



1801 Martin Luther King Drive
Continuing Education Building, Suite 100
210-486-2406 (School Office)
Dr. Derrick Thomas

Dear St. Philip's ECHS Parents,

Just a few updates to take you through the closing of the first semester:

St. Philip's ECHS Holidays

November 25-29	Student holiday (college classes meet November 25-27 unless the professor cancels the class.)
December 17	Last day for the first semester
December 18-January 7	Student Holiday (change in spring calendar-updated calendar will be sent later this month)
January 8, 2020	School resumes for the 2 nd semester

Student Individual Pictures

November 8	Ninth-eleventh graders will take individual pictures. (Free dress) Twelfth graders will take their graduation formal pictures (Free dress)
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Senior High School graduation meeting with Jostens'

November 8	1:40 in the Sutton Learning Center room 115. Parents are invited to attend. Reminder....St. Philip's College will provide caps and gowns for all twelfth graders completing graduation requirements by December 2019. They will not provide invitations or announcements. Parents will need to purchase these.
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Eat Thanksgiving Lunch with your Child

November 21 (12:30-1:30)	We are inviting parents to bring their lunch and join your child for Thanksgiving luncheon at SPC. We have limited seating available. Please call Ms. Hernandez, FACE Specialist at 210-486-2680 or Ms. Rosa at 210-486-2406. Reservations will be taken until all spaces are filled.
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2019-20 Yearbook

The 2019-20 yearbook is on sale now. Purchase our hardcover yearbook for \$35.00. You may make your purchase through Lifetouch or make direct payment to Ms. Rosa in the front office.

Update on our In-District Charter Rewrite

As we shared at our parent meetings on October 8 and 9, St. Philip's College Early College High School is in the process of updating our in-district charter. This update will enhance and provide more resources for the great work happening in our school. I wanted to provide a summary of our work so far.

- During the 2014-15 school year, St. Philip's ECHS applied for and received an in-district charter through the San Antonio Independent School District. This charter allowed us to:
 - Accept students who did not reside in the SAISD.
 - Keep students who resided inside the SAISD but moved during the year
 - Provided us with the autonomy to do things such as develop our calendar and bell schedule to align with St. Philip's College
 - Provided us with extra funding to buy technology equipment and supplies needed to operate a new school.



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- We are in the sixth year of existence and have established a record of accomplishment; still we desire to grow. This fall we are going through the process of revising our in-district charter.
- In our new proposed in-district charter, we plan to keep items such as open enrollment, and the ability to align our bell schedules and calendar to St. Philip's College.
- Our ultimate desire is to create a strong and sustainable early college high school; thus, we are taking this opportunity to build upon our strengths and predict for our future continuation.
- One way to develop the type of school program we desire is to form a "network" of schools. These schools will come together to work smarter while at the same time; develop extra opportunities for students, parents and staff. With this in mind, St. Philip's Early College, Travis Early College and Fox Tech Magnet have come together to form a network. This network will connect three TEA "A" rated schools, and provide more resources and opportunities for students, parents and staff.
- To achieve this network model, we have been actively participating in training to increase our leadership skills, vision, and mission. Additionally, we meet weekly as sounding boards for each other in the charter writing process. Rest assured, we remain committed to keeping the uniqueness of St. Philip's College ECHS, as well as connect with other schools for resources and opportunities.
- As reported in the Express News, there is a possible partnership between the Alamo Community College District (ACCD) and SAISD. ACCD is already the higher education partner with St. Philip's ECHS, however this new partnership with the proposed network of schools would allow us to expand to offer additional programs, degrees, and supports for our students.
- This new partnership still needs approval by ACCD, SAISD Board, and TEA. If approved, we would form an 1882 Partnership. The 1882 Partnership would afford us more autonomy to make decisions based on our students and school, as stated above, it would provide more resources and supports. With such partnerships come heavy accountability, however we are up to the task
- So, as an 1882 Partnership School, will we still be a part of the SAISD? Definitely
 - All students, parents and faculty will still be a part of the SAISD,
 - All faculty will be employees of the SAISD and will receive the same benefits they currently do.
 - None of the benefits that students currently receive through SAISD will disappear. With the partnership, we can only enhance upon what we ~~is~~ currently offer.
- What will change then-
 - We will receive more autonomy, resources, and funding.
 - We will have the assurance that the programs will continue and sustained.
 - Our partner will be able to assist us more and be "boots" on the grounds as written in our charter.
 - A fellow educator at ACCD who will support our current program and help us enhance our partnership with St. Philip's College would also supervise the principal.

We want you to remain up-to-date with our in-district charter rewrite and changes. To do this, we have established a tab on our website, which will include all updates.

Our website: <https://schools.saisd.net/page/025.homepage>