



The #GradEffect: The Economic Impact of an Increased Graduation Rate in the Rio Grande Valley



Friday, September 15, 2017
8:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Location

[Texas State Technical College](#)

1902 North Loop 499
Harlingen, TX 78550

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Please join the [Alliance for Excellent Education](#), the [Mexican American School Board Members Association](#) (MASBA), the [Leadership Empowerment Group](#), and the [McNeil Educational Foundation](#) for a convening on how increasing Texas' high school graduation rate can create jobs, increase consumer spending, and boost the local and state economies.

Join business leaders, educators, community members, education advocates, and others for a vigorous conversation on this "graduation effect." Kicking off the day with the keynote will be Former Governor Bob Wise of the Alliance and MASBA's Sam Guzman.

The event will provide new data linking improved educational outcomes to economic gains and showcase new ideas for ensuring that young people graduate from high school ready for a variety of post-secondary options.

The day will start at 8:00 am with registration and breakfast, the program will commence at 9:00 am, lunch will be served, and the event will finish at 2:00 pm. We look forward to seeing you there!

[The graduation effect event will feature the following panelists](#)

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and special guests:

- Sen. Eddie Lucio, Jr., Senate of Texas (District 27)
- Gov. Bob Wise, President, Alliance for Excellent Education
- Cynthia Sakulenzki, President and Chief Executive Officer, Rio Grande Valley Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- J.R. Gonzales, Executive Vice Chair, Texas Association of Mexican American Chambers of Commerce; Former President/CEO, U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Discussion topics will include the following:

- What data shows about economic impact of high school graduation rates
- How businesses and schools can work together to raise high school graduation rates
- Economic and educational future of South Texas

The conference will take place at **Texas State Technical College in Harlingen from 8 AM – 2 PM on September 15, 2017** and is intended to promote successful partnerships between School Districts and business entities. We have numerous MASBA member districts that have internship, dual credit, and other collaborations between their high schools, local businesses, training schools, and colleges.

NO COST TO ATTEND

School Districts, please register at least THREE representatives from your district to attend.

Please select delegates who can learn from the conference as well as speak to the interactive Themes of the conference.

MASBA Member districts may e-mail the MASBA office at MASBA.PR@gmail.com with your list of attendees. For more information, you may call us at 210.478.7901.

We look forward to hearing from you soon. Thank you in advance for your commitment to education.

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Yours in Service,
The Mexican American School Board Members Association
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The Alliance for Excellent Education



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Membership

MASBA membership is open to all Texas School Districts and those interested in the betterment of public education. We encourage all school districts to join. [Membership](#) allows a district's entire school board and superintendent to attend the MASBA Annual Conference with no additional registration fees. **MASBA awards over \$15,000 annually to students whose districts are MASBA members.** MASBA has nearly 90 member school districts and continues to grow each year. To become a part of MASBA and for more information about our initiatives and the value of membership, please visit our website at www.MASBA.info.

About MASBA

The Mexican American School Board Members Association (MASBA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Our members are school districts, their board members/trustees, administrators and education service centers.

The mission of the Mexican American School Board Members Association is to:

- Make high quality education possible to ALL students.
- Increase parental and community participation in public governance.
- Improve academic achievement.
- Advocate for equitable school finance.

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