



Brownsville Independent School District

1900 Price Road Brownsville, Texas 78521-2417

District Education Improvement Council Unofficial Minutes for November 18, 2019 Oliveira MS Cafeteria

Dr. Anysia Treviño
Deputy Superintendent for C&I and
Human Resources

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

Dr. René Gutiérrez
Superintendent

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.

- I. Meeting Called to Order by Ms. Anna Gabbert, President at 5:30 PM at Oliveira Cafeteria.
- II. Roll Call was conducted by Ms. Anna Gabbert, President.

The following campus representatives were absent:

Location	Last Name	First Name
Faulk MS	Diaz	Edgar
Garden Park Elementary	Vera	Martina
Hanna ECHS	Velasco	Martin
Oliveira MS	Gracia	Matthew
District Level	Gonzales	Maria V.

Substitutes were present for the following campuses:

Location	Representative	Substitute
Aiken Elementary	Trevino, Arturo	Najera, Gloria
Rivera ECHS	Van Cise, Felisa	Gaucin, Anna
Vela MS	Mendoza, Miguel	Galvan, Jason
Vermillion Elementary	Guerrero, Rachel	Mejia, Maricela
Yturria Elementary	Longoria, Leticia	Morales, Dawn

- III. Welcome was done by Dr. Roni Louise Rentfro, DEIC Facilitator, representing Dr. René Gutiérrez, BISD Superintendent. On his behalf, she noted that the Dr. Gutierrez, Dr. Trevino, and Dr. Saucedo were again not able to attend the DEIC meeting due to a Special Called Board Meeting. She apologized for the need to change locations twice for the meeting but hoped everyone got the information in time. A few DEIC members wanted to know if the Superintendent would be able to come address the council and her response was that she would work on the December agenda and hopefully there would not be a Special Called Board Meeting for the 16th. She reminded the members about getting tickets for Santa and Friends and enjoying other events occurring in the district.

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- IV. Unofficial Minutes of the Monday, October 18, 2019, DEIC Meeting were approved unanimously after the motion to approve was made by Carmen Garcia, Canales Elementary, and seconded by Ana P. Gonzalez from Veterans ECHS.
- V. Presentations
- A. Roni Louise Rentfro, DCSI, substituting for Cynthia Castro, Administrator for Professional Development, presented an update on the Calendar Committee progress in developing the Academic Calendar for 2020-2021.
- The Calendar Committee met on November 15th and began the work to look at all of the components that must be included or worked around to prepare the 2020-2021 Academic Calendar options.
 - The council members were emailed a link to provide advice or feedback for the committee to use in drafting next year's calendar regarding possible start dates, schedule of breaks, and professional development dates. She listed some of the many items the committee needed to take into account in creating the 2 or 3 options: start dates, holidays, testing days, professional development days, minutes required for student attendance, contract days, and other requirements.
 - The DEIC members were informed that the voting will take place on-line at all campuses and district departments using a process similar to real elections where all voters report to a specific location at an assigned site. The system will use a secure login for access and voting will be monitored by campus and departmental staff. Principals will get the information at the next Administrators' Meeting.
 - She also noted that, regardless of which group or way the votes were organized (campus, department, certified or classified staff), the same calendar was the top choice for 2019-2020.
- B. Merrill Hammons, Administrator for the College and Career Readiness Department (formerly known as the Department for Advanced Academic Services or DAAS), presented an overview of the new TEA Gifted and Talented Plan requirements that go into full effect next year.
- All schools are currently in compliance with the plan for this year's G/T State Plan requirements. The state is continuing the same requirements for professional development, coursework differentiation, and other program guidelines.
 - He made it clear that the expectation from the state is for G/T identified students to receive services in groups or clusters within classroom settings or pull-outs for just identified students. Middle school campuses may set up G/T only sections but must at least cluster them in Honors courses in their area(s) of strength.

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- c. High schools can place students in Honors or AP or Dual courses but the coursework MUST be differentiated using creativity, student interest options, and opportunities to produce products/independent studies in area(s) of interest. Dual courses taught by BISD staff must include differentiated instruction. Dual courses taught by an adjunct who is not a BISD teacher will not have to differentiate which means the course will not count for G/T services.
 - d. Elementary students are already expected to have Student Performance Record (SPR) forms to document projects and differentiation of work but now secondary students will need to have as well.
 - e. TEA requires the district to commit to fund the G/T Program at least at the level it was funded before this year. The district must treat the money as special population funding and be used only for identified students. Funds cannot be used for general supplies, UIL or Chess but can be used for Destination Imagination, field trips (for identified students only—not all students), Brainsville Inventions, or other programs BISD supports for G/T student services. Funds cannot be used for awards or recognitions for any students.
 - f. A G/T compliance checklist will be sent to campuses to use to see if they will be in compliance for 2020-2021. If the campus is missing any compliance area, the campus will need to create a Corrective Action Plan that will be monitored by the department staff.
- C. Roni Rentfro, DCSI, shared an update on the five State required Domain D Targeted Improvement Plans presented to and approved by the BISD Board of Trustees on November 6, 2019. The eight Targeted Support campuses that are not D in a Domain have targeted plans that will be approved by the Superintendent. All campuses are working on at least one focus area under Priority Lever 5: Effective Instruction and most are also working on either Lever 1: Strong School Leadership and Planning or Prioritized Lever 3: Positive School Culture.
- D. Dr. Rentfro ended the presentations by giving each member a notepad and pen to allow them to begin a gratitude journal. The following activity is excerpted from *The Burnout Cure: Learning to Love Teaching Again* by Chase Mielke, pages 60-61:
- a. Tip #1: Don't make it a chore—the frequency of writing in the journal is determined by you
 - b. Tip #2: One deep reflection is better than more shallow thoughts—explaining why you are grateful helps you be more mindful
 - c. Tip#3: It is not pass/fail! Don't quit the practice if you are not adding to the journal regularly—just keep adding when you are able to do so!

VI. Action Items

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- A. Roni Rentfro, DSCI, substituted for Dr. Norma Ibarra, Administrator for Secondary Curriculum, to present the request for approval for 2019-2020 Curriculum Department English Language Arts pull-out days for Jane Schaffer Essay training for high school teachers. Campuses will be able to send all ELA I and II teachers and, if slots are still available, Special Education Resource Teachers or English III/IV teachers. Pat Nelson from Lincoln Park School made the motion to approve and Anna Gabbert from Pace ECHS seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
- B. The request for approval for 2019-2020 Bilingual Department pull-out days for Cohort 2 teachers preparation for the BTLPT certification exam was presented by Carlos Olvera, Administrator for Bilingual Education. He noted this was an additional date for this training due to a conflict with the ISET Bash sessions. He explained that the date has been changed to *December 4th* instead of December 10, 2019 to avoid another conflict. The motion to approve was made by Victor Rangel from Russell Elementary and seconded by Patricia from Breeden Elementary. The motion was approved unanimously.

VII. Announcements

- A. Next DEIC Meeting – Monday, December 16, 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 session (PDS#113317).

VIII. Adjournment

The motion to adjourn was made by Luz Marshall from Martin Elementary and seconded by Andrea Ortiz from Lopez ECHS. The motion was approved unanimously at approximately 6:00 PM.