

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

And

HARMONY SCIENCE ACADEMY – LAREDO

This Memorandum of Understanding is entered into, by, and between **Administrative Services** and **Harmony Science Academy – Laredo**.

WHEREAS, Administrative Services, a governmental organization within the Laredo community, and Harmony Science Academy – Laredo, a STEM AND/OR CTE school, desire to collaborate with each other to advance STEM AND/OR CTE teaching and learning opportunities for Texas students;

RECOGNIZING that the demand in STEM field jobs is growing at a larger rate than non-STEM field jobs;

RECOGNIZING that STEM/CTE literacy is vital to the well-being of the community and the academic progression of the United States;

RECOGNIZING that the Texas Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics blueprint calls for the collaboration between STEM academies and businesses;

EMPHASIZING that community partnerships can increase student opportunities and further help students hone important 21<sup>st</sup> century and life skills;

REAFFIRMING the fact that the objectives of the T-STEM initiative are to increase the number of students entering STEM/CTE education, and promote the quality of school leadership and teacher preparation;

BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That both parties agree to work together in a collaborative manner to promote STEM/CTE teaching and learning.
2. That both parties will work collaboratively to develop projects that increase student focus on STEM/CTE college majors and STEM/CTE careers.
3. That Administrative Services will be part of Harmony Science Academy-Laredo's T-STEM Advisory Board.
4. That Administrative Services is highly encouraged to attend the T-STEM Advisory Board meetings that will be held at least once a semester.

5. That Administrative Services will offer student learning opportunities, such as job shadowing, paid or unpaid internships, and/or field work experience.
6. That Harmony Science Academy-Laredo and Administrative Services will work together to work out the scheduling for the student learning opportunities that may become available for students.
7. That Harmony Science Academy-Laredo will provide Administrative Services students who are advanced in STEM/CTE areas for participation in student learning opportunities.
8. That Harmony Science Academy-Laredo will list any student learning opportunities provided by Administrative Services on the school's website to encourage students to participate.
9. That Administrative Services is encouraged to attend panel discussions, luncheons, career days, and other STEM/CTE related competition and events held by Harmony Science Academy-Laredo.
10. That Administrative Services is encouraged to help sponsor an event or events that Harmony Science Academy-Laredo might participate in. Sponsorship may be done through monetary donations, in-kind services, or any other venue that the organization deems appropriate.
11. That Harmony Science Academy-Laredo will recognize Administrative Services on the school website for their effort in assisting the school and promoting STEM/CTE.
12. That Harmony Science Academy-Laredo is encouraged to partner with Administrative Services by volunteering in community benefit oriented events that the organization might hold.

The parties may discuss and explore further collaboration, but any collaborative activities not explicitly delineated in this agreement shall be initiated by a separate written addendum between the parties, requiring signatures.

This Memorandum of Understanding is effective on the date it has been executed by both parties and shall remain in effect for two years from such date unless terminated earlier by either party, with at least thirty days prior notice to the other party.

Administrative Services

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Cynthia Mares, Director

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Harmony Science Academy - Laredo

By:  \_\_\_\_\_

Mustafa Ayik, Principal

Date: 10/9/2014