

# Empowered for Success

A College and Career Newsletter for the Gulf Coast Issue 35 | May 2013



## TXCCRN Online Resources:

### Newsroom

The [Texas College and Career Readiness Network](#) website (TXCCRN) has the latest updates on college and career readiness around the nation. It has an archive of the latest news articles, press releases and data reports all in one place so that staying up-to-date on current news is simple!

Date	Article/Report	Publisher
4-30-2013	<a href="#">New Texas Success Initiative Approval and Implementation</a>	University of Houston
3-22-2013	<a href="#">University of Houston Partnership with Alief ISD</a>	University of Houston
3-18-2013	<a href="#">No Algebra II: Great for Students, Terrible for Texas</a>	Houston Chronicle

The [TXCCRN Newsroom page](#) also gives public access to the latest edition of *Empowered for Success*, as well as previous

## In This Issue

[TXCCRN Online Resources: Newsroom](#)

[Texas Senate Approves House Bill 5](#)

[THECB Launches Compare College TX](#)

[Professional Development Calendar](#)



To share your institution's CCRS initiatives in *Empowered for Success*, simply visit the [Contact Us](#)

section of the TXCCRN website send us an email with your information.

editions. Explore the Empowered for Success [archive](#) for articles since 2010!

Visit the TXCCRN website to view College and Career Readiness in the News today!



## Senate Approves House Bill 5

Following the Houses' favorable ruling of [House Bill 5](#) (HB5), which addresses standardized testing, the Texas Senate has ruled in favor of the bill as well—adding a few modifications of their own.

The House version of the bill, headed by State Rep. [Jimmie Don Aycock](#) (R. Killeen), allowed the required number of End-of-Course exams to drop from 15 to five, which found approval among the Senate as well. Both the old and new version of the bill mandate testing in core subjects only.

"I have crafted this bill with the help of many, many people over a good deal of time. The emphasis of HB5 is about high school and getting kids ready for graduation, ready for jobs," Aycock said.

The Senate's version of the bill does not require all students to take Algebra II, a subject that has been considered a core item required for graduation. Instead, a student will have the option to opt out of taking higher-level math and sciences courses if they desire to choose a vocational training route. In addition, completion of four years of math and science will be required if a student desires to automatically qualify for admission into a university.

The Senate is also excited about this bill, as [Sen. Dan Patrick](#) (R. Houston), chairman of the Senate Education Committee noted: "We're talking about one of the most important pieces of legislation, not just this session, but in any session . . . I think it's going to give students the flexibility to follow their passion."

Though both chambers agree that the standardized testing process and options in place for students must change in order

to create a more successful path for students and future employees, there are still minor aspects of the bill that are not agreed upon. A conference committee has been appointed and will begin commencing to negotiate these differences beginning May 13th, 2013.

Read more about [House Bill 5](#) in the [news](#) or stay directly up-to-date on the [conference committee's progress](#).

## THECB Launches Compare College TX

On Wednesday, May 15, 2013, The [Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board](#) (THECB) Chairman [Fred W. Heldenfels IV](#) introduced a new tool designed to help the public easily compare colleges and universities across the state of Texas. [Compare College TX](#) is a web-based, mobile-friendly system that sorts data under institute name and by two- or four-year schools.



This interactive tool houses relevant data that spans a spectrum of areas:

- History of the school
- Top 5 degree programs
- Cost and financial data
- Student demographics and course load statistics
- Future earnings of graduates by degree level and major

## College Profile

 **Sam Houston State University**

**Total Enrollment:** 18,461  
**City:** Huntsville  
**Year Founded:** 1879  
**Website:** [www.shsu.edu](http://www.shsu.edu)  
**Accountability group:** Doctoral  
**Top five majors:** (degrees awarded)

1. Business, Management, Marketing, and Related Support Services (650)
2. Homeland Security, Law Enforcement, Firefighting and Related Protective Services (544)
3. Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies (368)
4. Visual and Performing Arts (169)
5. Psychology (167)

**Admission Information**  
**Costs**  
**Graduation & Transfer Rates**  
**Graduate Success**  
**About the Students**  
**About the Classes**  
**First Year Earnings**

[Go back to Find Colleges](#)

Compare College TX contains information gathered from the THECB's [Texas Higher Education Accountability System](#), which was launched in 2004 under a directive of Governor Rick Perry. It completes the final stage of the THECB's platform of online tools designed to help students, parents and teachers prepare for college in four ways: [inspiration](#), [exploration](#), [information](#), and [application](#).

For more information, view [Frequently Asked Questions](#) or visit the [site directly!](#)

## Professional Development Calendar

## Region 4

**June 11–12**  
Introduction to  
the Revised  
Mathematics  
TEKS  
Mathematics  
Grades 6–8  
8:30 a.m. – 3:30  
p.m.

**June 11–13**  
Algebra II EOC  
Success  
Mathematics  
Grade 10  
8:30 a.m. 3:30 p.m.

**June 20**  
Supporting  
STAAR  
Achievement  
Science  
Grade 3–11  
8:30 a.m. – 3:30  
p.m.

## Region 5

**June 1–June 30**  
Math for Humans:  
Teaching with 8  
Intelligences  
Mathematics  
All Grades  
Online Course

**June 6**  
Texas Statewide  
Network of  
Assessment  
Professionals  
All Areas  
All Levels  
1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

## Region 6

**June 11**  
STAAR  
Modified:  
A to Z  
All Areas  
Grades 3–11  
8:00 a.m. – 3 p.m.

**June 18–20**  
Science  
Academies  
Science  
K – 12  
9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

**June 26–27**  
CSCOPE 2013  
Conference  
All Areas  
9 – 12  
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Contact the Texas College and Career Readiness Network to submit an event or [spotlight activity](#) that promotes college readiness in Texas! It will be featured in the [TXCCRN calendar](#) for educators across Texas to see!

*Empowered for Success* is a monthly newsletter focused on college and career readiness in the Gulf Coast region.

The newsletter is made possible by a University of Houston grant from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Editor

Amy Williams, [aewilliams10@uh.edu](mailto:aewilliams10@uh.edu)

Contributing Editors

Jo Anne Davis-Jones, [jadavis-jones@central.uh.edu](mailto:jadavis-jones@central.uh.edu)

Chris Cheatham, [ccheatham@uh.edu](mailto:ccheatham@uh.edu)

Heidi Kennedy, [hkennedy@uh.edu](mailto:hkennedy@uh.edu)

[www.thecb.state.tx.us](http://www.thecb.state.tx.us)

[www.tea.state.tx.us](http://www.tea.state.tx.us)

STAY CONNECTED

