



# Brownsville Independent School District

1900 Price Road Brownsville, Texas 78521-2417

## District Education Improvement Council

### Unofficial Minutes for September 16, 2019

#### CAB Cafeteria

Dr. René Gutiérrez  
Superintendent

Dr. Dora E. Saucedo  
Assistant Superintendent for C&I

#### BISD Mission Statement

Brownsville Independent School District will graduate students who are prepared to excel in higher education and successfully pursue career opportunities in a changing global society by maximizing resources to ensure equitable opportunities for all students.

#### Beliefs:

- Everyone in our community has inherent values, talents and strengths.
- High expectations, perseverance, and a strong work ethic are essential in fostering higher achievement and success.
- Students are our number one resource.
- Academic success nurtures lifelong learning.
- Everyone flourishes in a safe and healthy educational environment.
- The success of each student, educator and family is vital for future growth and sustainability of our community.
- The community and families share responsibility for the development and mentoring of our students.

I. Meeting Called to Order by Ms. Anna Gabbert, 2018-2019 President at 5:30 PM at CAB Cafeteria.

II. Roll Call Conducted by Ms. Anna Gabbert, President, with officers from 2018-2019.

The following campus representatives were absent:

Location	Last Name	First Name
District Administrator	Gonzales	Maria
Faulk MS	Diaz	Edgar
Hanna ECHS	Velasco	Martin
Southmost Elementary	Guzman	Virginia
Veterans ECHS	Gonzalez	Patricia

Substitutes were present for the following campuses:

Location	Substitute	Representative
Egly Elementary	Perez, Lucila	Martinez, Maribel
El Jardin Elementary	Longoria, Patricia	Ruediger, Lisa
Garcia MS	Saldana, Gloria	Herrera, Juana
Gonzalez Elementary	Sandell, Rachel	Pending election
Pullam Elementary	Rodriguez, Glenda	Bodden, Maria
Villa Nueva Elementary	Perez, Maricelda	Pena, Ernie

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- III. Welcome by Dr. Anysia Trevino, Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Human Resources, representing Dr. René Gutiérrez, BISD Superintendent. On his behalf she recognized the membership for their service and told them they represented over 2000 teachers and reminded them of the importance of taking the information back to their peers. She recommended that representatives ask principal for time at meetings to debrief faculty for the information shared at the meeting.
- IV. Unofficial Minutes of the Monday, May 13, 2019, DEIC Meeting were approved with two corrections to the attendance information: Maricelda Perez substituted for Ernie Vela for Villa Nueva Elementary and Maria Castillo was present for Cromack Elementary. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Natalie Herfindahl, Sharp Elementary, and seconded by Sylvia McDonough from Burns Elementary. The motion was approved unanimously.
- V. The following representatives were nominated without opposition and were elected unanimously as officers for 2019-2020:
- A. President: Anna Gabbert, Pace Early College High School, Behavior Intervention Teacher
  - B. Vice-President: Dr. Ninfa Garcia, Brownsville Academic Center, Reading Teacher
  - C. Secretary: Eliseo Garza, Palm Grove Elementary, Kindergarten Teacher
  - D. Parliamentarian: Leticia Rodriguez, Stillman Middle School, Science Teacher
- VI. Presentations
- A. Miguel Salinas, BISD Staff Attorney, presented a quick overview of Robert's Rules of Order and how to make motions and voting on action items. He noted that he was condensing over 700 pages of the rules into a brief description of the most important parts for the DEIC that is the making of motions and voting. He complimented the members for taking on the responsibility of representing their campuses.
  - B. DEIC Meeting Calendar presented by Roni Louise Rentfro, DCSI for members to be able to put the dates on their calendars. She noted that the meetings are held at the CAB Cafeteria so that they could be held at one location all year and not get bumped out of the Boardroom as had been happening in the past when the meetings were scheduled for the BISD Boardroom.
  - C. Dr. Dora E. Saucedo, Assistant Superintendent for C&I, requested volunteers for the BISD Calendar Committee to sign up so that the work can begin on the calendar for 2020-2021. Anna Gabbert from Pace ECHS commented that she really liked this year's calendar. Several members did sign up to be on this committee.
  - D. Roni Louise Rentfro, DCSI, showed the membership how to go about signing up for goal sub-committees via <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DEICgoalSubCommittee> and informed members that they would receive an email this week. She noted that most members were able to be on their first or second subcommittee but occasionally were placed with their third choice to make sure

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committees are balanced. Members should complete the survey in the next 2 weeks and before the next DEIC meeting.

- E. Carlos Olvera, Administrator for Bilingual Education, presented information about Lexia Software, SEESAW, and ITSL earning district-wide pilot projects to allow the district to analyze the different platforms to determine which will work best for the district. The pilots are free of charge for the district. The district is also looking into a software called CANVASS. The purpose is to make sure the district and campuses have the best software and try them out for no cost when possible. The sign in to these platforms is through CLEVER, the district's single sign-on.

#### VII. Action Items

- A. Dr. Norma Ibarra, Administrator for Secondary Curriculum presented the request for approval for 2019-2020 Curriculum Department English Language Arts pull-out days for training for middle school teachers. The motion to approve was made by Celia de Lara from Manzano MS and seconded by Martha Barrios from Perkins MS, the motion was approved unanimously.
- B. Dr. Norma Ibarra, Administrator for Secondary Curriculum presented the request for approval for 2019-2020 Curriculum Department English Language Arts pull-out days for new TEKS training for high school teachers. The motion to approve was made by Luz Marshall from Martin Elementary and seconded by Patience Nelson from Lincoln Park School, the motion was approved unanimously.
- C. Dr. Norma Ibarra, Administrator for Secondary Curriculum presented the request for approval for 2019-2020 Curriculum Department pull-out days for Sharon Wells Math training for elementary teachers. The sessions will be half-day in length through-out the school year for each six weeks. The first trainings will be on September 23, 2019 with future dates and locations are being arranged but not available at this time. The staff are asking for approval to be able to move forward making arrangements for the rest of the year. The motion to approve was made by Rachel Guerrero from Vermillion Elementary and seconded by Melisa Chavez from Gallegos Elementary, the motion was approved unanimously.
- D. Michael Benavides, Special Services Supervisor, presented the request for approval in place of Ms. Lippa, Interim Administrator, for 2019-2020 Special Services Department pull-out days for training for Triple T (TTT) teachers on October 17, 2019. Motion to approve by Gloria Saldana from Garcia Middle School and seconded by Marisa Davies from Perez Elementary, the motion was unanimously approved.
- E. Request for approval for 2019-2020 Special Services Department pull-out days for training for Special Education teachers presented by Michael Benavides for Adriana Lippa, Interim Administrator for Special Services. Mr. Benavidez went through the various trainings that the district is planning to provide the various special education teachers with effective training in the

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areas that they support students. The motion to approve was made by Rachel Guerrero from Vermillion Elementary and seconded by Rosalinda Williams, Parent Representative. The motion was approved unanimously.

- F. Request for approval for 2019-2020 Bilingual Department pull-out days for training for teachers presented by Carlos Olvera, Administrator for Bilingual Education. One of the representatives asked which teachers were expected to attend and he clarified that this was for the elementary teachers that are servicing English learning students. The Department staff are following up on the campus assignments to make sure all students identified for Bilingual services are with teachers who are certified. The motion to approve was made by Carmen Garcia from Canales Elementary and seconded by Felisa Van Cise from Rivera ECHS, and the motion was approved unanimously.
- G. Presentation of and request for approval of 2019-2020 District Improvement Plan and recommendation to submit for Board approval presented by Roni Louise Rentfro, DEIC Facilitator. She informed the membership that the Curriculum Department is asking for support to add Sharon Wells Mathematics to the Goal 1, Performance Objective 1, Strategy 1. She also informed the membership that Goal 8 was significantly revised to establish performance objectives for each of the gears in the Future Ready district plan. Alma Cardenas Rubio went over some of the process about how the Goal 8, Technology subcommittee worked in the Spring of 2019 on reviewing the strategies in the District Improvement Plan based on the work BISSD Technology Committee during the Spring. The entire Future Ready plan is on the BISSD ISET website and the key strategies were included under the different performance objectives in the District Improvement Plan (DIP). Ms. Rubio also reminded members of the upcoming 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual ISET Bash on September 27-28, 2019 at Veterans ECHS. The motion to approve was made by Luz Marshall from Martin Elementary and seconded by Anna Gabbert from Pace ECHS. The motion was unanimously approved.

#### VIII. Announcements

- A. Next DEIC Meeting – Monday, October 21, 2019, at 5:30 PM at CAB Cafeteria
- B. Members will continue to be pre-registered for the meetings in the Professional Development System. Substitutes should register for the session (PDS#113298).
- C. Roni Rentfro congratulated the membership as contributors to the BISSD 2019 rating of an “A” as well as the many other campus accolades from the past school year.
- A. Adjournment: Micaela Escobar, Special Assignment Administrator for Finance made the motion to adjourn and Andrea Benavidez from Lopez ECHS seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously at approximately 6:25 PM.

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