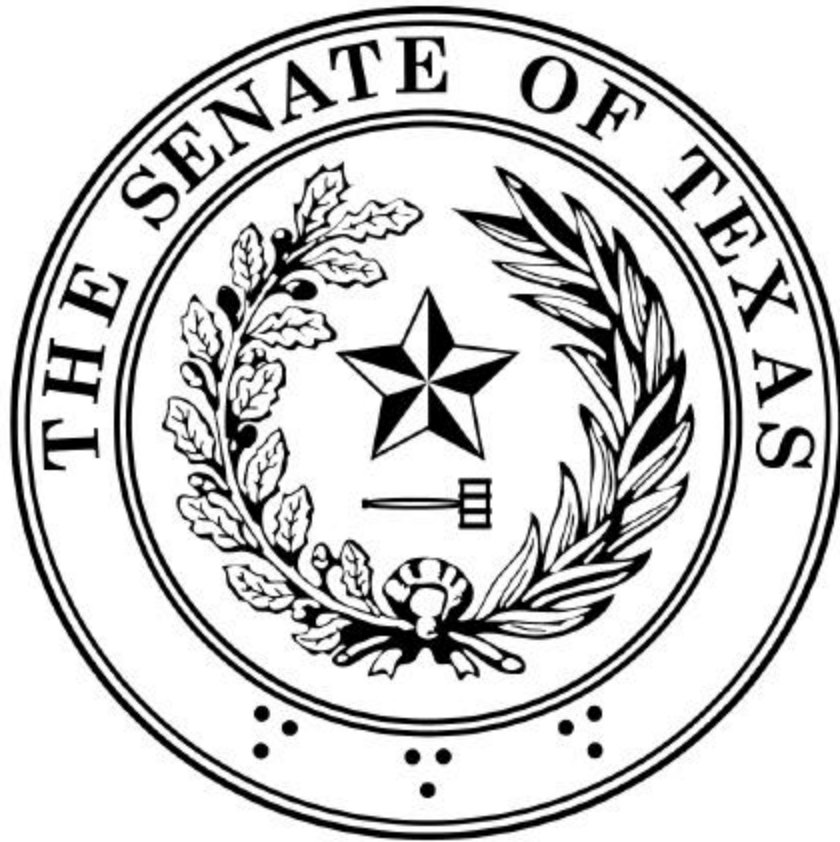


SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION



ADDENDUM

**Report to the 82nd Legislature
December 2010**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

SENATOR FLORENCE SHAPIRO

Chair
SENATOR DAN PATRICK
Vice Chair



MEMBERS:
SENATOR WENDY DAVIS
SENATOR MARIO GALLEGOS
SENATOR STEVE OGDEN
SENATOR KEL SELIGER
SENATOR LETICIA VAN de PUTTE
SENATOR ROYCE WEST
SENATOR TOMMY WILLIAMS

December 2010

The Honorable David Dewhurst
Lieutenant Governor of the State of Texas
Members of the Texas Senate
P.O. Box 12068
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Governor Dewhurst and Members of the Texas Senate:

The Senate Committee on Education is pleased to submit its final interim report with recommendations for consideration by the 82nd Legislature in preparation for the regular session.

Respectfully submitted,

Handwritten signature of Florence Shapiro in black ink.

Senator Florence Shapiro, Chair

Handwritten signature of Dan Patrick in black ink.

Senator Dan Patrick, Vice Chair

Handwritten signature of Wendy Davis in black ink.

Senator Wendy Davis

Handwritten signature of Mario Gallegos in black ink.

Senator Mario Gallegos

Handwritten signature of Steve Ogden in black ink.

Senator Steve Ogden

Handwritten signature of Kel Seliger in black ink.

Senator Kel Seliger

Handwritten signature of Leticia Van de Putte in blue ink.

Senator Leticia Van de Putte

Handwritten signature of Royce West in black ink.

Senator Royce West

Handwritten signature of Tommy Williams in black ink.

Senator Tommy Williams

CHARGE TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
Joint charge with Senate Committee on Higher Education



7. Review dual credit courses including the cost of delivery, funding mechanisms, and possibility of a statewide dual credit system. This review should also include an examination of the rigor, quality and consistency of dual credit courses.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Senate Higher Education and Senate Education Committees make the following recommendations regarding dual credit to the 82nd Legislature:

- 1) Require the Higher Education Coordinating Board in conjunction with higher education institutions to crosswalk dual credit courses with high school courses to develop a course credit equivalency matrix.
- 2) Require the Higher Education Coordinating Board to complete content standard reviews of core higher education courses offered as dual credit.
- 3) Require the Higher Education Coordinating Board to study students' progress from dual credit courses through upper level courses to determine whether satisfactory completion of the course offered in that particular setting translates to future success in higher education.
- 4) Require the Higher Education Coordinating Board to develop a statewide audit system that links courses offered by various institutions across the state to expedite and illuminate credit transfers between institutions.
- 5) Encourage all students enrolling in a dual credit course to participate in student orientation at the college.
- 6) The Higher Education Coordinating Board should ensure that credit earned through dual credit, including Early College High School, do not impact negatively a student's opportunity to qualify for B-on-Time, TEXAS Grant or the Tuition Rebate Program.
- 7) Require colleges and universities offering the dual credit course to provide the same academic services to dual credit students as they do to undergraduate students.
- 8) The Texas Education Agency and the Higher Education Coordinating Board should place on their respective websites examples of "best memoranda of understanding" between school districts and colleges and universities.

- 9) The Legislature, the Texas Education Agency and the Higher Education Coordinating Board should encourage all textbooks used in dual credit courses to be offered through open source materials.
- 10) Specifically authorize universities to put courses on the Virtual School Network.
- 11) Specifically authorize students to take any authorized subject matter course from any provider on the Virtual School Network regardless of what region the student resides.
- 12) The Texas Education Agency shall, by May, 2013, end the practice of providing waivers to school districts that do not provide a minimum of 12 hours of college credit.
- 13) The Legislature should consider not funding Average Daily Attendance for dual credit and instead fund Semester Credit Hours or Semester Contact Hours. The providing institution and school district are expected to come to an agreement concerning cost sharing when a qualified high school teacher teaches a dual credit course on a high school campus.
- 14) Texas should encourage, whenever possible, that students taking dual credit courses do so on a college campus, with college faculty, using college syllabi, assignments and exams. If a dual credit course is taught by a high school teacher, the teacher must first successfully complete a professional development course developed by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board in conjunction with institutions of higher education.
- 15) The Texas Education Code should be amended to require the Texas Education Agency and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to develop a methodology, to be effective by July 1, 2013, for incorporating dual credit courses, that replace courses subject to end of course exams, into the state's K-12 accountability system.