

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN LA VEGA INDEPENDENT DISTRICT  
AND NICKELL METALSMITHS, LLC**

This document confirms purpose, commitment, and agreements concerning the collaborative partnership that La Vega Independent School District (LVISD) and Nickell Metalsmiths, LLC and activities in which Nickell Metalsmiths, LLC may agree to provide, participate, and support.

Nickell Metalsmiths, LLC

Agrees to work together to support the following goals:

- Inform LVHS P-TECH of any scheduling changes that may impact support or services to be delivered.
- Develop a method of communicating needs and challenges.
- Collaborate to encourage students to pursue post-secondary education, career, and internship opportunities.

Nickell Metalsmiths, LLC will:

- Assign employee(s) to La Vega High School PTECH that promote college awareness and career awareness.
- Recruit and screen employee(s) that mentors students.
- Volunteers/staff shall complete a volunteer application and background check every calendar year at the campus offices.
- Provide work-based learning experiences (e.g., field trips, special projects, mentoring students), job shadowing and internships.
- Review curricular scope and sequence and offer expertise alignment of coursework with college courses and work-based learning opportunities.
- Give to a student who receives work-based training or education from the partner under the P-TECH program priority in interviewing for any jobs for which the student is qualified that are available upon the student's completion of the program.
- Nickell Metalsmiths, LLC will allow to LVHS P-TECH staff and students appropriate access to facilities to support program activities, including but not limited to, flexible scheduling, internships, job shadowing, mentoring, and other "real life" work experiences for students.

La Vega High School P-TECH will:

- Establish a college-going culture for all students at the school, which requires engaging students in college coursework, tutoring and advising, and instruction on key "college knowledge" academic and personal behaviors such as time management, collaboration, problem-solving, leadership, study skills, communication, and tenacity.
- Help to define appropriate workplace experiences (e.g., design projects, job

shadowing, internships, and clinical practice) that support students gaining key skills needed in the field.

- Allow business and industry leader's access to the LVHS P-TECH to support program activities.
- Conduct required background checks for business/industry volunteers working with LVHS P-TECH students.
- Be responsible for transporting students from LVHS P-TECH campus to partnership activities (e.g., work-site visits, job shadowing, internships, employee events).

The individuals executing this Agreement between Nickell Metalsmiths, LLC, and La Vega ISD acknowledge that they are duly authorized to execute this Agreement. All parties hereby acknowledge that they have read and understood this Agreement and any attachments and/or exhibits hereto. This Agreement shall not become effective until executed by each party. In addition, the parties acknowledge that they will perform their respective duties under this Agreement only after it is fully executed.

La Vega ISD  
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Waco, Texas 76705

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John Nickell  
Owner, Nickell Metalsmiths, LLC

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Dr. Sharon M. Shields  
Superintendent of La Vega ISD