



PRESS RELEASE

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**TISD BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVES
FIFTY-ONE NEW COURSE OFFERINGS
FOR TEXAS HIGH SCHOOL 2010-11 CURRICULUM**

Texarkana, TX – During their Tuesday, November 17, 2009, regular session, the Texarkana Independent School District Board of Trustees approved fifty-one new course offerings for Texas High School students to consider, bringing the total number of courses available to 418.

“We believe that a guaranteed and viable curriculum is the most effective strategy to impact student achievement,” commented James Henry Russell, Superintendent of Schools. “To educate today’s student, not only for college but for tomorrow’s work environment, we must offer them a viable and relevant curriculum.”

Although approved for the 2010-11 school year, the newly adopted courses will be implemented in a sequential manner during the next three years for future curriculum growth. The approved courses cover seventeen subject areas and include: The Holocaust and Human Rights through Literature and Film, World War II, World History in Film, World Civilization I and II DC, Child Psychology DC, Principles and Elements of Floral Design, Small Animal Management, Veterinary Medical Applications, Advanced Animal Science, Construction Management, Practicum in Interior Design, Practicum in Audio/Video Production, Advanced Fashion Design, Practicum in Fashion Design, Business English, Business Law, Human Resource Management, Principles of Education and Training, Human Growth and Development, Practicum in Education and Training DC, Banking and Financial Services, Principles of Government and Public Administration, Public Management and Administration DC, Practicum in Local, State and Federal Government DC, Principles of Hospitality and Tourism, Hotel Management, Restaurant Management, Travel and Tourism Management, Family and Community Services, Dollars and Sense, Interpersonal Studies, Lifetime Nutrition and Wellness, Web Technologies, Law Enforcement I and II DC, Firefighter I and II DC, Technology Systems, Fashion Marketing, Sports and Entertainment

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Marketing, Concepts of Engineering and Technology, Engineering Mathematics, Engineering Design and Problem Solving, Advanced Mathematical Decision Making, Practicum in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, Biotechnology, Advanced Biotechnology, Advanced Electronics and Robotics and Automation.

The approved courses include eight additional Dual Credit (DC) courses, thirty-eight Career & Technology courses and five foundation courses.

Dual Credit courses allow students the opportunity to enroll in college-level courses and earn high school and college credit for the completed coursework. The program provides a continuum of learning from high school to college for those students who choose to pursue a post-secondary degree or certificate after high school graduation. This continuum increases opportunities for students to progress through their programs of study at an accelerated pace.

“There are so many advantages in taking Dual Credit courses for the student,” stated Ronnie Thompson, Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services. “It shortens the time required to complete an undergraduate degree, eliminates the duplication of courses taken in high school and college and expands the course options available for college-bound students.”

“The new Career and Technology course offerings will give students more opportunities to complete certification programs and to earn college credit while in high school which will jump start their entry into chosen careers,” continued Thompson.

“The expansion of our course offerings is directly related to TISD partnerships with Texarkana College, Texas A&M University – Texarkana and Southern Arkansas University Tech,” said Russell. These successful collaborations allow us to offer over 400 courses to our students. We review the offerings and expand as needed based upon student interest surveys and the needs of the community.”

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