



Texas College Access Network (TxCAN)

North Texas Kick-Off

November 8, 2011



Goals for today's meeting

- Provide a brief history and overview of THSP and the development of TxCAN
- Discuss the key goals for the TxCAN North Texas pilot with our diverse group of college access stakeholders
- Serve as the first networking opportunity for TxCAN participants
- Review plans and next steps for TxCAN North Texas Pilot

Agenda

- **Welcome & Introductions**
- Texas High School Project Overview & TxCAN development
- National College Access Network Introduction
- TxCAN North Texas Goals & Strategic Areas of Focus
- Pilot Subcommittee's Workgroup Activity
- Next Steps

Our Mission

To significantly improve the postsecondary readiness of low-income students with a focus on students in low performing schools

The Texas High School Project develops practical insights and proven solutions that can be scaled in schools and districts throughout Texas based on our evidence and data analysis across the transition from middle school (8-9) through high school (9-12) and into postsecondary programs (four-year, two-year, and technical programs).



Stakeholders in the \$375M Public-Private Alliance

Working with district leaders responsible for over 40% of the state's student population:

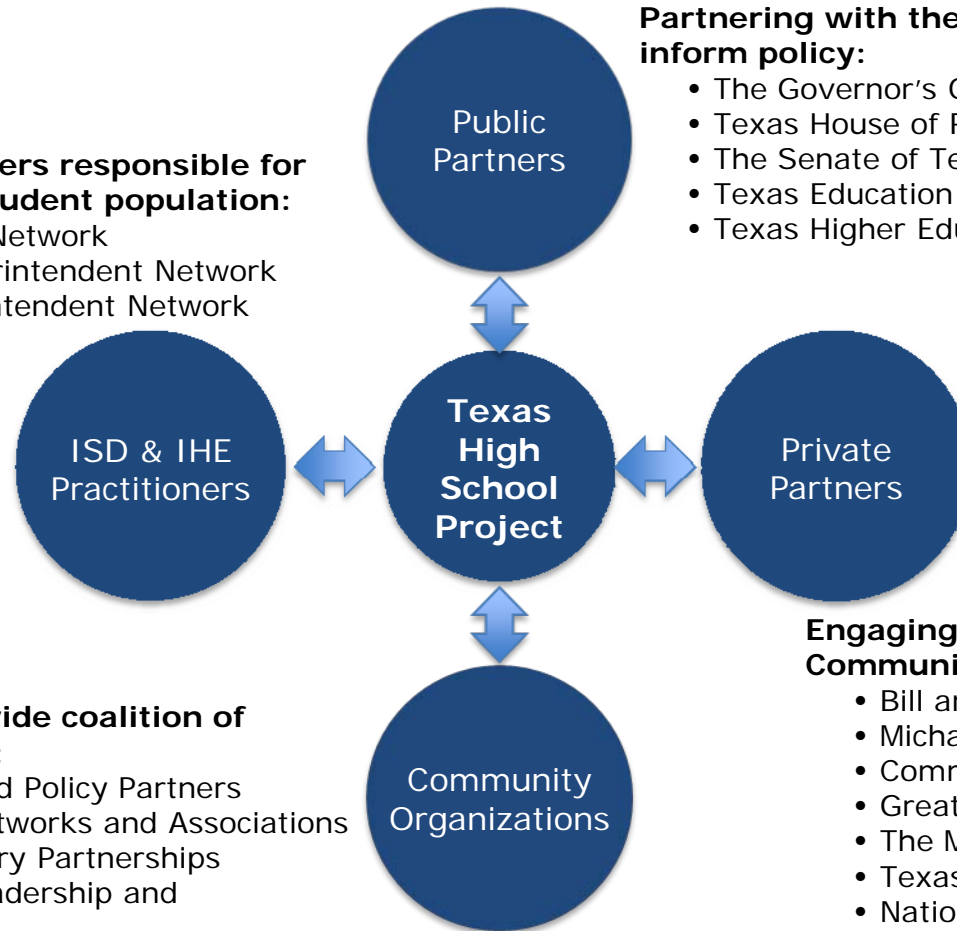
- Big 10 Superintendent Network
- Rio Grande Valley Superintendent Network
- Small and Rural Superintendent Network
- TASA Visioning Institute

Supporting both 2 and 4 year IHE Leaders

- Complete College America
- Achieving the Dream
- Completion by Design

Creating statewide coalition of interest groups:

- Research and Policy Partners
- Educator Networks and Associations
- Postsecondary Partnerships
- Business Leadership and Associations
- Community Outreach Network
- Civil Rights organizations



Partnering with the State's Leadership to inform policy:

- The Governor's Office
- Texas House of Representatives
- The Senate of Texas
- Texas Education Agency
- Texas Higher Education Agency

Engaging the Philanthropic Community

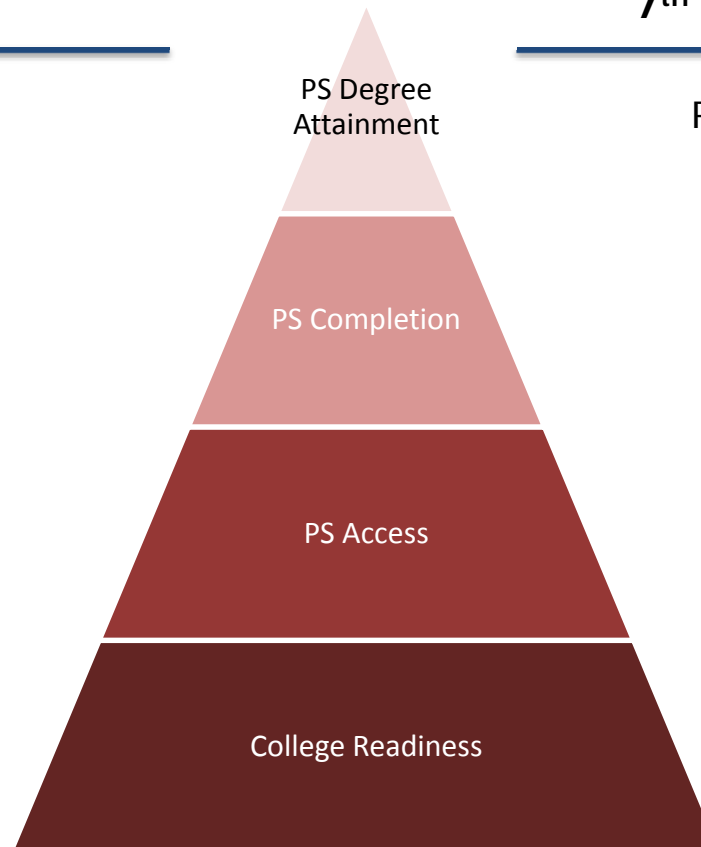
- Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
- Michael and Susan Dell Foundation
- Communities Foundation of Texas
- Greater Texas Foundation
- The Meadows Foundation
- Texas Instruments
- National Instruments

*What led us
to start this work?
Let's see the numbers...*

Need to Accelerate Impact to Achieve National Goals

National Goals

- 60% of population obtains high-quality postsecondary credentials
- 75% of students graduate within 150% of Time
- 90% of students are financially and socially prepared to enter IHEs
- 90% of students are prepared academically for life beyond high school



7th Grade Cohort in Texas

Resulting in 18% of Students with a PS Credential

=

Only 32% Complete PS within 150% of Time

X

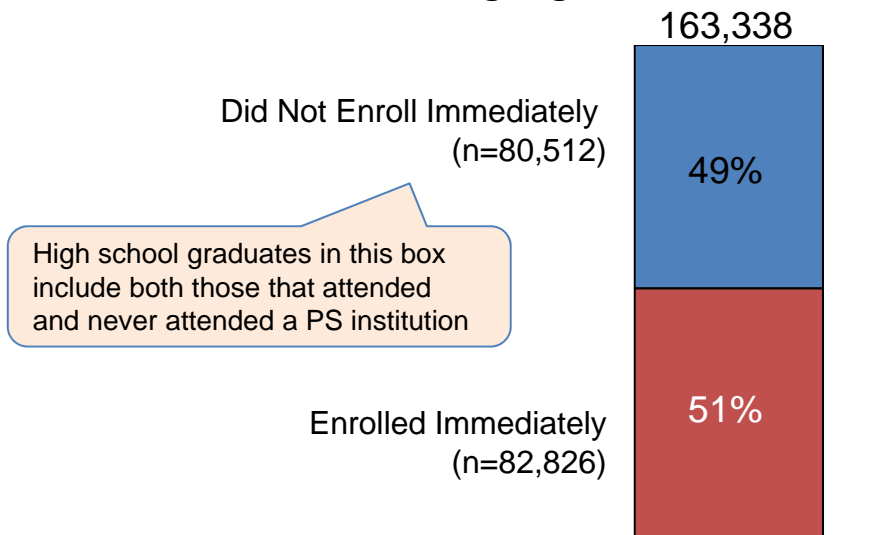
82% Enter IHEs

X

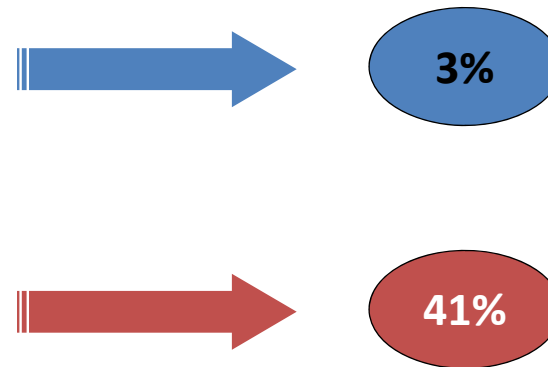
Start with 68% Who Graduate from high school

49% of HS Graduates Do Not Go Directly Into College, Translating to a Low Probability of Graduating College

Status of Postsecondary Enrollment After Graduating High School¹



Probability of Completing Higher Education in 6 Years



Students enrolling in postsecondary education immediately after graduating high school are 14 times more likely to complete a degree than those who did not

Note: (1) 'n' refers to total number of students for that status of enrollment after graduating from high school

Source: THECB data on public high school graduates who earned a degree or certificate in a two-year or four-year institution within six years of high school graduation, for FY 2001, 2002, & 2003

So what do we do?

Fortunately, there are many organizations committed to improved PS outcomes...

- **More than 1,600 organizations statewide supporting college access¹**
 - K-12 Schools
 - Colleges and universities
 - College access and success orgs
 - Indirect service providers

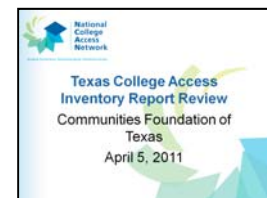
- **Coupled with the work of other key stakeholders**
 - State Agencies (TEA, THECB)
 - Texas Legislature
 - Governor's Office
 - Philanthropic Organizations
 - Community and Business Groups
 - Civil Rights Groups

.. But the research validates the need to align local efforts

- **45% of TX college access organizations are not aware of each other's activities**

- **Only 60% said college access programs are aligned across Texas**
 - 43% said somewhat aligned, 16% said very aligned

- **90% of organizations agreed their organization could benefit from a network**



Texas College Access Network Overview and Goals

Texas is a National College Access Network (NCAN) grant recipient and is developing the Texas College Access Network (TxCAN)



THSP and its public-private partnership will work together to:

- Establish a sustainable Texas network of agencies and organizations designed to increase student access and success in post-secondary education
- Create a platform for aligning national, state and local organizations activities and core competencies

NCAN Introduction – Carrie Warick



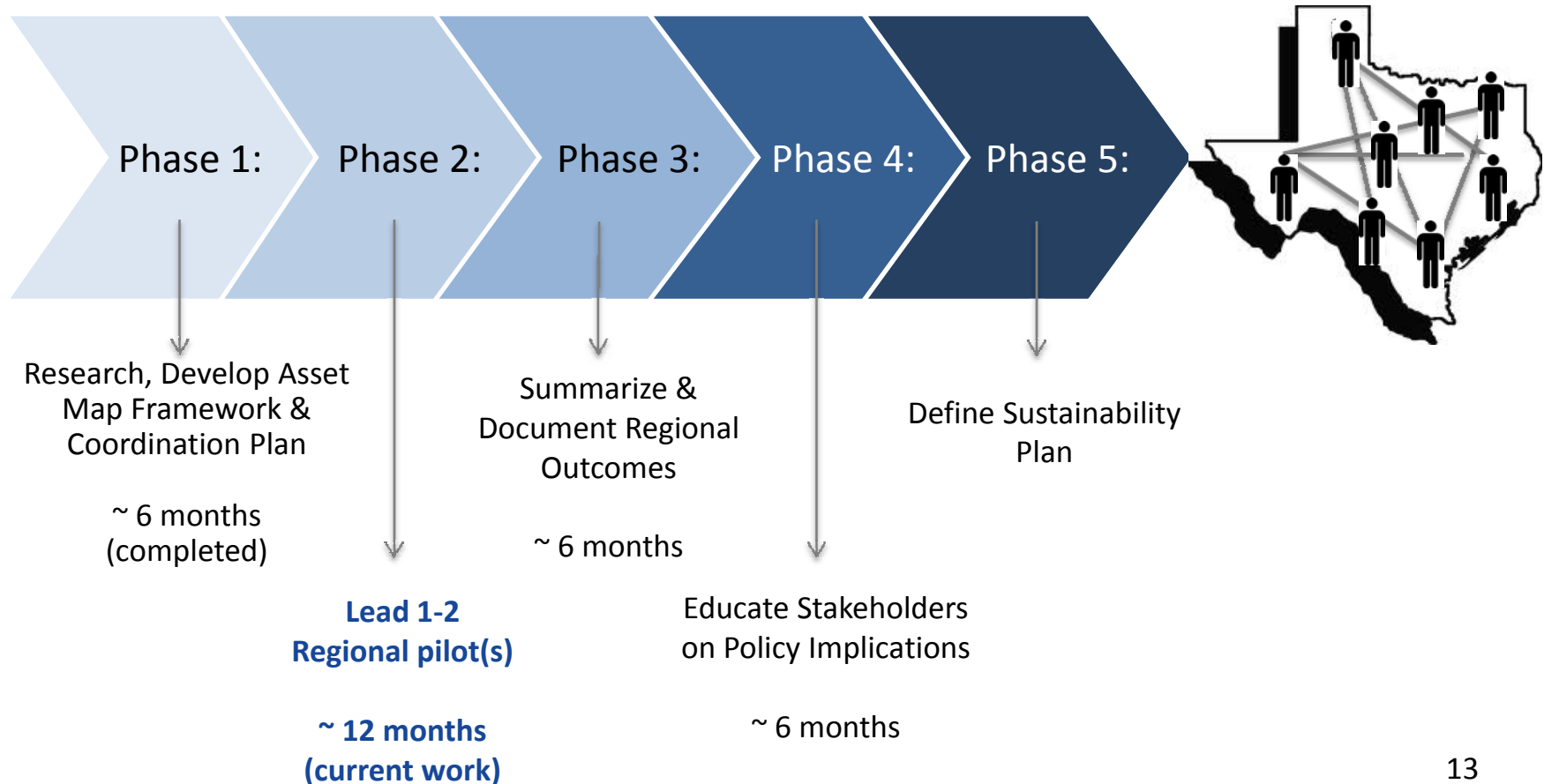
**National
College
Access
Network**

Building Connections. Advancing Equity. Promoting Success.

THSP and its partnership seeks to establish a sustainable network of Texas college access stakeholders

- Our primary goal for TxCAN is to **increase access to postsecondary opportunities** for students in Texas.
 - We recognize postsecondary retention and success are the ultimate goal, but will primarily focus on access as the building block to postsecondary success.
- TxCAN will integrate multiple long-term strategies to support the primary goal of increased access including:
 - Collaborate, partner and network with community, government, business and others
 - Champion the cause of college access
 - Become a clearinghouse and disseminator for information
 - Support and improve resource and staff development including sharing best practices

Overview of TxCAN key activities and timeline



*How will joining
TxCAN help your
organization?*

Benefits to participating in TxCAN

- ✓ Increased awareness and promotion of effective college access models and services
- ✓ Access to high quality thought partners that can provide information such as college access data, best practice sharing and staff development/ training opportunities
- ✓ Tools and strategies to align college access data with consistent metrics
- ✓ Unified voice to advocate for improved college access supports and resources

THSP identified three strategic areas of focus for TxCAN

- **Awareness:**

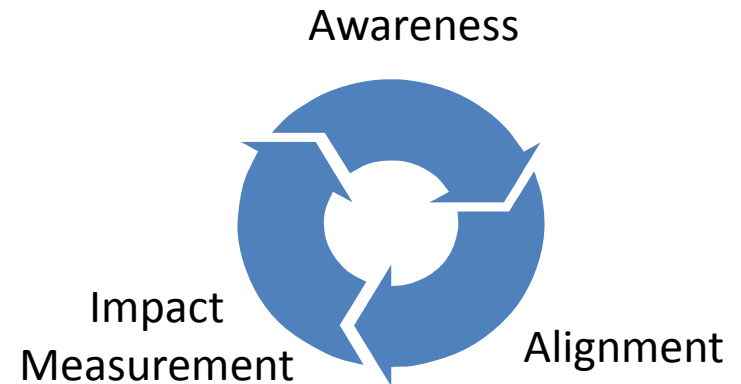
- *Who is doing what in college access and how can we better inform students of the available resources?*

- **Alignment:**

- *How can we work together to achieve better outcomes?*

- **Impact Measurement:**

- *How do we know if what we're doing in college access is working?*



Awareness: key goals and activities

“We are all puzzle pieces close to each other, we just need something to connect us and lock us into the overall puzzle picture.” ~ *High School Principal*

Purpose / Description

1

Create Asset Map

- Develop a sustainable process for tracking college access services
- Build awareness of services available to students in each region

2

Maintain Communication

- Develop network-wide strategy to ensure consistent and relevant information is communicated across partners

Awareness: Example of longer term asset map

Region

School District

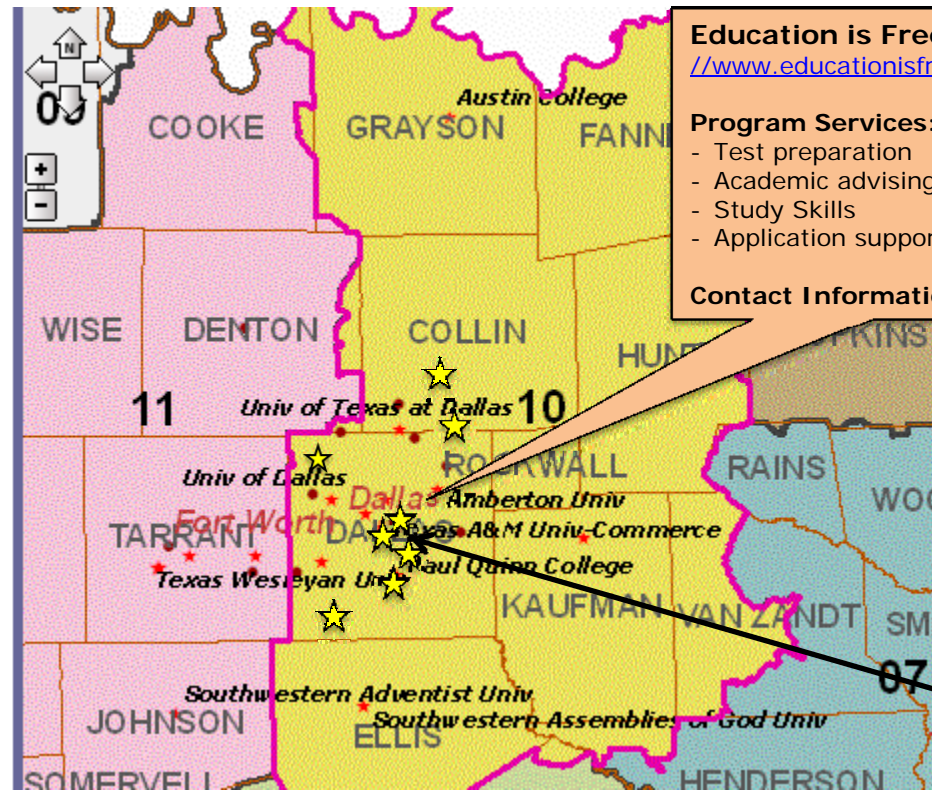
School

Service Provided

Grade/Age

Target Population

Time of Day Services Provided



Education is Freedom
[//www.educationisfreedom.org](http://www.educationisfreedom.org)

Program Services:

- Test preparation
- Academic advising
- Study Skills
- Application support

Contact Information:

Scroll over map to get organization information

Alignment: key goals and activities

“We need to develop common performance standards, common data, and uniform practices across all college access providers.” ~ *College Access Service Provider*

Purpose / Description

Convene key stakeholders

- Provide forum for all college access stakeholders to convene on a quarterly basis
- Discuss key issues and opportunities for collaboration

3

Disseminate best practices

- Identify strong practices that can be shared across the group, particularly among counselors
- Create tools that allow them to continually refine and improve services

4

Support Staff Development

- Identify and provide training opportunities for counselors and advisors

Impact Measurement: key goals and activities

“If we have better data systems tracking outcomes, we can make more real-time interventions.” ~ *College Access Service Provider*

Purpose / Description

5

Develop
College Access
service
database

- Identify online portal/ tool to track all student services and interventions consistently
- Enable data capture and reporting that is accessible to service providers, students, counselors, parents, teachers, etc.
- Create link to IHE’s for students to ensure greater dialogue and visibility into PS options

6

Create College
Access
Dashboard

- Develop a user-friendly snapshot of student’s performance
- Provide transparent information that enables self-direction from student and clear needs assessment for student’s advisors

Impact Measurement: Example of student dashboard



EXAMPLE Profile/ Dashboard

Name: _____ Date: _____

Status: Strong On-track Needs support

1.) Academic Success

	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Overall/ Total	Target
GPA	2.3	2.4	3.0	3.1	2.7	3.0
Credit accumulation	-	4	8	8	20.0	16.0
Completion of Alg I			X		Complete	
Completion of Alg II					Not Compl	
On track to graduate HS credits					Not Compl	
Attendance					Not Compl	

3.) College application submission and response

	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Overall/ Total	Target
# of Colleges reviewed/researched	1	3	3		7	10
# of Applications submitted			2		2	4
# of Acceptances					-	2
Intended enrollment					Not Compl	

2.) Preparation for and success on college exams

	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Overall/ Total	Target
Completion of prep course					Not Compl	
PSAT Score		1200			1200	1000
SAT Score					Not Compl	1000
ACT Score					Not Compl	1000
Accuplacer					Not Compl	

4.) Financial aid and scholarships

	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Overall/ Total	Target
FAFSA information/training			1		1	2
FAFSA submission			X		Complete	
Scholarships info/training			1		1	2
# of Scholarship applications			1		1	5
Budget calculations			X		Complete	
Student loan			X		Complete	
\$ Scholarships received			X		Complete	

Group Activity

How will this work?

- Three teams, rotating exercise
- 5 min at each station

What are we doing?

- Identifying existing **RESOURCES & CHALLENGES** for each strategy/ activity

What will this be used for?

- Help sub-committees launch their work
- Ensure TxCAN activities are focused on highest priority needs for our partners

Summary of break-outs

Other discussion items

- Sub-committees
 - Please identify preferred area of interest (awareness, alignment, impact measurement)
- Future full network meetings
 - Preferred dates/ times?
 - Are there other organizations to include?

Next Steps

- Agree on key measures of success for TxCAN North Texas pilot
 - Gather baseline data on impact of TxCAN
- Identify other key stakeholders available and interested in serving on committees
- Finalize plans for regular convenings with key stakeholders
- Get your feedback on draft asset map of college access service providers and start gathering data

We greatly appreciate your input on this process

We want your feedback!!

*What was most helpful about
this meeting?*

*What could have improved this
meeting?*

For more information:

Texas High School Project (THSP)

- Information on our programs and state portfolio
- Visit website: www.thsp.org
- Copies of this presentation will be posted in the News and Media section of our website

Texas College Access Network (TCAN)

- Questions related specifically to the Texas College Access Network
 - Alejandra Barbosa
THSP Operations and Program Manager
 - Email: abarbosa@cftexas.org
 - Office: (214) 750-4137
 - Alma Garcia
THSP Learning Systems Program Officer
 - Email: agarcia@cftexas.org
 - Office: (214) 750-4104

Please join us for the press announcement next door!

Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings
UNT-Dallas President Dr. John Price
Richardson ISD Board President Kim Quirk
Lancaster ISD Superintendent Michael McFarland
Uplift Education CEO Yasmin Bhatia
Communities Foundation of Texas Executive Director Brent Christopher
Texas High School Project Chief Operating Officer George Tang

Appendix: Measures of Success

- How will we define success for each of the key initiatives?
 - Student metrics (will determine student dashboard) for example:
 - # of Apply TX completed
 - # of FAFSA completed
 - Scholarship \$ awarded
 - # of college campus visits
- How will we define success for the network itself?
 - Member/partner metrics for example:
 - # of convenings
 - # of organizations participating in network convenings
 - # of students reached through collective efforts