



The UNIVERSITY of TEXAS of the PERMIAN BASIN

4901 E. University
Odessa, TX 79762-0001
432-552-2100
Fax 432-552-2109

Office of the President

December 6, 2016

Ms. Stacy Avery
ECHS Program Manager
TEA, Office of State Initiatives
1701 North Congress Ave.
Austin, TX 78701

Dear Ms. Avery,

The University of Texas of the Permian Basin (UTPB) and Kermit Independent School District (ISD) are in our first year of Early College High School (ECHS) program implementation. UTPB offers Kermit ECHS students blended online/face-to-face instruction, Summer Bridge Camp, ongoing visits from university student mentors, and online tutorials via the Virtual Success Center. The university continues to seek out innovative practices and activities to enhance its ECHS partnership with Kermit.

UTPB is committed to providing substantial and critical academic support services to Kermit ECHS students. Our faculty and staff will host Kermit ISD students, faculty and staff during the academic year as well as the summer. We will work with Kermit to facilitate the six required campus visits to UTPB. During these visits students will receive academic advising, learn about campus life, utilize the library and receive instruction from their university professors.

The university has reduced tuition to nominal amounts for the Kermit ECHS students. An undergraduate three-hour course that usually costs \$812 for traditional university students will be set at \$200 per course, which is the guaranteed rate for the yearly designation period. Also, UTPB offers free Texas Success Initiative (TSI) testing in an effort to bridge the gap between secondary and postsecondary education by making college accessible to students while they are still in high school. The university is proud to offer Kermit ISD students an education at a reduced rate, and looks forward to another year of being in ECHS partnership with Kermit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "W. David Watts".

W. David Watts
President