### PROPOSED ACTION

## **Description of Proposed Action**

The Science Academy would like to propose adding the following course:

 Program of Academic Excellence via Externships (P.A.E.<sup>2</sup>)

Course Description: The primary focus of this course is to give students an opportunity to have a real world experience by going out to community sites and working alongside a professional to gain work experience as well as soft skills. Students will be given options on which sites to attend based on their career interest (engineering, law, medicine, etc). The externship will take place during a two period block in the student's schedule. The program will begin with a cohort of no more than 60 juniors who are selected through an application process with the goal of growing the program each year.

I	recommend	approval	for	the a	bove	proposed
a	ction.		^		9.	

Campus Principal

Date

# Impact on Instruction

The externship experience will be incorporated into the schedule for third year students who have room in their track for a two period block.

The impact on instruction would be positive. Students at The Science Academy would spend the first quarter preparing for their off campus experience. During that time, students will do research on which career and site they are most interested in and define what they wish to accomplish at the site. Students will also be given time to secure their own site if they are not interested in the sites offered by the campus. The externship coordinator will discuss the expectations for the culminating project that all externship students will present to showcase their experience. Students will be expected to journal their reflections weekly and the community mentor will also give a final rating for each student based on their work performance. Students will be allowed to drive to their site with parent approval or school transportation could be provided. Students will be at their sites for Q2-Q3. During the majority of Q4, students will remain on campus to complete their culminating showcase project that will be presented to Freshman and Sophomore students.

#### **Policies & Procedures Review**

(Cite specific local or state policy & procedure codes and the extent to which the proposed action can be done within present policy requirements. Does the action require a policy or procedure change prior to approval? If so what is your recommendation with supporting reasons?)

The STISD master list of courses will require the addition of this proposed new course (PA.E.2), if this proposed action is approved. This course would be a level three (1.10) course.

The South Texas ISD Science Academy course sequence will need to be revised to reflect the additional course and the placement of the new course in the sequence.

The impact for instruction is positive. The additional hands-on community-based course will further the learning of the students. The planned culminating project will also enhance the student learning.

This proposed community-based course will not require additional teachers but will require extended work days for the coordinator.

I have rev	iewed the above proposed action and
all pertine	ent policies and procedures that
apply. My	recommendation is the following:
	I approve.

## **Budget Impact Review**

Signature of Deputy Superintendent & Date

(Cite specific line items that will be affected. If the proposed action requires expenditures, are there sufficient funds in the present budget to cover the expense if the proposed action is approved? If insufficient funds exist to support the proposed action so indicate and recommend specifically how a proposed budget amendment would be presented to accommodate the proposed expense.)

The externship course will not require the employment of any additional teachers.

The campus budget will cover the normal annual expenses incurred for instruction.

The PA.E.2 coordinator will have additional nine contract days so that they can begin securing community sites prior to the school year starting. (estimated \$2,250).

The district transportation department would also be impacted, as transportation to the sites would be needed for some of the students throughout the year.

As the program grows, there would also be a request for an additional counselor, since PA.E.2 students will need customized scheduling to ensure all requirements are met for graduation.

apply. My	recommendation is the following:
×	I approve.
	I disapprove.

**Final Approval:**