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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Lancaster ISD among finalists for \$2.5 Million Grant

Lancaster, Texas/Lancaster ISD

Raise Your Hand Texas recently announced that Lancaster ISD is among the 75 semifinalist public schools and district applicants chosen for its Raising Blended Learners \$2.5 Million grant initiative. As a semifinalist, blended learning specialists from Lancaster ISD will attend a two-day blended learning workshop in the fall.

“It’s exciting to know that out of all the districts in the state of Texas that applied for this grant, Lancaster’s vision for blended learning was clear and convincing enough to be selected to move to the next level,” said Nicholas Keith, Blended Learning Specialist for Lancaster ISD. “The blended learning workshops this fall gives us a chance to take some focused, off-site time and really start to plan for the logistics of what blended learning could look like in Lancaster.”

Lancaster ISD will also have the opportunity to present their district blended learning plan, to Raise Your Hand Texas, with the hopes of becoming one of ten finalists chosen in January 2016 to receive assistance in refining their plans. The funding will be awarded to five winners who will receive up to \$500,000 and technical support in implementing their blended learning programs in April 2016.

“As a district, we have already invested in a 1:1 technology pilot program that consists of 19 teachers and over 1000 students,” said Keith. “By putting in the work to develop a plan, secure funding, and move forward with implementation, Lancaster is already a step ahead in the area of equipping our schools with technology for learning.”

Blended learning is the strategic combination of online and face-to-face instruction. Through sound technology integration strategies, teachers move in the direction of being able to serve the diverse needs of their classroom by using the technology available to them. Raise your Hand Texas is a non-profit organization that invest in best-in-class programs to develop an innovative new breed of leaders for Texas public schools, and lead research-driven public policy advocacy that elevates the quality of Texas public education.

Visit RaiseYourHandTexas.org to learn more about their organization and for more information about blended learning within Lancaster ISD visit www.LancasterISD.org.

The Lancaster Independent School District serves more than 7,000 pre-kindergarten through grade 12 students in 11 schools. Our vision is that all students achieve self-sustaining success and leave a lasting legacy. And our mission, in collaboration with parents and communities, is to ignite learning that translates into sustainable success for all students in an ever-changing society.