



GOOSE CREEK

CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



Student representatives from Goose Creek CISD's new early college high school addressed the Board of Trustees on Monday, July 26. From left are Rowland Sauls (in the rear), Armado Morfin, Emma Vargas, Andrea Hennerichs and Alejandro Cortes. The Board voted to name the new school Impact Early College High School at Lee College.

Board OKs name, mascot, colors for early college high school

The students of Goose Creek CISD's new early college high school got their wish for a school name, colors and mascot at Monday's Board meeting.

The Board voted to name the district's fourth high school "Impact Early College High School at Lee College." The school's mascot will be the Spartans, and the school colors will be purple and silver.

The name, mascot and colors were the first choice of recommendations submitted by the first class at the school.

Impact is an acronym for Intelligent Minds Participating in Acts of Courageous Talent.

"The students felt strongly that this name would be reflective of their goals and aspirations," said Karen Smithson, the new school's principal. "The students see themselves making an impact through education in their families and community. They also feel that the opportunity to begin college while in high school will impact them. One student said 'When you impact something you leave a mark- that is what we will be doing. We are leaving a mark on our town and family.'"

Impact Early College High School — which will be housed on the Lee College campus — will engage students in a rigorous and supportive academic program of study that blends high school and college work with the goal that students will graduate with a high school diploma and an associate degree or 60 college credit hours toward a baccalaureate degree — tuition free.

This partnership with Lee College targets low-income youth, first-generation college goers, English language learners, students at-risk of not graduating, and other young people underrepresented in higher education.

The school will open with about 100 students this year, expanding to 320 to 400 in four years.

On Monday, Aug. 2, students will be inducted into Impact Early College High School. The event will begin at 7 p.m.

The purpose of the induction ceremony is twofold; to impress on the students and parents the importance of their decision to take on the challenge of a rigorous education and demonstrate to students, parents and community the support that both Goose Creek CISD and Lee College have for the new school.

The induction ceremony will take place in the Lee College Arena. This is a significant location because students who complete their associate degree at Lee College will graduate in the same venue. Goose Creek CISD Superintendent Toby York and President Michael Murphy will both make a short speech welcoming the students and challenging them to reach their goals.

Two students selected through junior school principal/counselor recommendation and student interview will speak at the ceremony.

Both students will briefly explain why they chose to attend Impact Early College High School and what the opportunity means to them. Each student will have their name called and will walk across the stage.

A reception will follow the induction ceremony at the Cyber Café located on the Lee College campus. The public is welcome to attend.



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Physical Address:
Goose Creek Consolidated
Independent School District
4544 Interstate 10 East
Baytown, Texas 77521
281.420.4800

Mailing Address:
Goose Creek Consolidated
Independent School District
P.O. Box 30
Baytown, Texas 77522
281.420.4800

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