

MY STUDENTS,
YOUR STUDENTS,





is to provide rural students high-quality opportunities for post-secondary success.

is reinventing the rural education experience.

- Students from

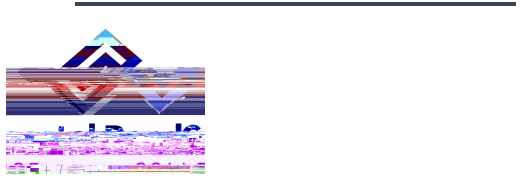
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Students from



The RSIZ includes 3 districts, 3 higher education institutions, and numerous workforce partners and provides students with access to more opportunities to gain work-related skills and earn college credits in high school and helps meet the regional workforce needs in South Texas.

Brooks County ISD
 Freer ISD
 Premont ISD





The RSIZ currently utilizes virtual capacities in a number of different ways to support the rural collaborative work in the region.






Since the launch of the RSIZ in 2019, and despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been significant growth in student outcomes resulting in:

An 4x increase in the percent of students completing a dual credit course, from 15% in 2018-2019 to 63% in 2020-2021.

The RSIZ has outperformed the state and surrounding regions in CCMR score, graduation rate, and dual credit completion.

The RSIZ has closed gaps against the state in almost all categories, with 78% eco-dis students, compared to the state average of 52% of students being eco-dis.





The RSIZ has shown what is possible when districts, higher education, and industry partners come together to expand options available to students while intentionally building opportunities that lead increased job creation and higher education access through a variety of learning models.

Alignment of pathways and coursework across multiple districts and IHEs can be challenging but it can be done (especially through a combination of virtual and in-person options).

It is possible for each district within a collaborative to maintain their identity even while partnering with others. Collaboration should not be equated with consolidation.

"The experiences with the RSIZ cannot be found anywhere else. We get that one-to-one learning with teachers and get to explore different certifications and careers. The academies open your eyes to things you never thought about in your career path."


- Premont ISD student

"The RSIZ has provided an opportunity for our program to thrive. Without the RSIZ, our district would not have sufficient student enrollment numbers to make the courses that are needed to complete our pathway."

- Brooks County ISD Teacher

"The RSIZ is raising expectations for our students, taking them from a place of low expectations to high expectations and giving opportunities that they may never have had."

- Freer ISD Teacher



Small scale investments in virtual capabilities for rural students can have large scale impact on student opportunities! Rural regions have the ability to scale programming and pathways through enhanced virtual capabilities.

Given the growing teacher shortage across the state and country, creative staffing models utilizing virtual capabilities can be a way for rural districts to provide a

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