

Matt Underwood

Superintendent
Stephenville ISD
254/968-7990
254/968-5942 -Fax



"Developing the Potential of Every Student, Every Day"

From: Casey Thompson <cdthompson@tarleton.edu>

To all Board Members: We invite you to participate in an exciting campus opportunity and serve as a policy Consultant for student-centered discussion during the Tarleton State Town Hall Meeting. This special event is on Monday, October 30 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Consultants are integral to the Town Hall process. As a Consultant, you will serve as a topic specific expert in a conversation about policy issues and solutions. The purpose of the Town Hall Meeting is to foster student engagement with current policy issues. Consultants are present to encourage a student-centered discussion and contribute expertise to the conversation. Students will be very excited about the opportunity to discuss issues with people who have real policy knowledge and experience. The topics this semester are: Federal – Immigration, Civil Rights, Environmental Policy, Healthcare Policy, Second Amendment, Education Policy, and Foreign Policy State – Job/Employment, Health/Human Services, Education, Criminal Justice, Transportation, Energy/Environment, and Local Government. The purpose of the program is to help students understand their policy issues, the role of government related to the issues, and current challenges. The program encourages students to address issues of importance to them, and gives them the tools to be a more engaged member of society. Through a series of course assignments, 600 students study an important policy issue by conducting research on the current status of the policy issue, determining the range of options and solutions (with documented support), and developing a plan of action (governmental or otherwise) to accomplish the goal of change. At the Town Hall Meeting, the students will meet in smaller issue specific breakout sessions of 20 students with a Consultant and a Moderator. Each student will present a brief (a few sentences) policy problem. The Moderator and the Consultant will guide the session, prompting the students to reflect on the issues presented and ask questions to enhance and refine their knowledge of the issue. The role of the Consultant is to provide real-world expertise on the issue, to clarify key elements, and to help students understand the role of government and the real challenges related to their issues so that they can develop action plans. These action plans will be discussed and presented at a roundtable session following the breakouts, thus the role of the Consultant is critical in preparing students with the issue knowledge and understanding they need. Each student will also submit a report at the end of the course for a major grade. If you would be interested in working with us on this exciting endeavor, please contact Mr. Casey D. Thompson at cdthompson@tarleton.edu or at 254-496-1698. Please be aware that our campus is growing and the construction does create some parking and accessibility challenges. Please wear walking-friendly shoes and if you need assistance with parking, please let us know ahead of time. There will be a reception before the event with snacks and drinks to allow us an opportunity to thank you for your time and provide detailed instructions. We look forward to working with you.