



**For Immediate Release**

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**Media Contact:**

Talan Tyminski, 636.675.3672

TTyminski@themach1group

## ***Permian Basin Schools to Benefit from \$6.1 Million Investment in Leadership Training***

*Permian Strategic Partnership and Scharbauer Foundation to provide training through The Holdsworth Center*

**MIDLAND, TEXAS** - (Mar. 27, 2023) The [Permian Strategic Partnership](#) (PSP) and the [Scharbauer Foundation](#) announced today their continued commitment to supporting education in the Permian Basin by partnering with the [Holdsworth Center](#) on a \$6.1 million investment in leadership training of public school officials across the region. This partnership recognizes the importance of investing in education leaders to ensure student success and community prosperity.

Over the next two years, the goal is to strengthen the leadership skills of up to 100 principals, assistant principals, teachers and district administrators and build stronger talent development opportunities in the region's largest school systems.

Scharbauer Foundation will contribute \$1.5 million to the effort, with the PSP contributing \$4.6mm.

"We believe that investing in educational leadership is fundamental for securing a prosperous future in the Permian Basin," said Tracee Bentley, President and CEO of the PSP. "The Holdsworth Center has proven to be an exceptional partner, equipping public school leaders with the tools, skills and top tier training we need to elevate the quality of education in our region. Our continued partnership provides a valuable opportunity to ensure all students across the Permian Basin have access to the education they need to succeed."

Fueled by regional growth, public schools in the Permian Basin are experiencing extreme increases in student populations and, unfortunately, have underperformed compared to other regions. Compounding the issue, schools in the area face a shortage in both teaching and leadership positions, further limiting educational opportunities for public school students.

"Because teachers, principals, assistant principals, and district administrators are educational "first responders" who provide learning opportunities and hope for our children and families, Scharbauer Foundation is proud to partner with PSP, The Holdsworth Center, and the participating districts in this important initiative," said Grant Billingsley, President and CEO of Scharbauer Foundation, Inc.



Since its founding in 2017, The Holdsworth Center has served more than 1,370 educators in 50 Texas public school districts.

This spring, Holdsworth will select the first cohort of 24 Permian Basin schools and districts to participate in its 2-year [Campus Leadership Program](#), which helps teams of leaders strengthen their leadership muscles and learn new ways to tackle issues standing in the way of student success.

The program has a track record of success. Despite the challenges of the last two years, 84 percent of schools in the program made significant progress toward an ambitious student impact goal.

“The only way to achieve better results for students is to invest deeply in the dedicated educators who serve them,” said Dr. Lindsay Whorton, president of The Holdsworth Center. “We are grateful to PSP and Scharbauer for their vision and commitment to student success and are eager to lift up and strengthen educators in the Permian Basin region.”

In addition to the Campus Leadership Program, three of the region’s largest districts will participate in the [Holdsworth Leadership Collaborative](#), a program designed to help district leaders build a strong bench of aspiring principals who are ready to step into school leadership positions when they arise.

#### **About the Holdsworth Center**

Driven by the belief that great leaders can push student achievement levels to new heights, The Holdsworth Center partners with Texas public school districts to help educators become experts at leadership and to grow stronger leaders within their own systems. Founded in 2017, Holdsworth makes investments within districts and brings education leaders from across Texas to learn at its Campus on Lake Austin, a one-of-a-kind place dedicated to the idea that public education matters. For more information, visit [Holdsworthcenter.org](http://Holdsworthcenter.org).

#### **About the Permian Strategic Partnership**

The Permian Strategic Partnership (PSP) is a coalition of 20 leading Permian Basin energy companies who joined together to work in partnership with leaders across the region’s communities to address current and future challenges to the responsible development of the vast oil and natural gas resources of the Permian Basin in the states of New Mexico and Texas. The PSP member companies are: Apache, BPX Energy, Chevron, ConocoPhillips, Coterra Energy, Devon Energy, Diamondback Energy, Endeavor Energy Resources, EOG Resources, ExxonMobil, Halliburton, Helmerich & Payne, Kinetik, Occidental, Orintiv, Permian Resources, Pioneer Natural Resources, Plains All American, SLB, and WaterBridge Resources. For more information, visit [www.permianpartnership.org](http://www.permianpartnership.org).

#### **About the Scharbauer Foundation**

Scharbauer Foundation, Inc. is a private charitable foundation in Midland, Texas, whose mission is to support organizations and activities that help individuals succeed personally and at work. For more information, visit [www.scharbauerfoundation.org](http://www.scharbauerfoundation.org).

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