

ODESSA COLLEGE



December 13, 2016

Ms. Shelly Ramos, Curriculum Division Director  
Texas Education Agency  
Curriculum Division  
1701 N. Congress  
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Ms. Ramos,

Odessa College is once again ecstatic to embark in its second year of partnership through the Early College High School (ECHS) model with Kermit Independent School District for the 2017-2018 academic year. Our collaborative partnership will offer Kermit ECHS students a variety of course offerings that will expand a set of both academic and career and technical education courses and programs.

By completing AVID-infused coursework at Odessa College, students are more likely to develop the academic, technical, and soft-skills that are essential for success in post-secondary institutions and employment agencies looking for high-quality, self-directed candidates demonstrating aptitude in the following areas: critical thinking and problem solving, communication, information literacy, and global awareness.

Our goal is to ensure that Kermit ECHS students not only graduate high school with a post-secondary credential, but seamlessly transition to the workforce or continue in higher education as we want them to be viable members of their community upon graduation. We believe that our students have a civic responsibility to return to their community in order to participate in its development. By providing the extensive and vital academic support – including the necessary resources to meet the growing needs of our students – we can promote a ‘pipeline of talent’ by which students re-invest in the community that invested so much in them. This will thus lead to indelible and priceless returns for our constituents.

We truly care about the life trajectory of each student we serve as we believe all students – regardless of race, creed, or socioeconomic status – deserve the opportunity to pursue an excellent education – and one we deliver upon at Odessa College.

Odessa College is one of the Top-10 community colleges in the nation as recognized by The Aspen Institute and is a Leader College in Achieving the Dream, a national network of excellence in higher education. We are the first and only college to achieve the prestigious Leader College distinction in West Texas, and we are most proud and thankful to provide our services to the students of Kermit Early College High School.

Sincerely,

John Paul Brennan  
Associate Dean of Dual Credit

