

From the Superintendent

As a result of the technology revolution, the world is becoming exponentially smaller in record time, resulting in a more culturally diverse and complex world in which we live. In 2015, both Texas and the U.S. look dependently upon the educational systems to prepare students who can compete globally for jobs and careers. As the need for higher educational attainment among constituents becomes imperative to future successes of this state and this nation, both public and higher educational systems are in the reinvention mode, as we learn how to work more collaboratively toward common student good in a P-20 model for Education. At Roscoe Collegiate, we embrace these challenges, as we strive to sharpen not only our collaboration skills, but our creative problem solving ability, at the same time. As a National Rural Model for an Early College/ STEM Academy, we pride ourselves in preparing very culturally and socio-economically diverse students to handle the rigorous demands of earning the Associate Degree while in high school here at Roscoe Collegiate. As a STEM Academy, we are preparing to go the extra mile to bring students real world relevance so vital for a strong foundation in critical work shortage fields involving science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). As an institution that adheres strongly to a research based lesson cycle, we require students to conduct their own investigations, draw their own insightful conclusions, and create their own persuasive analysis of many topics leading toward industry certification in high demand STEM fields related to the biomedical sciences and engineering.

With much assistance from our higher education and system partners, Roscoe Collegiate is intent on developing a strong and successful model for collaborative rural education in Texas and the U.S., that can be replicated by many of the over 700 school districts classified as rural in Texas, who currently serve over 800,000 of Texas' 5,000,000 and growing student population. The goal of this model is to prove that when structured correctly, all students, regardless of cultural, demographic, or socio-economic background, can become truly college and career ready, with the Associate Degree and Industry Recognized Certification in hand, upon completion of high school.

Operating collaboratively with Texas A&M AgriLife Research/Extension, Roscoe Collegiate is also home to the first school-wide 4H program in Texas, with a goal of developing students prepared to help provide solutions for the Five Grand Challenges established by the nation's land grant universities of feeding our world, protecting our environment, improving our health, enriching our youth, and growing our economy.

Early successes of the model include steady increases in graduates completing the Associate prior to graduation from high school. In our first year as an Early College, 2010, we had our first Associate Degreed graduate. In 2011, 52% of the graduating class earned the Associate Degree, followed by 58% in 2012, 73% in 2013, 89% in 2014, and 90% of the Class of 2015 and beyond. I am confident of the success of our system, our students, and our state, nation, and world.

Dr. Kim Alexander
Superintendent
Roscoe Collegiate ISD

