DECEMBER 2015
Dear Parents/Families,

This month brings many new opportunities for you to become more engaged in your child’s education. The UTSA Office of P-20 Initiatives reminds you that your child can develop a love for learning that will last a lifetime. Please share this information with other parents and let us know if you have any ideas for future topics.

Sincerely,
UTSA Office of P-20 Initiatives

PLANNING FOR COLLEGE

While you are enjoying the holiday break, you may find some extra time to help your child begin to plan for their future. The College Board makes it easy to think about college and career with their Big Future planning tool: bigfuture.collegeboard.org/make-a-plan.

THE TEXAS TRIBUNE TEXAS PUBLIC SCHOOLS DATABASE

The Texas Tribune invites you to use their revamped Texas public schools database to learn more about the state’s 1,219 districts and 8,646 public schools, including hundreds of charter schools and alternative campuses. You can easily navigate through information on demographics, academic performance, college readiness and average teacher salaries for each school or district: schools.texastribune.org/.

PREP 2016 APPLICATIONS DUE JANUARY 30, 2016

The Prefreshman Engineering Program (PREP) offers an opportunity for your child to connect with like-minded students who are interested in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). By enrolling, your child will attend classes on a college campus, meet guest speakers from a variety of STEM professions, and develop problem solving and critical thinking skills. The program is challenging, but rewarding! Plus, high school elective credit is awarded for the successful completion of each summer of PREP. Students in grades 6th-11th may apply. To learn more, visit prep-usa.org/portal/main/articlesdetail.asp?id=3863&pageno or call 210.458.2060.

KEEPING SKILLS SHARP OVER THE HOLIDAY BREAK

Winter break means a well-deserved reprieve from homework and daily obligations. But before you know it, the holidays will be over and it will be back to the bus stop. To prepare for a smooth re-entry and a successful second semester, don't let school skills like reading, writing, and math slide completely during winter vacation. Try these family-friendly activities to keep skills sharp: scholastic.com/parents/resources/article/parent-child/keep-skills-sharp-during-winter-break.

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 9th Financial Aid 101 - For students and parents who need college financial aid information and advising: cafecollege.org/events-registration

January 21-22 Texas Mentoring Summit - For mentors and mentoring advocates from across Texas. Celebrate National Mentoring Month: utsa.edu/mentoring/summit2016/