

InterLink Annual Report 2022

*Bridging the gap between business and education
for quality workforce planning since 1987*



A Texas Model Program

InterLink Celebrates 35th Anniversary at Texas Instruments

InterLink celebrated its 35th anniversary on October 20th at Texas Instruments (TI) with InterLink Board of Directors and Career and Technical Educators of North Central Texas schools. The day began with a luncheon, followed with presentations by three Texas Instruments Vice Presidents who shared the history of Texas Instruments and described their workforce needs to fill the positions of Electrical Engineering Technicians, Engineers, Maintenance Technicians and several others.



Texas Instruments and Southwestern Bell Telephone (now AT&T) were founding members of InterLink in 1987. They recognized how computers would change the workforce of the future and petitioned the Governor to become one of eight pilot programs to lead school districts and community colleges into the 21st Century in an initiative called Quality Workforce Planning (QWFP) which later

legislatively funded 24 organizations across the state to bridge business and education and develop Career and Technical Programs to meet the needs of regional employers. By 1991 when the funding disappeared, InterLink was the only of the 24 organizations to remain in existence due to the regional partnerships with Career and Technical educators and the regions employers, which continue to this day.

As Manufacturing comes back to Texas from offshore, two grants of which InterLink is the Intermediary on the Dallas County side of the Region, are the WIRED Electrician Grant and the WIRED Electrical Engineering Technician (EET) Grant. They are unique in that both include school districts, Dallas, DeSoto, Duncanville, Forney and Lancaster, and Industry Partners Independent Electrical Contractors of Dallas, and Texas Instruments.



Texas Instruments will be hiring 1500 technicians with 750 positions for their supplier that is scheduled to open in Sherman in 2025. The Electrician students will receive dual credit from partner Dallas College and IEC is offering apprenticeships in their senior year.

The goal is for the EET students graduated prepared to enter the workforce or higher education upon graduation. Many of the IEC Contractors provide services to TI and other industries, which makes these grants a win/win.

InterLink Continues Leading Regional Grants

Two of the grants led by InterLink as Convener (formerly called Intermediary) have been given extension years through August 31, 2023.

The Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act is intended to expand opportunities for every student to complete education and career pathways that lead to credentials with value in the labor market.

⇒ Over 75,000 Students are enrolled in Career and Technical programs of study through the North Central Texas Aerial Robotics STEM Grant lead by Forth Worth ISD with a consortium of nine school districts ranging in size from 176 to over 86,000, are teaching Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics through the use of drones in the classroom. An emerging industry, drones also know as Unmanned Air or Aviation Vehicles (UAVs), are being used throughout many industries such as agriculture, construction, fire fighting, police departments, surveying and mapping, utilities, and many others. Students studying in Career and Technical Education programs of study that relate to these industries are using drones as part of their curriculum. The grant has resulted in a new regional Program of Study (POS) including Drone (Unmanned Flight) and Aviation and a new POS from input provided by industry partners for Geospatial Engineering School districts involved in the grant include (Azle ISD, Birdville ISD, Cleburne ISD, Crowley ISD, Era ISD, Fort Worth ISD, Grapevine-Colleyville ISD, Keller ISD, Mineral Wells

Business partners from Bell Textron, Haas Associates, Inc., American Airlines, Hillwood (a Perot Company,) and others, are actively working with students who can become certified UAV Pilots upon passing the part 107 FAA certification.

Upon graduation they may apply for work or further their education with post-secondary grant partners Tarrant County College, University of North Texas or others. Bell hosts an annual drone competition for student teams involved in the grant and others from around the nation, who compete by assembling their drones and complete assigned exercises.

2022 InterLink by the Numbers

- ◆ 403 ~ Labor Market Information requests filled
- ◆ 24 ~ Labor Market virtual presentations with 673 Attendees
- ◆ 62,205 ~ Website visits (Jan–Dec.)



The heartbeat of InterLink is the Board of Directors who are the bridge between business and education.

2021~2022 InterLink Board of Directions

Dr. Marcus Balch TSTC	Becky Barker/Janel Humphries/ Jean Laswell/Tomika Lewis/ Ro- chelle Robinson/Darion Walton Dallas ISD	Caitlin Mauer UT Southwestern	Abby Smith Frost Bank
Candy Baptist Texas Health Resources	Brett Hankey Prosper ISD	Mark McClure Cleburne ISD	Larinda Smith TEXO
Eric Batten Texas Instruments	Jane Hanna (A) Construction Education Foundation	Jann Miles/Renee Parker Workforce Solutions Tarrant Co.	Helen Sullivan Consultant
Ann Beheler/Mark Dempsey Collin County College	Lisa Harrison ESC Region 11	Rex Miller MindSHIFT	Bill Swope Halff Associates, Inc.
Alison Belliveau Rockwall ISD	Claire Hilscher 44 Farms	Ken Moon Moon Peaks Consulting	Anthony "Tony" Tasillo Texas A&M (TEEX)
Kathryn R. Bourne/ Lea Ann Stone Carrollton Farmers Branch ISD	Tricia Hiro Bell	Zach Moore/Miyosha Guinn Irving ISD	Jared Thompson Encore Mechanical LLC
Rick Bracy/Candace McGowan Grapevine Colleyville ISD	Jason Hudson Wylie ISD	Suzanne Murr Azle ISD	Ashley Treat Waxahachie ISD
Coleman Bruman Garland ISD	Ernest Huffman NCTX COG	Mart D. Nelson Avistas	Jared Vanscoder (A) Autodesk
Karen Buechman Plano ISD	Tu Huynh Comerica Bank	Irene Nigaglioni IN2Architects	Allison Vinson Birdville ISD
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Jason Cooper/Adrian Moreno Lewisville ISD	Leon Kao Raytheon, Inc.	Larry Perieria AT&T	Bill Webb Associated Industries of Texas
Andre Andy Costa Andy Costa Films	Eric Kibodeaux Burlison ISD	Jimmy Renfro UNT Health Science Center	Rodney Wetterskog University of Texas at Dallas (UTD)
Don Cumming Flex-N-Gate	Kevin Kiley (A) Road Map Coaching	Mark Rhea Sycamore Services	Adrienne Williams McCarthy Building Companies, Inc.
Vincente D'Ingianni Binary Systems	Michael Kotubey Orion Services Group Advisor SCORE Consultant	Daphne Rickard/ Jennifer Abe/Jennifer Cole/Bobbi Lev- ine/Vanessa Ritenour/Stephanie Tennyson Fort Worth ISD	Glenn C. Wintrich Jr. Futurist/Imagineer
Danielle Davis Workforce Solutions NCTX	Kristi Krajca Mesquite ISD	Chelsea Rose Colleyville Chamber of Commerce	Barry Young Oncor Electric Delivery
Robert Douglas/Ronnie Spellman PlanetMagpie IT Consulting	Mike Krizman TMAC/UTA	Carla Ruge Denton ISD	Todd Young McKinney ISD
Annette Duvall Crowley ISD	John Kuznar (A) U. S. Department of Labor	James D. Runzheimer Attorney at Law and CPA	InterLink Executive Committee Ronnie Spellman ~ President Don Cumming ~ Vice President Jim D. Runzheimer ~ Secretary/Treas. Annette Duvall~ V.P. Secondary Ed. Mike Kotubey—Immediate Past Pres. Candy Slocum ~ Executive Director
Andrea Ellis Commerce ISD/NETCAT	Tammy Land (A) Independent Ins. Agents of Dallas	Dr. Joe Seabrooks Dallas College - Cedar Valley	
John Fistolera (A) HOSA Foundation	Ted Mackey Anna ISD	Nikki Simon Simon Engineering & Consulting	
Jason Gomez Farmersville ISD	Jason Madison V3 Consulting Engineers	Candy Slocum InterLink	

INTERLINK
P.O. Box 610246, DFW Airport, TX
75261~0246
Email: candy@interlink~ntx.org