History of the Texas Virtual School Network

The Texas Virtual School Network (TxVSN) provides high-quality electronic courses to Texas students. The TxVSN provides students throughout the state with access to online courses that address all of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and meet national standards for quality online courses.

The state virtual school network includes the TxVSN statewide catalog of supplemental online courses for grades 9 through 12 and the full-time virtual TxVSN Online Schools (OLS) program for grades 3 through 12.

The following is a brief history of the programs that make up the TxVSN:

2001    SB 975 (77th Texas Legislature) authorizes the Commissioner of Education to establish an electronic course pilot program.


2004-2005   The initial Electronic Course Pilot (eCP) Application to Participate is released. Three Local Education Agencies (LEAs) participate in the eCP: Houston ISD, ResponsiveEd, and Southwest Schools.

Spring 2006   Students are first served through the eCP.

2007    SB 1788 (80th Texas Legislature) establishes the state virtual school network.

April 2008   Contracts are awarded for TxVSN Central Operations and TxVSN Course Review.

2008-2009   The Electronic Course Pilot becomes the Electronic Course Program.

January 2009   The TxVSN course catalog opens with courses from three TxVSN provider districts.

2009    HB 3646 (81st Texas Legislature) creates the state virtual school allotment and incorporates the eCP into the Texas Virtual School Network.

2009-2010   The TxVSN course catalog begins offering dual credit courses.

January 2010   The number of districts receiving courses through TxVSN course catalog exceeds 300.

May 2010   The TxVSN course catalog offers all courses required for graduation on the Recommended High School Program.

June 2010   Fifteen TxVSN provider districts participate in the TxVSN statewide course catalog.

Summer 2011   Southwest Schools withdraws from the TxVSN OLS.

2011    SB 1 (82nd Texas Legislature, first-called session) repeals the state virtual school allotment.

2011-2012   The Electronic Course Program becomes the TxVSN Online Schools (OLS) Program.

                Texarkana ISD begins participating in the TxVSN OLS.

                Virtual Learning Scholarships are made available to districts enrolling students in courses through the TxVSN course catalog.

                TxVSN dropout recovery pilot is implemented. Three Local Education Agencies (LEAs) participate in the pilot: Pasadena ISD, Santa Fe ISD, and Spring ISD

2012-2013   The TxVSN OLS will serve students in all grades 3 to 12 for the first time.