



**LAUREN LOYLESS**  
**DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS**  
**Phone: (903) 881-4001 ext. 1015**  
**Fax: (903) 881-4004**  
loylesslh@lisdeagles.net  
www.lindaleeagles.org

**THE LINDALE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
***EDUCATING EVERY CHILD EVERY DAY***

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*For Immediate Release*

**PRESS RELEASE**

**LHS Freshman Sign Lindale TJC Promise Scholarship**

A large group of Lindale High School ninth-graders have signed up for the TJC Promise, a new, Tyler Junior College scholarship initiative that will benefit high school students within the college's tax district.

This past Tuesday, 193 out of 314 Lindale High School freshmen – along with their parents – signed pledges to meet the standards of the program during their high school years. (More students could still sign the pledge however before the December deadline.)

In return, the Lindale TJC Promise will fund up to two years of their college education. Beginning with the class of 2020, eligible high school graduates from Lindale ISD, and surrounding districts in the partnership, can earn up to two years of tuition and fees at TJC.

“The TJC Promise is an earned scholarship,” TJC President Dr. Mike Metke said. “A student promises to work hard, make good grades, give back to the community and come directly to TJC following graduation from high school. In return, we promise to provide the opportunity for them to continue their education.”

The TJC Promise was inspired by the Rusk TJC Citizens Promise, the first promise program of its kind in the state of Texas, which is privately funded by gifts from Citizens 1st Bank, The James I. Perkins Family Foundation and others. The new program was also developed in partnership with leaders from surrounding school districts.

With more than 120 degree and certificate programs available at the college, plus extensive technical and training programs, students will benefit from the TJC Promise whether they plan to transfer to a four-year institution or go directly into the workforce. For each high school, the TJC Promise carries a community-branded name. For example, in Lindale the scholarship will be the Lindale TJC Promise.

The TJC Promise will offer a path to higher education by making college accessible and affordable. Scholarship standards are based on student performance in high school, which will instill behaviors early on to ensure students will be successful in high school, college and beyond.

“The Lindale TJC promise is such a wonderful opportunity for any Lindale graduate starting with the Class of 2020,” Lindale ISD Superintendent Stan Surratt said. “I personally attended TJC for two years and it was a wonderful experience. I am excited that our students can now earn a two year college scholarship by making good grades, having wonderful attendance and behavior and by giving back to our community through community service. This Lindale TJC promise will help our students, parents, school staff and community focus on attaining a college education after high school much earlier than in the past.”

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