

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
BEEVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Date: December 18, 2007**

**Subject: ACHIEVE Texas College and Career Redesign Grant for Welding**      **Submitted By: Nancy Jones**  
**Related Pages: None**

**CONSENT**

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

**ACHIEVE Texas College and Career Redesign Grant—Welding**

Beeville ISD and AC Jones were awarded a \$50,000 grant during the summer of 2007. The activities associated with the grant must be completed by July 31, 2008. The grant was specifically awarded to the welding program, which falls into the manufacturing career cluster.

The purpose of the AchieveTexas College and Career Redesign grant is to increase student achievement by engaging and exposing students to innovative academic and career and technical education instruction while simultaneously acting as demonstration sites to improving teaching and learning statewide. To that end, every school or charter school will: provide a rigorous, well-rounded education; establish a personalized culture with the expectation that students will achieve secondary and postsecondary success; and provide teacher and leadership development.

The goals of the AchieveTexas College and Career Redesign Grant are to:

- 1) Support the development of implementation models for the AchieveTexas College and Career Initiative that will enhance the transformation of teaching methods, teacher preparation, and align high school, postsecondary education, and economic development activities across the 16 career clusters and the broader high school curriculum;
- 2) Establish AchieveTexas College and Career Redesign schools in areas of high need across the state that will produce Texas high school graduates from diverse backgrounds with the preparation to pursue careers in high demand, high wage, high skill fields; and
- 3) Establish a statewide best practices network for AchieveTexas education to promote broad dissemination and adoption of promising practices from the initiative and to improve academic and career and technical education performance for students across Texas.

With the funds from the grant we have already obtained or are in the process of attaining the following:

- Outside evaluator and grant writer
- SENSE (Schools Excelling through National Skills Standards Education) is a set of welding standard guidelines originally published in 1995 and 1996 through grants received from the US Department of Education. The SENSE guidelines define three levels of knowledge and skills required in the workplace. Individuals trained with the SENSE guidelines are the Entry Welder, Advanced Welder and Expert Welder. With the grant funds, certification for the teacher was acquired so that he can award these levels of expertise to the AC Jones students who complete the program.
- Supplies and materials from B&T Welding and Alamo Iron Works—These materials are advanced and upgraded from what the welding classroom already has and will help with employability for the students who complete the program.

An amendment has been filed with TEA for additional activities for the grant which include:

- Contracted services—Enhancement to the electrical wiring is needed in the welding classroom to meet the requirements of, and to use effectively, the new, upgraded equipment being purchased through the grant. The equipment links to the objectives of the grant because it is the latest equipment used in the field and what students would use in employment. Also, additional ventilation is needed, so a contractor would be hired to complete an additional garage door to increase the air flow to the welding classroom.
- Supplies—Additional welding equipment is needed to meet the needs of the grant and the program, and the continuing increase in enrollment in the welding classes. This equipment is the most advanced in the field and will help the students, because it is used by employers.
- Student travel—The grant requests student travel expenses for a field experience to the Port Industries of Corpus Christi and/or other local refineries and employers, where welding is used in a variety of ways. The travel funds would be needed for bus transportation, student meals, and any fees associated with the field experience. Student meals are needed for safety reasons to keep the students together during the field experience. This student experience will give insight into careers and will follow the subject matter. Documentation of the curriculum will be found in the teachers' lesson plans for the field experience. Substitutes are needed to cover teacher/sponsors for the field experience.

### **ITEMS ADDRESSED:**

ACHIEVE Texas College and Career Redesign Grant—Welding

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Approval of ACHIEVE Texas College and Career Redesign Grant—Welding and  
Amendment to grant

**BUDGETARY INFORMATION:**

\$50,000 grant