader intention.**
- While **core research designs will be common across sites**, some **variation in design to meet local partner needs is anticipated.**
- **Budgets will be allocated** based on our collective view of the **relative priority of each strand** as expressed by community partners and the policy landscape, and the **size and scope of the investigations required** to generate meaningful insights.
- Funds will be allocated **to each Member institution** for their contributions across all Collaboratives.



# Timeline

In an ideal world on a frictionless surface occupied by unicorns eating magic pixie dust...



# Research Collaboratives



## Academic and Career Advising

Dash Weerasinghe, Commit  
Matt Giani, UT Austin

## Dual Credit Academic and Workforce Instruction

Harrison Hopp, E3 Alliance  
Han Bum Lee, UT San Antonio  
Jessica Gottlieb, Texas Tech University

## Workforce-aligned Instruction

Israel Aguilar, UT RGV  
Holly Heard, Texas 2036

## Postsecondary Pursuits

Gabriela Sanchez Soto, HERC  
Jen Freeman, Texas Tech University



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## How does academic and career advising help students succeed on their chosen pathway?

### Research Topics

- Inventory of College Advising Programs (CAPs) in Texas
- Onsite CAP advisors (in schools)
- Students served by CAPs

### SOW Progress

- Conceptualizing SOW
- Drafting SOW

### Tailwinds

- Rich data for some CAPs
- Interest from stakeholders: TEA, THECB, TxCAN

### Headwinds

- Calibrating research questions

### Workplan for Convening

- Data sources
- Methodology
- Identify potential partner sites



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# How well do Texas Industry-based Certifications prepare students to enter the workforce?

## Research Topics

- Local/regional alignment t in workforce training (WFT)
- Student interest in WFT
- Scalability and efficacy of WFT
- Predicting wage differentials and student outcomes
- Soft skills embedded in WFT

## SOW Progress

- Conceptualizing SOW
- Drafting SOW

## Tailwinds

- Only tailwinds!
- Synergy across research collaboratives
- Gov. Abbott's emergency item, Expanding Career Training

## Workplan for Convening

- Data sources
- Research questions
- Methodology
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## What characteristics of dual credit programs for academic & workforce education propel students into degrees or work?

### Research Topics

- Focus on Central Texas counties
- Opportunities to earn college credits in HS
- Student navigation of opportunities
- Factors that influence participation in DC
- Differences in DC by rural, suburban, urban
- Trends in DC participation across time

### SOW Progress

- Completed SOW
- Submitted ERC proposal

### Tailwinds

- Regular meetings
- Distributed expertise
- Shared commitment

### Headwinds

- Narrowing scope
- Meeting deadlines
- Calibrating on workstyles

### Workplan for Convening

- Data sources
- Methodology



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# How can we better measure and monitor whether a student is prepared and ready to pursue a postsecondary credential?

## Research Topics

- How well do CCMR standards predict:
  - Entry to postsecondary
  - Persistence in postsecondary
  - Entry to workforce
- What additional measures influence these outcomes?

## SOW Progress

- Drafting SOW

## Tailwinds

- Only tailwinds!
- Regular meetings and shared tools

## Workplan for Convening

- Research questions
- Methodology
- Identify potential partner sites
- Project plan



# Day 2 Preview

General Sessions and Breakout Groups



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# AGENDA PREVIEW

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YOU  
ARE  
HERE



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# Information Sessions

- **Texas Education Research Centers**
- **Texas Workforce Council**
- **Texas Workforce Development Boards**

Learn more about each of these organizations and how their services, resources, and staff can support the work you do in your home institution as well as our shared work in the Research Collaboratives.



# Breakout Sessions

## Research Collaboratives Breakout Sessions

Research questions  
Data sources  
Geographic location  
Methodology  
Disaggregation  
Partner sites

10:45

12:30

## Research Collaboratives Breakout Sessions

Research questions  
Data sources  
Geographic location  
Methodology  
Disaggregation  
Partner sites

1:00

## Research Collaboratives Whole Group

Progress  
Most excited about  
Still unsure about  
Next Steps

2:30

Grab and Go  
Lunch

ERC Office Hours  
La Villita

Res Collab Roam  
La Villita, Riverwalk A-C

Steering Committee  
Alamo Room

Protocol and Report Out Template  
<https://bit.ly/4bk6Wl3>



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# Breakout Session Resources

## MATERIALS

Pathways Research Agenda

Notetaking Template

Statement of Work Template

Budget Template

Status Update Template

Projector and Screen

Chart paper and Markers

## EXPERIENCE AND EXPERTISE

Collaborative Leads

ERC Leader in every group

RP3 Staff

**EVERYONE!**

*Use the power of  
the network*



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# Reception & Dinner

Gregory Luna Room



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UNTIL TOMORROW



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**CONNECT**  
IN PERSON

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# Welcome Back!

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# Texas Education Research Centers



Celeste Alexander  
UT Austin



Trey Miller  
UT Dallas



Toni Templeton  
University of Houston



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# Texas Workforce Council Texas Workforce Development Board



Aimee Allen  
TWB, Abilene



Kerry Ballast  
TWC



Jennifer Colehower  
TWC



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# Research Collaboratives

Breakout Sessions



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# Transition to Breakouts

Research Collaboratives Breakout Sessions	Research Collaboratives Breakout Sessions	Research Collaboratives Whole Group	
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# Research Collaboratives



**Academic and Career  
Advising**

**Riverwalk A**

**Workforce-aligned Instruction**

**Riverwalk C**

**Dual Credit Academic and  
Workforce Instruction**

**Riverwalk B**

**Postsecondary  
Pursuits**

**La Villita Room**



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# Grab and Go Lunch



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# Research Collaboratives

Report Out



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# Research Collaboratives

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# Reflections and Evaluations

Wrapping Up



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# Reflection and Evaluation

## Table Discussion

Connection made...

Memorable moment...

Got me thinking...

Now I can...

## Feedback Form



Or access this link:  
<https://bit.ly/4k2GFLO>



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# Coming Soon

Join us



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# Upcoming Events

Mar 13, 2:00-3:00

**LONESTAR<sup>P3</sup> Data Council: What's happening and how to contribute**

**New Findings and Data Set: Four Day School Week in Texas**

<https://utcoe.regfox.com/lonestarp3marc-h-virtual-convening-2025>

Apr 17, 2:00-3:00

**Policy Perspectives: What's happening in Texas education policy**

**Data Tools: Ed-Fi and Texas Education Exchange for researchers**

**New Findings: Tracking education and workforce outcomes of refugee and asylee students**

Registration coming soon!



Thank you.



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