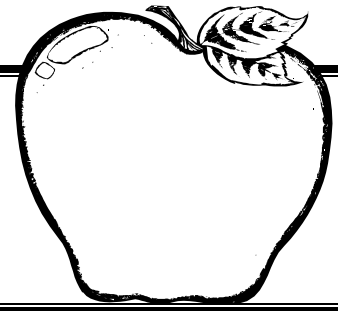


Austin High School for Teaching Professions



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Overview of the Program

College-bound students experience the challenges and rewards of teaching in a variety of settings. Students study the current trends and issues in education, serve as mentors at elementary schools, and participate in paid internships as seniors.

The quantity and quality of the students entering the teaching profession is currently a major concern of many segments of our society. The first of its kind in the nation, Austin High School for Teaching Professions was introduced in 1982 to address this concern. The primary mission of this four-year high school program is to encourage and prepare college-bound students to enter the professional field of education.

AHSTP gives high school students a head start in the exciting and rewarding profession of education. It has received national recognition and has served as a model for many of the high school programs that have since been developed.

Students at AHSTP follow the same rigorous college preparatory schedule offered at other HISD schools, but they are also required to take a series of specialized courses which will expose them to teaching and related educational careers.

The objectives of the program are achieved not only by the course work but also through a variety of guest speakers, field trips, cultural events, teaching observations, and field experiences.

Ninth grade students at AHSTP are given an opportunity to assist classroom teachers on a regular basis. Sophomores & juniors participate in a Big Brother/Big Sister program, and the Franklin Project, tutoring elementary school students. This sequential approach prepares AHSTP students for their senior year and the Educational Internship Course. Here students are assigned to teachers in one of five HISD schools and work 1½ or 2 hours a day as a student intern.

AHSTP fosters the concepts of learning as a life-long pursuit and of service to the community. Students are frequently able to utilize the unique skills they have developed beyond the formal curriculum. The AHSTP staff actively seeks opportunities for the students to experience the satisfaction that can come from both learning and teaching. AHSTP strives to not only serve the needs of its students but to be a leader among high school programs for careers in education.

Objectives of the Program

- To promote and enhance a positive image of the teaching profession.
- To attract talented students of various ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds into educational careers.
- To increase awareness of the broad career opportunities and expanded job related tasks of educators by providing students with extensive field experiences and observations in various settings.
- To acquaint students with the cultural diversity of an urban environment.
- To encourage and train students to keep abreast of current and emerging research and technology and their impact on the educational community.
- To project strategies and provide opportunities for students to translate and apply theories to actual classroom practice.
- To facilitate access to institutions of higher education among students who might not otherwise have such opportunities.
- To involve educators and the public in the encouragement and preparation of future teachers.

9th Grade

Orientation to Teaching

- ↗ Service Projects
- ↗ Work With Special Needs Students
- ↗ Character Education
- ↗ Study Skills
- ↗ Public Speaking



10th Grade

Current Issues in Education

- ↗ JP Henderson 5th Graders' Big Brothers/Big Sisters Program
- ↗ Field Trip to the Houston Zoo
- ↗ Junior Counselors at Camp Olympia
- ↗ Mexican-American Studies

11th Grade

Seminar in the Education Process

- ↗ Write a Children's Book
- ↗ Write lesson plans
- ↗ The Franklin Project with Franklin Elementary 1st & 2nd Graders
- ↗ African-American Studies



12th Grade

Educational Internship

- ↗ Hands-on Teaching Experience at Local Elementary and Middle Schools
- ↗ Weekly Seminar
- ↗ College Information
- ↗ Guest Speakers