

SANTA FE ISD DISTRICT EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of Meeting

Location: Santa Fe ISD Board Room	Date: 1/16/2017	Time: 4:15 p.m.
--	------------------------	------------------------

Purpose: A committee comprised of classroom teachers, educators, parents, community, and business representatives that serves in a capacity to the Superintendent in areas of planning, budgeting, curriculum, staffing patterns, staff development and school organization.

Attendees: Kimberly Ross, Casey Adoor, Nick Boyd, Dr. Jackie Shuman, Candyce Castillo, Keri Eltgroth, Michelle VanEssen, Stephanie Lyssy, Amy Bouse, Harold Payne, Marilyn Richardson, Shannon Davidson, Karen Anderson, Julie Nemeth, Dr. Leigh Wall, Patti Hanssard

Dr. Shuman welcomed and thanked everyone for being here.

Discussion:

Topic 1: Review Calendar Talking Points for 2017-2018-

Dr. Shuman shared these talking points:

- In prior years, the first day of instruction could not begin prior to the 4th Monday of August
- Total teacher days is 187
- Total minutes are 76,500
- Professional Development days are three
- Student early release days are six

State and federal holidays were also shared with the committee. It was pointed out that Spring Break aligns with College of the Mainland since we have Dual Credit students, etc. who take courses at the college.

State testing days are based on the 2017-2018 tentative calendar.

Dr. Shuman emphasized to the committee the flexibility in the calendar we will have with the District of Innovation.

SANTA FE ISD DISTRICT EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE
--

MEETING MINUTES

Groups shared the following:

We like the idea of pushing forward maybe a week and having new teachers come back on the 9th...and then having students come back on a Wednesday.

Question? Is it possible to stagger the start dates....Mrs. Hanssard brought up that Transportation might be affected. However, adults will be working the same number of days.

Three ½-day conferences make it difficult to find childcare during that time.....Maybe go full time so it makes it better for parents and kids.

Parents in attendance liked the fact that we could start earlier in August.

Dr. Shuman shared that she will be sharing with the Calendar committee the highest absence days for students so that possibly we might want to schedule professional development on those days.

Topic 2: Appoint a Calendar Committee-

Each campus will be selecting someone from each campus to serve on the calendar committee.

We may also develop a backup calendar in case we did not move to a District of Innovation.

Topic 3: District of Innovation Review-

In our December Board meeting, the Board approved Dr. Wall to appoint a committee to undertake a planning process for a District of Innovation. Campuses have given us members who will help us in developing this District of Innovation.

The District of Innovation was created by House Bill 1842 in the 84th Legislative Session and is addressed in Board Policy AF (LEGAL). It provides local districts more flexibility. It provides local control as decision makers over the educational and instructional model for students. Districts must adopt an Innovation Plan that can include exemptions from state laws and parts of the Texas Education Code.

The plan must provide for a comprehensive education program for the district, which may include:

- Curriculum

SANTA FE ISD DISTRICT EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE
--

MEETING MINUTES

- Instructional Methods
- Community & Parent Involvement
- Modifications to the school day or year

Examples of Exemptions are:

- District-level and site based decision making
- 90% attendance rule
- Class size ratio
- Uniform School start date
- Minimum number of minutes per day

DEIC will be included on decisions regarding the start date and the minimum number of minutes per day.

Dr. Shuman shared tentative timeline for becoming a District of Innovation. In May, the Board votes on the plan and the Commissioner of Education is notified. Once adopted, a plan will be in place for five years. This would provide some consistency....

Topic 4: Legislative Updates

Dr. Wall shared some Legislative issues coming up:

1. School Finance-equitable funding for all districts.....we, as a district, continue to fight for our students to have good resources. Property taxes across the state have gone up this past year. The fallacy is that many property owners think that when taxes go up more goes to the school district. The only way we get more money is more students to the district and high attendance rates for those students.
2. A-F Ratings.....Repeal that rating system. We have it on our Board agenda for this month. This system does not tell the real story.....
3. School choice is also on the agenda.
4. First bill was a follow up to Senate Bill 149, Senate Bill 463 is to provide alternate methods for assessments for graduation.

SANTA FE ISD DISTRICT EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE
--

MEETING MINUTES

SHOUT OUTS!!

Dr. Shuman gave a shout out to teacher led professional development. Heard teachers share on how to improve instruction.

RJW-Lots of planning and collaboration by meeting the individual needs of students. Teachers and Administrators shared from Learning Forward today.

Kubacak-Had a variety of trainings. Went to a good co-teach training, and we are able to make some changes for our students to be successful. Transportation provided for Kubacak students for the musical is very helpful.

Junior High-Principal is learning from the leadership on the campus because all of the staff is growing and sharpening each other's tools.

High School-Had some awesome PD. Lauren Schanfish made All State Choir for first time in 22 years. Region Band-2 students; Musical opens on January 27th.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 6, 2017.

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patti Hansard