Texas State University: Leader in Teacher Education

A presentation to the Education Committee of the Texas Senate
Background, History and Scope

- For almost 110 years, a central mission of Texas State is to prepare teachers

- Texas State prepares more teachers than any other University-based program in Texas: 850-1000 per year

- Our teachers are employed throughout the State, but primarily in Central Texas, Dallas-Fort Worth, and Houston

- Texas State teachers teach approximately 78,534 students during their first 3 years of teaching*

*Based on preliminary data from the Project on Educator Effectiveness & Quality, 2012
Distribution of Texas State Beginning Teachers (Years 1-3)

Based on preliminary data from the Project on Educator Effectiveness & Quality, 2012

Representation of the number of beginning teachers from your EPP at a single campus in Texas
Field Experience: The Hallmark of the Texas State Teacher Education Program

- Texas State teacher education candidates experience a real-world school setting beginning in their junior year

- Courses are taught at public school campuses where Texas State students spend two full days per week in classrooms

- Texas State faculty are at the school sites teaching and supervising

- Partnerships with school districts extend from New Braunfels to Round Rock (22 schools: elementary, middle, high schools)
Innovative, Responsive Programs Targeting Public School Needs

• All EC-6 students complete ESL or Bilingual certification

• Post-graduate teacher residency provides teachers for critical shortage areas of math, science, and special education

• Undergraduate and graduate programs are available to prepare middle school math teachers in partnership with Mathematics department

• Long-standing grant funding has increased ability to prepare teachers with most of these resulting in institutionalization of these programs after funding has ended
Partnerships Enhance Our Ability to Respond to Community Needs

- Texas State College of Science
- E3 Alliance (our Regional P-16 Council)
- Texas PTA
Admittance and Recruitment: Assurance that the Best and Brightest Become Teachers

- Change of GPA entry requirement to 2.75 (Texas requires 2.5)

- Admittance requires enrollment in a freshman seminar class specifically for teacher education students or attendance at a teacher education seminar

- Teacher education candidates enter their education classes as committed students who have demonstrated their readiness for this demanding profession
Multiple Pathways to Certification

- Traditional undergraduate

- Accelerated graduate programs resulting in a master’s degree along with teacher certification

- Specialized programs for 4-8 math teachers

- Specialized programs for EC-12 special education teachers

- New recruitment initiative in the works to partner with Ready, Set, Teach programs in area-wide high schools
Evidence of Texas State Quality in the Teacher Education program

- Recent accreditation granted by the Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC) acknowledging that Texas State demonstrates evidence of a quality program

- Preliminary results from State accountability measures:
  - Strong pass rate on teacher certification tests
  - Evidence of well-prepared teachers from Texas State submitted by principals on the newly adopted Principal Survey of teachers in their first through third years of teaching*
  - Evidence from new data utilizing a value-added measure (VAM) shows Texas State teachers to make a difference in the achievement levels of the students they teach*

*Based on preliminary data from the Project on Educator Effectiveness & Quality, 2012