



SINTON HIGH SCHOOL

Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics STEM Academy

APPLICATION FOR ENROLLMENT

STUDENT INFORMATION

Name of Student: _____

(As shown on birth certificate) Last

First

Middle

Date of Birth: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____ Gender: M F

Ethnicity*: African-American American Indian/Alaskan Asian/Pacific Islander Hispanic White Other

*The information is requested in accordance with the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) and federal regulations.

SISD ID# (if applicable): _____

School Currently Attending: _____ Current Grade Level: _____

STEM area of interest: _____

College or Career Goal: _____

PARENT INFORMATION

With whom does student live as a permanent resident? Both Parents Mother Father Other Address:

Street Address

City State Zip

Home Phone: (_____) _____ Email: _____

Father/Guardian Name: _____ Mother/Guardian Name: _____

Father/Guardian Business Phone: (_____) _____ Mother/Guardian Business Phone: (_____) _____

Father/Guardian Cell Phone: (_____) _____ Mother/Guardian Cell Phone: (_____) _____

SIGNATURES AND AGREEMENT

I understand that if I am accepted in the Sinton High School STEM Academy, I must follow all Academy rules and guidelines. I agree to actively participate in events sponsored by the Academy.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

As the Parent/Guardian, I certify that my child has my permission to participate in the Sinton High School STEM Academy. I understand that acceptance to the Academy is based on a lottery system and that submission of the application does not guarantee admission to the Academy.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:



SINTON HIGH SCHOOL

Science, Technology,
Engineering & Mathematics

STEM Academy

APPLICATION/SELECTION PROCESS

Thank you for your interest in the Sinton High School Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM) Academy opening for the Fall 2010 school year.

PURPOSE

The Sinton High School STEM Academy will offer students the opportunity to focus on a science, technology, engineering and math course content that is integrated within all core subject areas. This curriculum will be rigorous, innovative and college-focused with instruction on inquiry, problem-solving, decision making, discovery and project-based learning.

The STEM Academy will be a school-within-a-school where academy students will reside in distinctive sections of the campus, allowing for the development of a school culture which expresses the uniqueness of the Academy program and the curriculum being offered. The structure of the STEM Academy will be purposefully designed to retain students in the program. The high degree of interactive involvement, the energized environment of the classroom, and the small school setting with quality relationships between students and teachers will create an environment for success.

APPLICATION PROCESS

- Complete the Application Form. SISD transfer policy allows non-district students an opportunity to attend Sinton schools, applications will be accepted from both district and out-of-district residents. Out-of-district students must also complete the SISD transfer paperwork, which is available at the SISD Administration Building.

Applications are available from:

- SISD Administrative Office – 322 S Archer St. Sinton, TX 78387
- Dana Allen, STEM Academy Principal, Sinton High School – (361)364-6695

Applications for the Sinton High School 9th Grade STEM Academy will be due April 23rd, 2010. Completed applications should be returned to Dana Allen at Sinton HS or SISD Administration.

SELECTION/NOTIFICATION PROCESS

Enrollment for the STEM Academy will be approximately 100 9th grade students. Students will be randomly selected through a lottery system. Notification of selection status for the STEM Academy will be no later than Monday, May 3, 2010.

For additional information, contact Dana Allen at (361)364-6695 or dallen@sintonisd.net.



SINTON HIGH SCHOOL

Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics STEM Academy

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the STEM Academy? What is its purpose?

STEM education focuses on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. The STEM Academy is a small learning community made up of approximately 100 students per grade level. It operates as a school-within-a-school on the Sinton High School campus. The STEM Academy offers students a rigorous, well-rounded education with outstanding instruction that integrates technology across the curriculum. The purpose of the STEM Academy is to increase student achievement, while creating a new workforce of problem solvers, innovators, and inventors who are self-reliant and able to think logically.

How may my child participate in the STEM Academy?

Students who are interested in participating in the STEM Academy must first submit an application to Louis Hicks, Counselor at SMITH Middle School, or Dana Allen, Sinton STEM Principal at Sinton High School. Student selection in the Academy will be made through a lottery system.

How does the lottery system work?

Students will be chosen for the Academy through a lottery, a random drawing using stratified sampling. The stratified sampling will ensure that the Academy will represent the demographic make-up of Sinton High School.

My child doesn't live in the Sinton ISD. Will he/she be able to participate in the STEM Academy?

Students who are not enrolled in Sinton ISD may apply to attend the STEM Academy. If non-enrolled students are accepted into the Academy, they then will need to complete the SISD enrollment process. Applications for non-enrolled students are available through Dana Allen at Sinton High School or at the Sinton ISD Administrative Building (322 S Archer St. Sinton, TX).

How will the STEM Academy grow?

Initially, the Academy will serve students in grades 6 and 9 and will grow to serve students in grades 6 – 12 by the 2013 – 2014 academic year.

If my child applies and is accepted into the STEM Academy, will he/she need to re-apply each year in order to stay in the Academy?

Once a student is chosen by lottery to participate in the academy, that student will have the choice to remain in the academy throughout high school. He/she will not be required to reapply each year.

What are the benefits of my child being in the STEM Academy?

Many students enter college without the math or science background to be successful. The STEM Academy will focus on college readiness standards and promote the critical thinking skills necessary to empower your child to be successful in a fast-paced, technological world.

The STEM Academy will offer a personalized education that focuses on innovation, student leadership and technological skills.

What courses will my child be required to take as a member of the STEM Academy?

In the four years of high school, students in the STEM Academy will be able to choose from regular level, Pre-Advanced Placement, Advanced Placement, and Dual Credit courses in a variety of subject areas. STEM students will be required to take one technology course that focuses on engineering principles and the design process. STEM students will also be required to take a STEM related elective each year within their 4 year program of study.

Will my child be able to participate in elective courses and athletics?

Students will be able to participate in a variety of elective classes, including band and other fine arts, athletics, and career and technology courses.

How will teaching and learning be different in the STEM Academy?

The primary model for instruction in the STEM academy will be indirect instruction. Inquiry, induction, problem-solving, decision making, and discovery are terms that are sometimes used to describe indirect instruction. Instruction will be student-centered, seeking a high level of student involvement in observing, investigating, drawing inferences from data, and forming hypotheses. Teaching and learning strategies will challenge students to innovate and invent. The design process will drive student engagement. STEM content will be integrated into other subject areas.

What are important STEM Academy dates?

- **STEM Information Meeting (for all interested students & parents/guardians) – Thursday, April 15, 2010 SHS Auditorium**
- **Application Deadline – Friday, April 23rd, 2010**
- **Student Notification of Selection Status – Monday, May 3, 2010**