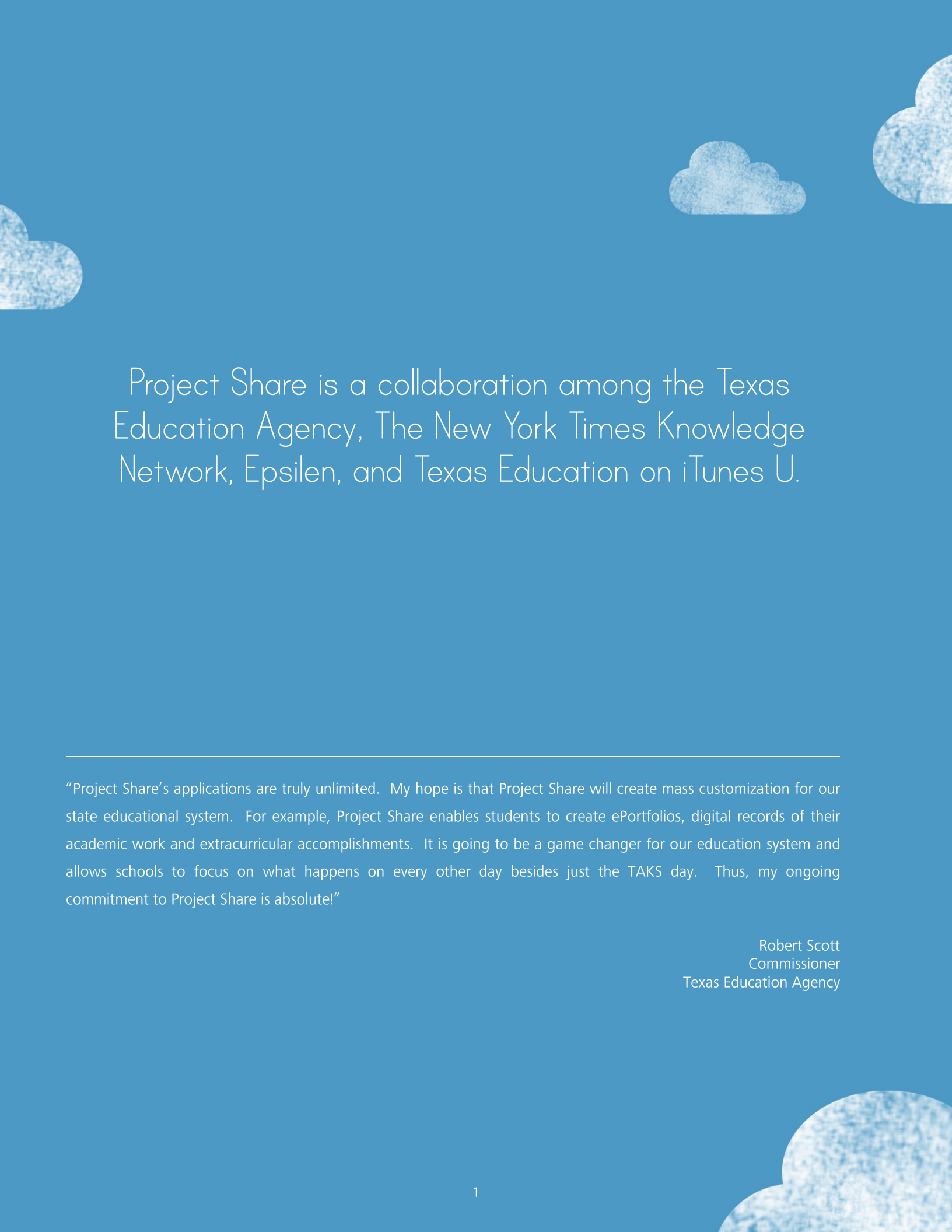


EDUCATED IN TEXAS. CONNECTED TO THE WORLD.

project
Share[®]
Knowledge knows no boundaries

www.projectsharetexas.org



Project Share is a collaboration among the Texas Education Agency, The New York Times Knowledge Network, Epsilen, and Texas Education on iTunes U.

“Project Share’s applications are truly unlimited. My hope is that Project Share will create mass customization for our state educational system. For example, Project Share enables students to create ePortfolios, digital records of their academic work and extracurricular accomplishments. It is going to be a game changer for our education system and allows schools to focus on what happens on every other day besides just the TAKS day. Thus, my ongoing commitment to Project Share is absolute!”

Robert Scott
Commissioner
Texas Education Agency

THROUGH PROJECT SHARE, THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY PROVIDES AN INTERACTIVE AND ENGAGING LEARNING ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL TEXAS PUBLIC AND OPEN ENROLLMENT CHARTER SCHOOLS.

Educators can:

Access state professional development with flexible learning times based on their needs.

Join professional learning communities to share effective practices and explore new methods and strategies for teaching the TEKS in all subject areas.

Access current STAAR™ requirements and expectations.

Build a digital portfolio to manage and store professional accomplishments.

Search and select resources and instructional materials that align with student performance data.

Examine and share exemplar practices.

Organize campus-based professional learning communities centered around online professional development courses.

Students can:

Access an array of content to support individual learning goals.

Exchange ideas and learn from experts around the world.

Build ePortfolios from K-12 and beyond.

Access classroom lessons and resources outside school hours.

Share work with classmates and teachers.

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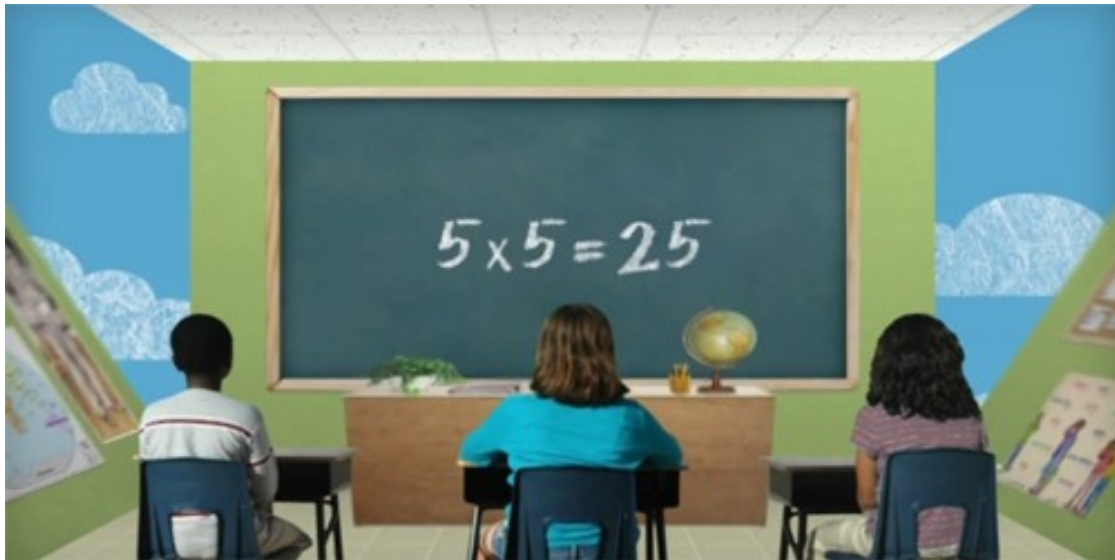
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Project Share takes Texas educators and students beyond the walls of the traditional classroom...



“High quality professional development that leverages a multimedia approach is crucial for today’s educators. Project Share offers the ability for educators to plan, manage, and tailor professional development based on individual needs and to collaborate with colleagues across the state and around the world. Through Project Share, educators have access to rich digital content, including The New York Times Knowledge Network, Texas Education on iTunes U, and state-adopted instructional materials to provide students rich learning opportunities that bring the world into their classroom.”

Anita Givens
Associate Commissioner
Texas Education Agency

WHAT IS PROJECT SHARE?

Project Share is a cutting edge education initiative developed by the Texas Education Agency for facilitating professional development and networking opportunities. Through Project Share, Texas education stakeholders now have a 'One-Stop Educational Online Learning Community' where they can enjoy the convenience of a password-protected environment built exclusively for meeting the K-12 learning demands of the 21st century.

ABOUT EDUCATORS STUDENTS

EDUCATED IN TEXAS. CONNECTED TO THE WORLD.

Introducing a global online learning community where educators collaborate, share resources and showcase accomplishments.

TEXAS EDUCATION ON iTunes U

Select materials are now available free of charge in podcast form. Click the Apple logo below to access Texas Education on iTunes U.

Available on iTunes

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Student Accounts Now Available in Project Share

Texas public school districts are invited to create student accounts in Project Share. For more information, please see the **Letter to the Administrator**

RESOURCES and VIDEOS

SXSWedu Event Videos Now Available

View our new PBS message!

Engaging Learning Around Shared Digital Content

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) is proud to announce a new initiative that will explore the development and delivery of high quality professional development in an interactive and engaging learning environment. Project Share utilizes a collection of Web 2.0 tools and applications to provide professional development resources for teachers across the state and build professional learning communities where educators can collaborate and participate in online learning opportunities.

PROJECT SHARE NEWSLETTER

Click **here** to download the latest Project Share newsletter.

COURSE CATALOG OVERVIEW

MSTAR Introduction: An Executive Summary

Project Share is:

- Communicating and disseminating information from state, region, and district levels.
- Creating or joining common interest networks to increase teacher-to-teacher collaboration, conversations with experts, and communication with students in a secure online environment.
- Accessing state-adopted and approved materials, including electronic textbooks and other materials developed through TEA partnerships.
- Accessing educational resources through The New York Times Knowledge Network, McDonald Observatory StarDate, PBS Digital Learning Library, Texas PBS, and many others.
- Accessing Texas Education on iTunes U to explore the history and cultures of Texas, view educational tutorials, and download resources for personalized learning.
- Collaborating on the development, dissemination, and evaluation of online professional development sessions and courses.
- Highlighting individual accomplishments through the development of ePortfolios.
- Developing and sharing ideas and resources.

...and exposes them to an online environment of resources that incorporates the use of today's digital tools.

WEB 2.0 TOOLS AND RESOURCES



“As we continue to expand our use of groups, networks, courses, learning matrices, shared resources, ePortfolios, and more, educators have increased exposure and experience to a variety of online resources in Project Share. For example, at ESC Region 13, our Project Share contact uses ePortfolios as a means to provide access to links, files, and information specific to an event or training. Additionally, ESC staff use the Group and Course functions to manage and deliver instruction as well as a way to follow up with educators, making continual learning possible.”

Ed Vara
Deputy Director of Academic Services
ESC Region 13

WHY PROJECT SHARE?

The Texas Education Agency launched Project Share to explore the development and delivery of high quality, sustained, and ongoing professional development for educators so they can meet the needs of our 21st century learners. The professional development encompasses topics such as leadership, assessment, standards-based core instruction, effective instructional frameworks, reporting and accountability, and sustainability.

Project Share provides a platform for Texas educators to communicate with colleagues across the state and around the globe, access resources that enhance instructional strategies, and share successfully implemented instructional practices. Additionally, Project Share allows students to gain access to a variety of educational resources to support individual learning needs.

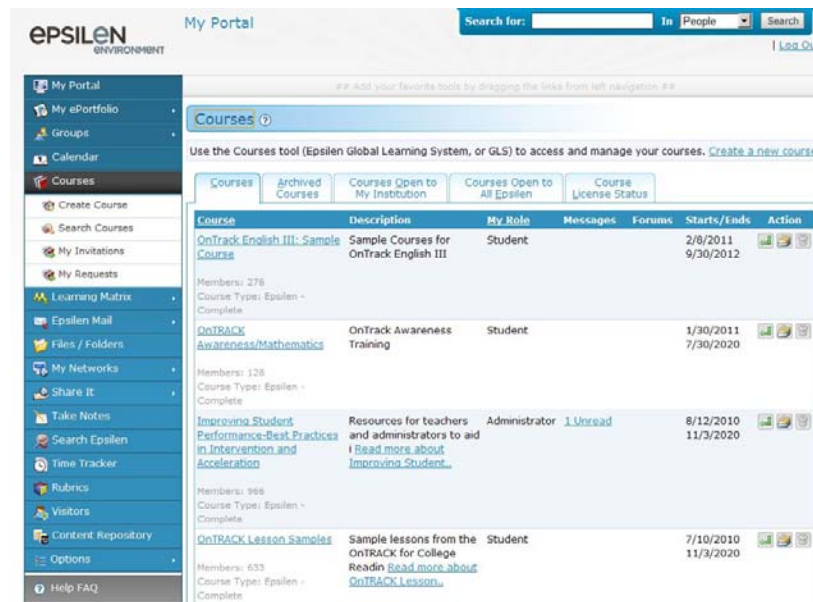
The online environment provides an alternative and less expensive method of ongoing education for Texas schools. Today, the design remains organic in nature as new content, courses, and features are continually added, revised, and enhanced. This continual refinement process ensures that educators and students have access to the features and functions needed to be successful in today's digital learning environment.

PROJECT SHARE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN		
Phase I	Phase II	Phase III
October 1, 2009 to August 31, 2011	September 1, 2011 to August 31, 2013	September 1, 2013 and Beyond

“Many of the ESC specialists invite workshop participants to a group on Project Share as follow-up support after face-to-face workshops. They can continue online discussions, share files within the Drop Box, and suggest other groups and courses for further professional development and networking.”

Kathrin Salazar
Educational Specialist for Instructional Technology
ESC Region 19

Educators participate in online professional development and learn ways to integrate instruction with technology...



“Project Share saves money, and it makes us more efficient at delivering quality instruction at a level that students enjoy. This statewide online platform allows us to reach every teacher in every school district across the state. The greatest excitement about Project Share is where it can go in the future.”

Dr. David Anthony
Former Superintendent
Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District

“Project Share provides a safe network for teachers to communicate with students and allows virtual collaboration among students and teachers within the district and students and teachers from other Texas districts. It reduces costs and time for professional development delivery, allows for 24/7 learning for staff and students, and allows the district to design and deliver professional development that is specific to district goals. It will eventually be the way we operate in Texas if funded properly and has the potential to be a game changer, especially for rural schools that need to share a difficult-to-find physics, calculus, or AP teacher.”

Dr. Howell Wright
Superintendent
Rockdale Independent School District

WHAT IS DIFFERENT ABOUT PROJECT SHARE?

Project Share extends learning beyond the four walls of the traditional K-12 classroom, provides a secure online environment to meet the needs of today's Generation Y learners, and establishes a means to increase educator instructional efficacy.

Professional Development

To date, professional development has often relied on single training sessions. Because of time and geographical constraints, teachers often have limited resources for follow-up or the ability to collaborate with other educators on professional development. Project Share provides a more convenient way to deliver high quality learning experiences that are accessible to all teachers in Texas.

Networking

Whether in a rural or urban district, Project Share provides the support and resources needed for educators to collaborate with colleagues across the state and connect with experts around the globe.

Assessment and Instruction

Project Share allows teachers to monitor student progress through assessment tools, archive course content, and post individual content for students.

Additional Resources

Project Share gives educators and students access to a variety of centralized online resources such as The New York Times Knowledge Network, which provides content back to 1851. With Project Share, educators can supplement lesson plans and assignments with credible sources and citations. It also allows educators to leverage existing content and align with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills.



“ESC personnel can embed the use of the Project Share tools in professional development sessions. We do this when teaching participants how to use ELPS strategies during science vocabulary lessons. We divide educators into groups and provide them with a variety of materials to use as they develop visual representations of the vocabulary. Educators then use digital video devices to capture and describe their visual representations of the vocabulary. They then upload their videos to Project Share as a Share It object and provide other educators attending the session with links to their ePortfolio where they can view the representations.”

Kristi Hernandez
Director of State & Federal Solutions
ESC Region 4

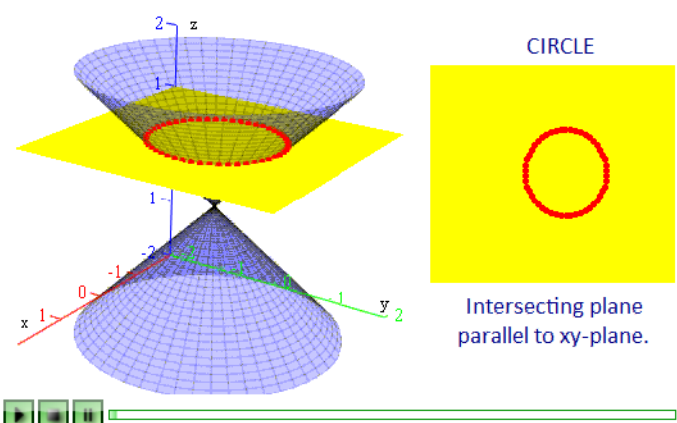
...that gives students experiences that prepare them for college and career.

WHAT IS DIFFERENT ABOUT PROJECT SHARE?

Graphing Conic Sections—Parabola

There are four types of conic sections: circle, parabola, ellipse, and hyperbola. Watch the movie below for a quick review of how each conic section is formed when a plane intersects a double-napped cone.

Video Segment



CIRCLE

Intersecting plane parallel to xy-plane.

OnTRACK™
for college readiness

▶ ◀ ⏪ ⏩

This lesson focuses specifically on parabolas. You will study the other types of conic sections in other lessons.

“Knowledge will never cease and time will not increase, therefore we need to find ways in ensuring that students have the tools necessary for a future that is quickly transforming, a future that will include mobile learning beyond the traditional ways we approach student learning. Mobile learning for both teachers and students is really going to impact teaching and learning.”

Eliza Simental
Director for Bilingual/ESL Education
San Elizario Independent School District

PHASE I: GETTING STARTED IN PROJECT SHARE

OCTOBER 1, 2009 to AUGUST 31, 2011

PHASE I PRIMARY GOALS

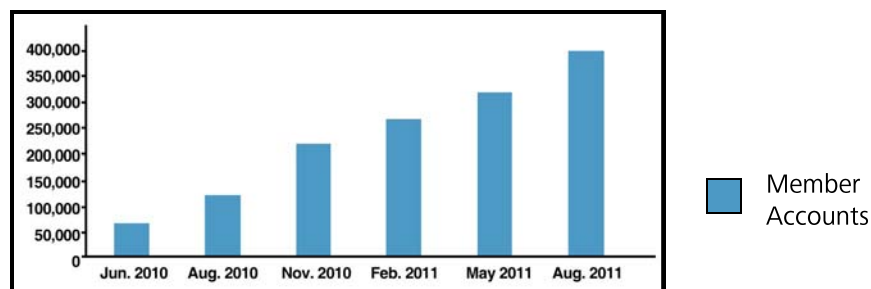
- 1) Provide awareness of the Project Share initiative and opportunities for Texas districts, educators, and students.
- 2) Create teacher accounts and provide access to Project Share resources.
- 3) Develop and disseminate face-to-face and online professional development.
- 4) Form Professional Learning Communities around professional development and/or shared educational interests.
- 5) Provide access to rich digital content from a variety of sources.
- 6) Plan for ePortfolio and ePortfolio Assessment pilots.

PHASE I ACHIEVEMENTS

The TEA Project Share Team began meeting with various stakeholders to participate in hands-on training, share ideas, provide feedback, and plan for the implementation of Project Share. Stakeholder meetings are an ongoing process as TEA seeks input from groups representing:

- Educators
- Texas public school districts
- Education Service Centers
- Project Share content developers

Over 300,000 Texas educators were provided with Project Share online access and ongoing support for retrieving existing and developing new online professional development resources.



“Project Share did not happen overnight. It is the product of training sessions and planning meetings that began in 2009, continued through 2010 as we invited educators to join, and continues now as students begin to receive accounts. I don’t think there will ever be a time that we are through learning and talking about what else Project Share can do.”

John Petree
Associate Executive Director
ESC Region 18

Project Share brings world resources, experts, knowledge, and experiences into the classroom...



Educators and students now have access to a range of experts and resources.

“Screencasts allow me to capture everything that happens during a lesson, including my explanations and any visuals used. These become especially helpful when students are away attending extracurricular activities or are ill. One example is a student who was at a basketball game yet had the ability to send me an email asking if I posted the anatomy lesson from that day. With our increased and ongoing use of technology, I was able to immediately reply, explain the topic, and direct the student to the screencast.”

Jeff Roemish
Teacher
Comanche High School

“When away from school for sporting events, technology allows me to stay connected with my teachers. If I miss a class, I can use the screencast for a specific lesson to see what happened and to hear what was said. These tools also allow me to ask questions at any time using the course mail or to turn in assignments when away from school.”

Lacey Drewes
Student
Comanche High School

PHASE I ACHIEVEMENTS, CONTINUED

Education Service Centers (ESCs), Institutes of Higher Education (IHEs), and education partners created professional development courses that incorporated:

- Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS)
- English Language Proficiency Standards (ELPS)
- College and Career Readiness Standards (CCRS)
- Response to Intervention (RtI) model

Over 50 online professional development courses are currently available or in production. Courses include:

- Middle School Students in Texas Algebra Ready (MSTAR) Academies
- K-12 Science TEKS Overview and Science Academies
- Texas Adolescent Literacy Academies (TALA)
- Texas Social Studies TEKS Overview and Social Studies Academies
- ELPS Academies for Math, Science, ELA, and Social Studies
- Texas English Language Learner Instructional Tool (TELLIT) Academies for Math, Science, ELA, and Social Studies
- End-of-Course (EOC) Academies for Math, Science, ELA, and Social Studies
- Administrator Overviews for content area academies

Professional Learning Communities formed among teacher, campus, district, region, and state groups. An example is the *Expository Reading and Writing in High School* learning community. It uses Project Share to:

- Teach course content
- Disseminate training materials
- Communicate with colleagues

Project Share captured the attention of business leaders and educational technology innovators from across the country in the inaugural SXSWedu Hosts Project Share conference.

- Over 800 attendees
- Over 50 breakout sessions, including hands-on training, panel discussions, and demonstrations
- Spotlight sessions featuring Texas Education Commissioner Robert Scott, district superintendents, and students from Texas public schools
- Continuation of Project Share strand in future SXSWedu conferences



...and takes our learners into the 21st century world where endless possibilities are at their fingertips.



Knowledge knows no boundaries

"I believe that a lot of the focus in college and in the workforce is on student-driven learning. In other words, we, as individuals, must learn to take the initiative to get our work done. Project Share is a student-driven type of technology that gives us the opportunity to learn and to manage our own time. By having access to resources such as Project Share, we are given more power to complete our assignments in the way that we want, pursue our own interests, and put forth our own initiative."

John Fuller
Student
Bryan High School

PHASE II: MOVING FORWARD WITH PROJECT SHARE

SEPTEMBER 1, 2011 TO AUGUST 31, 2013

PHASE II PRIMARY GOALS

- 1) Increase the number of active educator accounts and expand the use of Project Share tools and resources.
- 2) Expand professional development opportunities for educators and include specific offerings for administrators and school leaders.
- 3) Expand resources for students, including virtual courses, blended learning opportunities, and use of 21st century learning tools.
- 4) Provide opportunities for educators and students to collaborate with experts within the password-protected environment.
- 5) Provide guidance to educators and their students on the appropriate use of 21st century learning tools, safe and effective strategies for working with other online learners, and the legal and ethical responsibilities of digital citizens.
- 6) Expand the scope of digital content available to educators and students, including online instructional materials, state-owned open source materials, and iTunes U resources.
- 7) Implement ePortfolio pilots to explore the use of student portfolios of coursework (i.e. essays, research papers, audio and visual files of academic presentations, and artistic performances) and other examples of academic and extracurricular activities.
- 8) Expand planning for ePortfolio Assessment pilots to explore new forms of evaluation of student work.
- 9) Create and share a repository of custom tools for Project Share, including a course developer's guide, a course release kit, and a repository of developer tools and templates for Project Share course developers at the state, region, and local levels.
- 10) Expand access to Project Share for pre-service educators, educator preparation programs, education-based professional organizations, and private K-12 schools.



PROJECT SHARE
KNOWLEDGE KNOWS NO BOUNDARIES

For additional information
visit www.projectsharetexas.org



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Education Service Center Project Share Advisory Committee
ESC Project Share Contacts
Educator Project Share Focus Groups
Project Share Content Developers
Project Share Support Center at the Institute for Public School Initiatives, University of Texas at Austin