



# BROWNSVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

## District-wide Educational Improvement Council (DEIC)

2016-2017

### Unofficial Meeting Minutes

**Monday, April 24, 2017**

**5:30 pm**

**CAB Cafeteria**

**PDS#61760**

**Facilitators: Bertha Peña, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction  
Roni Louise Rentfro, Ed. D., District Coordinator of School Improvement**

#### **I. Welcome and Q&A by Dr. Esperanza Zendejas, Superintendent of Schools**

**Dr. Esperanza Zendejas** provided the welcome to the committee members, shared the following information with the DEIC and answered questions from the membership:

- BISD's first STAAR administration results show our students are outperforming the region in most areas except for some middle school and some reading assessments in elementary
- The District Improvement Plan needs to include specific plans for next year to address these concerns—especially for reading and writing. Committee working with Ms. Bertha Pena and the curriculum staff to address these challenges.
- In explaining the status of the 5<sup>th</sup> grade iPads/tablets, she noted that the purchase took longer than planned so current 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will not be getting to use them. Two schools will have rising 4<sup>th</sup> grade students check them out with reading assignments for the summer and the results of this activity will be used by the district to determine all of the steps and supports needed to do this district-wide in the Fall of 2017. Everyone is very sorry that it has taken so long to go through the process.
- BISD's Board of Trustees approved a three year plan to increase salaries including adding steps to the teacher salary scale. The district is still working on the details.
- There are going to be a number of principal vacancies due to retirements including Mr. Kim Moore from Skinner Elementary as well as filling the interim positions that include Stell Middle School and Ortiz Elementary. Principal transfers will not be announced until after STAAR testing is done to reduce disruptions and new hires will have to be board approved in June.
- The State is potentially changing some of the assessments and accountability in the future and there are bills in the legislature to postpone A-F implementation. We still need to move forward with what is in place until the changes are approved.
- The BISD Centennial Foundation grant applications have been reviewed by a committee including DEIC representatives (she thanked several DEIC representatives for their participation in the process) and will be awarded on May 11<sup>th</sup> at a dinner ceremony.
- The Centennial Foundation should reach over \$70,000 in contributions with BISD employees donating over \$20,000. About \$40,000 will be awarded in grants and scholarships for 2017. Five assistant principals and deans will also be recognized for their services at the May 11<sup>th</sup> Foundation dinner.
- BISD is still waiting to learn if it will be one of 6 HEB grant grants to help create future leaders for BISD and/or win the HEB Large District \$100,000 award.
- Also, there are other district and city awards and recognitions coming in May.



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- Some teachers expressed concerns about the number of non-DEIC elected individuals present at meetings because they did not think they were open meetings (Dr. Rentfro clarified that meetings are held as open meetings and for the work on the DIP, program facilitators are there to assist in the process and provide information regarding needs and challenges to be addressed.
- BISD is considering applying for a District of Innovation to be able to start school earlier in August to better compete with charter schools.
- In response to representative's questions:
  - The Foundation committee ranked the applications for grants from the teachers on creativity and need. Larger grants were awarded to the more creative applications, for example, just requesting funds for art supplies was not considered as creative and got less funding than other applications.

On behalf of Bertha Pena, Dr. Rentfro thanked the representatives for their diligent work to date on the District Improvement Plan and notified the membership that all comprehensive high schools were re-designated as Early College High Schools for next year, Lopez ECHS has a student and sponsor participating in the International Science and Engineering Fair, Perez Elementary and Veterans ECHS have teams competing at the Destination Imagination Global Tournament in Tennessee, BISD has 68 students advancing to the Texas State History Day Fair and the athletic and fine arts awards keep coming.

## II. Meeting Called to Order

Clement Markley, DEIC President, called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM

## III. Roll Call:

The following DEIC members were not in attendance:

LOCATION	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME
<i>Brite Elem</i>	<b>Citali</b>	<b>Gonzalez</b>
<i>Cummings MS</i>	<b>Cecilia</b>	<b>Uresti</b>
<i>Keller Elementary</i>	<b>Ella</b>	<b>Rios</b>
<i>Longoria Elementary</i>	<b>Margarita</b>	<b>Gonzalez</b>
<i>Lucio MS</i>	<b>Dora E.</b>	<b>Paz</b>
<i>Paredes Elem</i>	<b>Myra</b>	<b>Rodriguez</b>
<i>Porter ECHS</i>	<b>Margaret</b>	<b>Annen</b>
<i>Vela MS</i>	<b>Gonzalo</b>	<b>Gonzalez</b>
<i>Vermillion Elem</i>	<b>Jesus</b>	<b>Sanchez</b>
<i>Victoria Hts Elem</i>	<b>Christina</b>	<b>Cavazos-Leos</b>

## IV. Recommend approval of minutes

Alma Salazar from Resaca Elementary made the motion to approve Carlos Chavez from BAC seconded the motion to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously.



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#### V. Presentations

- A. **The District Improvement Plan review of goals, performance objectives and strategies supported by departmental representatives with recommendations for additions/deletions and revisions to the plan for 2017-2018** process was reviewed by Dr. Rentfro. Goal Subcommittee's locations were posted so members would know where the goal sessions were being held.

#### VI. Action Items

None

#### VII. Announcements

Next DEIC Meeting – Monday, May 15, 2017, Professional Development System workshop #61986, at the BISD Boardroom.

#### VIII. Adjournment

Clement Markley, DEIC President, called for a motion to adjourn from the membership before dispersing to the breakout session sites to continue work on the District Improvement Plan. Carmen Garcia from Canales Elementary made the motion and Carmen Leal from Egly Elementary seconded the motion to adjourn at 7:30 PM or as soon as each subcommittee completed their work on the strategies. The motion was approved unanimously.