

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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*"Excellence Every Day...No Alibis, No Excuses"*

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## **Lancaster ISD Turns to WIN Learning's Soft Skills and Personalized Career Readiness Program to Prepare Students for Life After High School**

Lancaster, TX/Lancaster ISD

When Texas [House Bill 5](#) (HB 5) takes effect in the 2014-15 school year, students will select a diploma 'endorsement' in one of five areas: science and technology, business and industry, public services, humanities, or a multidisciplinary option. Administrators in [Lancaster Independent School District](#) (LISD) are already taking steps to prepare for HB 5 by offering [WIN Learning](#)'s Personalized Career Readiness System to its middle and high school students beginning this school year.

WIN Learning's research-based Career-Driven Education model offers a three-pronged approach to prepare students for today's global economic opportunities and challenges. With the data-rich career exploration system WIN Strategic Compass®, students can analyze current and projected labor market data to reveal career pathways. The program's Initial Skills Review™ measures individual career readiness and skill development gaps, which leads to the WIN Career Readiness® Courseware offering direct, contextual instruction through applied academics for workplace skill mastery.

"We are excited about the opportunity to partner with WIN Learning," said Dr. Michael McFarland, superintendent of schools, LISD. "Our focus in Lancaster is to ensure that our students will graduate with more than a high school diploma and be prepared for a host of opportunities that await them. WIN Learning is a purposeful partnership in this pursuit and we believe the relationship will help us to accelerate our efforts to guarantee that our students are college and career ready."

The WIN Learning Personalized Career Readiness System is based on the WIN Educonomy Model – an intersection between education and local and regional economies where data on job markets helps students understand employability, foundational and social skills within the context of future careers. This real-world focus helps determine the personalized selection of coursework and other experiences in high school that will lead students to their desired careers, either directly after graduation or following further training and/or completing their college education.

The system also includes the recently launched WIN Soft Skills Series®, a first-of-its-kind program which builds skills mastery around the behavioral, attitudinal, social, and readiness skills employers and post-secondary programs demand. As the only web-based soft skills curriculum on the market today, WIN Soft Skills will provide Lancaster ISD educators with an exclusive curricular framework to teach their middle and high school students highly sought after foundational behaviors such as conveying professionalism, communicating effectively, promoting teamwork and collaboration, thinking critically and solving problems. All attitudinal skills addressed in the courseware are revealed within the context of the workplace, to provide relevancy to the learning experience.

“As Texas districts, large or rural, prepare for the new high school diploma rules they can be assured that our scalable solution will meet their needs,” said John Costilla, vice president, WIN Learning. “Our solution was designed with education and the economy in mind. We understand the intricacies where supply, demand, and career pathways are the new drivers for education and training, people and talent, occupations and jobs, and business and industry and can help district be prepared for the future, now.”

### **About WIN Learning**

Since 1996, WIN has become the leading provider of career readiness solutions to help districts prepare pathways for students’ futures, whether they are college, trade school, military or workplace bound. To date, more than 10 million students worldwide have participated in the specialized career-driven courseware and education intervention initiatives as well as career-readiness certification programs. For more information, go to <http://www.winlearning.com> or call 888-717-9461.

Read the full story at <http://www.prweb.com/releases/2013/9/prweb11094717.htm>

*The Lancaster Public Schools serve more than 6,000 pre-kindergarten through grade 12 students in 11 schools. The mission of the Lancaster Independent School District, a leader in providing innovative, quality programs, is to educate every student with the knowledge; skills; and principles to succeed and contribute in a competitive and technologically advancing world by providing rigorous and engaging learning opportunities that promote diversity; create an environment of integrity and respect; and establish a commitment to continued improvement in partnership with families and community.*

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