



TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT COUNCILS  
TASC TOP PROJECTS COMPETITION

☒ High School

☐ Middle Level

ENTRY COVER SHEET

PLEASE INDICATE:

THIS IS AN INDIVIDUAL COUNCIL PROJECT. ☒

THIS IS A COLLABORATIVE COUNCIL PROJECT. ☐

<b>School Name submitting the application.</b>	<b>School Address:</b>
Mission Early College High School	10700 Gateway Blvd E
<b>School City/State/Zip:</b>	<b>Size of Community(ies):</b>
El Paso, TX, 79927	425
<b>Advisor Name:</b>	<b>Advisor E-Mail:</b>
Drew Dungan	ddunga@sisd.net
<b>Principal Name:</b>	<b>Principal Signature &amp; Email Address</b>
Benjamin Ortega	borteg05@sisd.net
<b>School UIL Classification:</b>	
3A	
<b>Project Name:</b>	<b>Project Dates:</b>
Blast to the Past	April 19, 2024
<b>Total Number of Students in Council(s):</b>	<b>Number of Members Involved in the Project:</b>
80	80
<b>Total Number of Students Enrolled in School(s):</b>	<b>Number of Other Students Involved in Project:</b>
425	350
<b>Total Number of Faculty employed in School(s):</b>	<b>Number of Faculty Involved in Project:</b>
25	25
<b>Number of Community Groups Involved in Project</b>	<b>Number of Community Members Involved in Project</b>
200	200

THIS INFORMATION MUST BE SUBMITTED ONLINE. THE TASC WEBSITE DOES NOT ACCEPT GOOGLE DOCS.

This application must be submitted online via the TASC website.

Upload photos, newspaper articles, etc. **Scan all pages into one document and upload for judging.**

Please upload one good jpeg of the project separately.

Please consider submitting a proposal for a table talk (HS) on your project at the high school conference or for a breakout at the Middle-Level Conference for extra points. You must apply to do that.

Top Projects Rating Sheet (for judges only) Councils may want this as a reference.

School Name	1 Not Met	2	3 Met	4	5 Exceeds
Project Meets Objective					
Amount of Involvement: Council					
Amount of Involvement: Student(s)					
Amount of Involvement: Other School Organizations					
Amount of Involvement: Teachers					
Amount of Involvement: Community					
Originality					
Overall Results: Students					
Overall Results: Faculty/Community					
Project relative to school/community size					
Submitted proposal for presentation at conference					
Evaluation Score Subtotals					

Total Evaluation Score \_\_\_\_\_

**For Collaborative Project, list contact information for all councils involved.**

School Name	School Mailing Address (include zip code)	Advisor Name	Advisor Email Address
N/A			

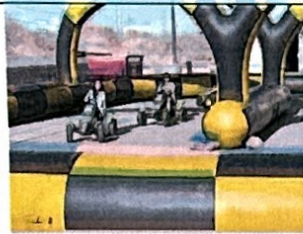
Top Projects Rating Sheet (for judges only) Councils may want this as a reference.

School Name	1 Not Met	2	3 Met	4	5 Exceeds
Project Meets Objective					
Amount of Involvement: Council					
Amount of Involvement: Student(s)					
Amount of Involvement: Other School Organizations					
Amount of Involvement: Teachers					
Amount of Involvement: Community					
Originality					
Overall Results: Students					
Overall Results: Faculty/Community					
Project relative to school/community size					
Submitted proposal for presentation at conference					
Evaluation Score Subtotals					

Total Evaluation Score \_\_\_\_\_

**For Collaborative Project, list contact information for all councils involved.**

School Name	School Mailing Address (include zip code)	Advisor Name	Advisor Email Address
N/A			



relationships. Local businesses and other organizations often provide support and resources that are available to our community.

Since we are a small school, events like these are a chance for us to grow and connect to those around us. This past year we invited the Mission Ridge Elementary Student Council by gifting them tickets to

attend our school festival to inspire them to continue working hard after we partnered with them and mentored them to achieve their Outstanding Stu Co. Leading up to the event we like to involve the students at MLCHS by encouraging them to dress up based on the theme (this past year was the 1970s) to help us promote and build up excitement for Blast to the Past.

We also like to practice our recycling by providing a thrift store and using recycled materials for our displays, which students use to express their creativity to create a fun and exciting atmosphere. We host an environmental science booth, which is both fun and engaging, we teach kids how to use resources at home to do science experiments. For example, last year we taught kids how to use household items to make a volcano lava lamp. Local performances and the car show are some of our main attractions for Blast to the Past. The car show is composed of classic cars which invited car enthusiasts to come and check out. For our local performances, we have our Flamingo Dance Troup and our 8th junior class perform a fun dance focused on small businesses throughout the day. We also have a lot of other activities such as the Stalk Girls performance and a lot of other activities.

Our school festival is a great opportunity for students to show their talents and creativity. We are proud to have a large number of students and adults participating in our event. We are also proud to have a large number of students and adults participating in our event. We are also proud to have a large number of students and adults participating in our event.

## Mission Early College High School

### Blast to the Past 1970s Community Event

MECHS Student Council hosts Blast to the Past, an annual event where our objective is to bring the community together to enjoy food, performances, games, and much more. We involve the community by inviting local businesses and vendors, helping them promote themselves and allowing us to create long lasting partnerships. Non-profit organizations such as Project Vida and El Paso County Sheriff Department educate us on the resources that are available to our community.

Since we are a small school, events like these are a chance for us to grow and connect to those around us. This previous year we invited the Mission Ridge Elementary Student Council, by gifting them tickets to attend our event, hoping to inspire them to continue working hard after we partnered with them and mentored them to achieve TASC Outstanding Stu Co. Leading up to the event we like to involve the students at MECHS by encouraging them to dress up based on the theme (this past year was the 1970s) to help us promote and build up excitement for Blast to the Past.

We also like to practice sustainability by providing a thrift store and using recycled materials for decorations, which students use to express their creativity to create a fun and exciting atmosphere. We host an educational science booth, which is both fun and engaging, we teach kids how to use resources at home to recreate fun science experiments. For example, last year we taught kids how to use household items to make their own lava lamp. Local performances and the car show are some of our main attractions for Blast to the Past. The car show is composed of classic cars which invites car enthusiasts to come and check out. For our local performances, we have our Flames Dance Team and our full junior class perform a fun dance focused on small famous dances throughout the decades. We also have local bands, such as the Statik Girls, perform and showcase their talents.

Blast to the Past is an exciting and impactful annual event organized by MECHS Student Council to build a stronger and more connected community. We emphasize all 4 of the TASC Core Committees within our event: D.A.S.H., E&E, P&P and of course Community Service!



# Mission Early College High School



10700 Gateway Blvd. E. El Paso, Texas 79927, Phone: 915-937-1200, Fax: 915-860-2935

January 25, 2025

TASC Top Project Selection Committee,

I'm writing in support of the Mission Early College High School 2024 Blast to the Past 1970s Festival as a Top TASC Project. We at Mission Early College High School stand behind this project due to the full community impact of this project and legacy.

As a TASC project it emphasized all 4 of the Core Committees within TASC: D.A.S.H. through our invitation of the El Paso County Sheriff Department and hosting of Safe Driving through Drunk Goggles Community Event; Energy & Environment through emphasis on reusable materials for decorations and sustainable activities such as educating our community with plants and through science projects like the lava lamp activity and use of the MECHS Thrift Shop; Pride & Patriotism through our campus-wide inclusion of all clubs and organizations, classes, alumni, faculty, parents; and Community Service through the emphasis on volunteering both within the campus and throughout the community and inclusion of community partners.

We believe this event brings a small campus like ours into an out-sized impact within our community and encourages lasting memories with our graduates who are encouraged to return and connect with the campus. This event is truly the heart of who we are as Phoenix and kept us thriving this past year. We hope you'll consider recognizing us for our council's hard work. We are proud to be Mission Early College High School, and we were proud to Blast to the Past!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Ben Ortega'.

Benjamin Ortega, M.Ed.  
Principal, Mission Early College High School