## PARIS JUNIOR COLLEGE

Paris Junior College is a comprehensive community college located in Lamar County with off-site Centers in Greenville in Hunt County, and Sulphur Springs in Hopkins County. The college has been in operation since 1924. The college's service area includes 5 ½ counties. Twenty-five percent of our students are indistrict. The college serves two of the poorest counties in Texas (Red River and Delta counties). The taxing district was limited to the City of Paris and old Cunningham school district until 2016 when Lamar County voters approved being annexed into the taxing district. The college attempted an annexation election of its entire service area in 2016. If it had passed throughout the service area, the college would have had the eleventh largest taxing district in the state at that time. The college is financially stable and meets the financial indicators of the Coordinating Board with no identified financial stressors.

The college provides dual credit opportunities for 27 ISDs, 1 charter school and 2 private schools. Within these school districts the college has P-Techs with three schools and will have our first graduating class from our Early College High School offering an Associate of Science in Engineering at Greenville ISD. Two additional P-Techs are in development.

The population for the area has seen little or no growth over the last several decades. (Page 1 of your handout.) In the most recent census we saw growth of 16% in Hunt County and 4% in Hopkins County, both on I-30. Lamar County grew by 2% and Red River declined by 9.9%. It is projected that our region will grow by 7% by 2025. The working population is comprised of 68% between the ages of 25 and 54 and 23% between the ages of 55 and 65. Only 8% of the workforce is under the age of 25. The service area is blessed with industry such as L3/Harris, Kimberly Clark, Campbell Soup, Saputo, Bob Evans Foods, Weatherford and the potential of several very large additions of new industry that are currently in the economic development pipeline.

Enrollment at the college peaked at 6,197 students in the fall 2010 as shown on page 1 of the handout. The college was named one of the top 50 fastest growing public two-year colleges in the U.S. in both 2010 and 2011. This happened at a time when the economy was bottoming out in our area, unemployment was over 9%, page 2 of your handout. In 2011, Sara Lee closed their plant in Paris displacing almost 500 employees. Workforce Solutions helped to get many of those employees retrained through PJC. As the economy came back and people went back to work, our enrollment began dropping at the same time dual credit enrollment began to grow and students began to take more dual credit. This fall, 40% of our enrollment is dual credit, 27% in-district. Seventy-two dual credit high school students graduated with an associate degree last May. Dual credit continues to grow with a slight drop during COVID. Dual credit students pay a discounted \$150 in and \$180 out of district for a three-hour course compared to \$246 in and \$396 out of district for our regular students. The average number of dual credit hours at the time of high school graduation is 25 semester credit hours. The more dual credit hours a high school student has the less likely they will enroll at PJC after high school graduation. This has reduced our number of full-time students and the level of preparedness of the students we receive after graduation. Today's student body requires more support and wrap around services.

PJC began a focus on student success in 2006 when selected to participate in Achieving the Dream. In 2016, PJC was one of four Texas community colleges and 30 nationwide selected for the AACC Guided Pathways Project. Our work with Pathways led to almost doubling our graduation rates and reducing the time/hours to graduation significantly by getting a student on a path and keeping them on the path providing support services as needed which are shown on Page 2 of the handout. Graduating students faster and with fewer hours reduces the number of contact hours generated each year. Doing the right

thing for students and the State by increasing graduation rates and students graduating with fewer hours reduced enrollment.

Our enrollment began to come back in 2018-2019 and then we were hit with COVID in the spring 2020 indicated in the charts on Page 1 of First-Time In College, Unduplicated Enrollment and FTE. COVID hit our enrollment especially hard. If you look at 2010-2011 compared to 2018-2019 pre-COVID contact hours had dropped 28% and headcount 15%. During COVID the college had an additional drop of 16% for contact hours and 15% for headcount since 2018-2019 to 2021.

Prior to COVID our enrollment had been affected by a population that was not increasing significantly, low-unemployment and successful measures put in place by the college to promote student success and completion. At the same time our enrollment was declining the college was receiving state and national recognition for our work in Pathways such as the Mathways Award from the Texas Success Center in 2018 and the Pathways Award for Excellence in 2019.

There are multiple reasons why our enrollment has declined including high employment in the area, an aging population, limited population growth, increased dual credit and dual credit students going directly to universities upon high school graduation, completion increases which lower the number of hours students take to graduation.

This fall we increased the number of nursing students to 70 in both LVN and RN programs. PJC provides 81% of the nurses at Paris Regional Medical Center. Within the next year, we hope that the college will successfully recruit a segment of the high school population into workforce programs that have not been reached in the past and identify and target adult population that is underemployed and those needing retraining. We hope to be successful in attracting individuals into short=term non-credit reskilling and upskilling initiatives.

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COVID affected Spring 2020, Summer 2020, and all of 2020-21.

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Unduplicated FTE

4691		USC	<b>US Census County Populations</b>	Populations		
4347			Census Year	s Year		Coun
3875		County	2010	2020	% Change	Delta
3680		Delta	5,231	5,230	%0.0	Hopk
3427	3427 You can see the recovery start in 1819 and carry through	Hopkins	35,161	36,787	4.6%	Hunt
3199	3199 fall 2019, but then COVID hit and dropped us off for spring 20 on.	Hunt	86,129	99'66	16.1%	Lama
3036		Lamar	49,793	50,888	2.2%	Red R
3170		Red River	12,860	11,587	%6'6-	Svc Ar
2855		Svc Area Total	189,174	204,448	8.1%	*USC

USC	<b>US Census County Populations</b>	Populations		Perce	int pop	Percent population in Poverty	overty
	Censu	Census Year		County		Overall	Under 18
ty	2010	2020	% Change	Delta		16.0%	25.5%
	5,231	5,230	%0.0	Hopkins		14.7%	20.2%
	35,161	36,787	4.6%	Hunt		14.8%	20.3%
	86,129	936'66	16.1%	Lamar		18.4%	27.3%
	49,793	50,888	2.2%	Red River		19.6%	27.2%
	12,860	11,587	%6.6-	Svc Area Avg	N N	16.7%	24.1%
Total	189,174	204,448	8.1%	*US Censu	SBure	*US Census Bureau for 2019	

