



2015-16 District Education Improvement Committee

MINUTES

Thursday, December 3, 2015

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Keely Barnes, Don Beck, Tina Berry, Brandy Collins, Madeline Crawford, Steven Dennis, Patricia Glaeser, Magdalena Garcia, Charnea Jones, Twyla Moore, Mike Niemeyer, Nan Meharg, Melissa Nall, Cindi Ollis, Greg Ollis, Veronica Pasternack, Gloria Roach Invited Guested: Manuel Escalante, Constance Norfleet, Jules Pichon

AGENDA ITEMS

I. Welcome

Dr. Beck, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, welcomed everyone to the meeting and did a quick review of the meeting agenda. Dr. Beck also acknowledged all the teachers present and thanked them for attending.

II. Approve Adjustments to the Community and Student Engagement Tools

Mr. Mike Niemeyer, Assistant Superintendent of Administration, said he applied all the suggested improvements recommended by the committee to the Community and Student Engagement rubrics after the last DEIC meeting. He assumed all is good and he will email it to the principals.

III. Discuss 2015-2016 Academic Calendar

Dr. Beck explained the old way the development of the academic calendar which required students to have 180 days of instruction or submit a waiver for staff development if it took away days of student instruction. This year House Bill (HB) 2610 was passed by the Texas Legislature and amends the language requiring 180 days of instruction and replacing this language with requiring districts to provide at least 75,600 minutes (min.) of instruction, including intermissions and recess. The bill also allows school districts to add minutes as necessary to makeup for minutes lost due to school closures caused by bad weather or other causes.

He explained and highlighted the new procedures and math for the development of the new HB 2610 requirements for students and teachers. Dr. Beck also discussed the different waivers required for different changes. He reviewed other district calendars with different scenario's because he was looking for input from the committee based on this districts numbers to develop a calendar that could end school before Memorial Day.

Group concerns noted and discussion followed.

VI: Develop the 2016-2017 Academic Calendar

The development of the 2016-2017 Academic Calendar got underway with Dr. Beck asking the committee for a general vote on ending the school year before Memorial Day on May 29, 2017. He reviewed the basics for the development of the calendar, 75,600 minutes of instruction for students which is 450 minutes per day and 187 working days for teachers. The first day of school cannot be before August 22nd and Spring Break was set for March 13–17, 2017.

The committee broke into 5 groups. After group discussions they came to a general consensus to end the school year before Memorial Day. Holidays to observe, half days for secondary and elementary, staff development and other items were reviewed and noted.

Dr. Beck also suggested that they go back to their campuses and talk to other teachers to come up with 2-3 options for the 2016-2017 calendar for voting by the district.

V: Future Agenda Items

Development of 2016-2017 Academic Calendar

NEXT MEETING DATE

Thursday, December 10, 2015

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.