

Northside Educational Improvement Council

The meeting was called to order by Priscilla Paul at 6:00 p.m. in the NISD Board Room on Thursday, June 8, 2006.

Members Present: Mary Adams, Diane Aguilar, Bette Austin, Janet Beach, Dave Gannon, Brad Hebert, Cynthia Herrera, Christine Hernandez, Patricia Hitch, Lisa Holmes, Laura Lara, Maureen Lopez, Carolyn Mullins, Kim Neal, Priscilla Paul, R.C. Rodriguez, Terry Zablocki, Meri Ann Christopher

Staff Present: Dr. John Folks, Dr. Linda Mora, Dr. Sara McAndrew, Lynda Reyes

Priscilla Paul called for the approval of minutes from May 2, 2006. With no corrections or additions to the minutes, a motion was made by Terry Zablocki and seconded by Patricia Hitch to approve as presented. Due to the absence of Linda L. Williams, Diane Aguilar took the minutes.

Discussion of 2007-2008 Calendar

Dr. Folks discussed the state mandate that the school year begin no earlier than the fourth Monday in August. This change starts with the 2007-2008 school year. NO changes will be made to the 2006-2007 school calendar. Dr. Folks was concerned with the inequity of days for each semester in the 2007-2008 calendar. The first semester ends on December 21, 2007 with 83 days while the second semester ends on May 28, 2008 with 94 days.

Dr. Folks presented three proposed calendars:

Calendar #89 starts school on August 27 and complies with the new starting date. The equity of dates for each semester is 88 to 89 with student exams in January, 2008. June 4, 2008 would be the last student day with a teacher workday on June 5, 2008. The calendar maintains the holidays of the currently adopted calendar.

Calendar #90 eliminates October 8 and February 18 as staff development dates and become school days. The semesters were 91 to 86 days. Two days were taken from the Thanksgiving holidays and school would end on May 29, 2008. There would be NO teacher choice days.

Calendar # 91 moves the end of the semester to December 21, 2007, has NO teacher choice days, NO October or February staff development days, and each semester has 81 to 96 days. School ends on May 29, 2008. Dr. Folks talked about the Texans for a Traditional School Year who want to eliminate staff development days, eliminate Spring Break, eliminate teacher choice days and shorten the Christmas break. Dr. Folks said our military families like the Thanksgiving week and NISD attendance on the Monday and Tuesday prior to Thanksgiving is usually poor. The biggest issue will be the dates colleges/universities require transcripts turned in for selection into the school.

Discussion indicated some concern by core academic teachers and the impact at the high schools with the change in semester exams. A motion was made by Dave Gannon and seconded by Terry Zablocki to send calendar #89 to the board. All approved.

GT Advisory Council

The annual report from the Gifted/Enrichment Advisory Council was made by Ed Somers, President. Mr. Somers discussed staffing issues, program issues, student demographics issues, professional development issues, council initiatives, accomplishments and recommendations. The incoming president was introduced—Paul Langer. Northside ISD is a popular school district with new families and is considered a Best Practices School District. The GT program will now be called ALPHA (Advanced Learning Programs for High Achievers). Dave Gannon suggested we have mentors for GT students that have been provided focused training on how to help these students. The council will also work on educating parents about the GT program.

Report on Student Enrollment Changes

Ron Stevens reported on the new methods and timelines in reporting and documenting student enrollment and how they will impact data during the 06-07 school year. The most significant change is the timeline for determining the students who are coded as potential dropouts.

Upcoming NEIC Elections

The following members are eligible to run for a second term on NEIC: JoAnn Campbell, Linda L. Williams, Cynthia Herrera, Chris DeArmond, Terry Zablocki, and Laura Lara. Don Pittman and R.C. Rodriguez have fulfilled their terms. The following community members have completed their terms: Patricia A. Hitch, Christine Hernandez, Leonard Preston and Janet Beauch.

Review of EIE (Local)

Board Policy EIE (Local) review was tabled until a later date.

A motion was made by Patricia Hitch to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p. m. It was seconded and approved.

The Northside Educational Improvement Council (NEIC) is the district decision-making committee established in accordance with Texas Education Code Sec. 11.251, and 11.252. NEIC has 39 members, including staff, parents, business, and community members. The purpose of NEIC is to involve professional staff, parents, and community members in establishing and reviewing the district's and campuses' educational plans, goals, performance objectives, and major classroom instructional programs. Staff are elected for a two-year term by their staff peers; parents, business, and community members are appointed by the Board for a two-year term. NEIC meets at 6:00 p.m. on the 1st Tuesday of each month, in the Northside Board Room at 5900 Evers Road, unless otherwise posted. Meetings are open to the public. Items to be considered for the agenda may be submitted to either Priscilla Paul, NEIC President, at Brauchle Elementary School, (397-1500) or Linda Mora, Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, at Central Office, 5900 Evers Road, 78238 (397-8635). Minutes of all meetings are posted at Central Office and at each school.

NEIC MEMBERS:
STAFF REPRESENTATIVES:
Primary: Mary Adams, Carson Elem.; Jo Ann Campbell, Boone Elem.. Intermediate: Linda L. Williams,Howman; Angela Fry, Knowlton . Elementary Specialist: Diana Aguilar, Ed Cody Elementary. Middle School (Academic Core): Lisa Holmes, Jordan M.S.; Cynthia Herrera, Sul Ross M.S.; (Other): Chris DeArmond, Pease M.S. High School (Academic Core): Terry Zablocki, Warren High School; Lourdes J. Medina, Warren High School. (Business): Carolyn Mullins, Business Careers High School (Other): Brad Hebert, Health Careers High School. Special Campuses: Vicki Sills, N.S. Children's Center: Counselors: Priscilla Paul, Brauchle/Timberwilde. Librarians: Laura Lara, Ward Elementary,. Nurses: Maureen Lopez, Galm Elementary. Elementary Administration: M. LaNeil Belko, Brauchle Elem. Secondary Administration: Don Pittman, Warren H.S.. District-Level Prof. Staff : R.C. Rodriguez, Dir., Bilingual/ESL; Paraprofessionals: Marie Ybarra, Ed Cody Elementary
PARENT REPRESENTATIVES: Kim Neal, David Gannon, Dr. Bill Clark, Dr. Bette Austin, Nancy Medrano, Patricia Hitch
PTA COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES: Meri Ann Christopher