



**District Improvement Team (DIT) Meeting**  
**Minutes**  
**Thursday, February 2, 2017**  
**5:00 – 7:00 p.m.**

**ATTENDANCE:** Beth Cole, Anne Daily, Katherine Dawson, Cynthia Fratina, Benjamin Garcia, Allison Gower, Delfino Guillen, Melanie Harper, Sol Herrera, Nathan Mesler, Mark Miller, Scott Muri, Mark Parenti, Pamela Pennington, John Pisklak, Donnie Roseman, Glenn Ryan, David Sablatura, Maria Schick, Esmerelda Warshaw

Percent of DIT members in attendance: **54%**

**GUESTS:** Keith Haffey, Elliott Witney

**WELCOME AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Co-chair John Pisklak, welcomed all in attendance and asked everyone to take a moment to review the draft minutes for the January 2017, meeting. Donnie Roseman moved to approve the minutes and the motion was seconded by Nathan Mesler.

**2017-2018 CALENDAR PROCESS DEBRIEF:**

Linda Buchman, Community Relations Officer, offered the DIT proposed changes for the development of the 2018- 2019 academic calendar and asked for feedback. Calendar parameters will be set by the Board of Trustees within the next few months in hopes of constructing the 2018-2019 academic calendar earlier. The goal is for it to be published by December of 2017. Going forward all community surveys and correspondence related to the calendar work will be reviewed by the DIT prior to being sent to the community in an effort to provide the best information.

Surveys and feedback will be requested prior to the creation of the 2018-2019 calendar. To provide the DIT with starting parameters based on priorities. Linda provided the DIT with several options for how they might go forward with academic calendar development. The DIT agreed to the creation of a DIT subcommittee. This subcommittee will work alongside the internal team to create the new calendars.

Proposed updated board parameters will be shared with the DIT for input in March or April. Calendar construction for 2018-2019 may begin once we have the Board parameters confirmed.

Comments and Recommendations from the committee:

- It was requested that the SKY partnership be considered due to potential conflict of partner's schedules in relation to our academic calendar.
- It was suggested to identify staff between the elementary vs. secondary levels when staff provide feedback on calendar preference.

**STRATEGIC PLAN MEASURES OF SUCCESS:**

Elliott Witney, Associate Superintendent of Research and Design provided the DIT with a presentation of a preview of strategic plan measures of success. The presentation slides are attached.

**TAPR REPORT PRESENTATION:**

Keith Haffey, Executive Director of Assessment and Compliance provided the DIT with a presentation of the TAPR report. The presentation slides are attached.

The latest National Clearinghouse report showing our T-2-4 rates will be sent to the DIT.

**DISTRICT UPDATE:**

Dr. Muri, Superintendent of Schools provided a district update to the DIT. School Finance continues to be a focus, especially when visiting Austin and Washington, DC. There is good news at the House and Senate levels and now expressed by the state's Lieutenant Governor, all of which understand that something must be done to improve the current school financial situation. All groups are now regularly using the term "Recapture." In November the only group talking about school finance was the House. In this short window the Senate and Lieutenant Governor are clearly aware of the financial strain on public education. Dr. Muri attributes the hard work of advocacy based work being done by our Board Trustees and other groups in the district.

The A-F rating system continues to get attention. Dr. Muri does not anticipate any changes to the current system. The voucher system (tax credits, saving accounts, school choice) under consideration Senate Bill 3, would allow students to access private schools by the use of a voucher funded by public school dollars. The President has expressed an interest to put \$20 billion towards the voucher system without adding additional funds into the education budget.

Dr. Muri spoke about leveraging the power and potential of our community. Students interested in becoming Firefighters have been attending a Firefighter Academy. As of January, 2017, 25 SBISD students have completed and graduated from this program. Thanks to a partnership with a local fire station in Jersey Village, the 25 students are now certified, firefighters.

A large electrical company within the Spring Branch district has been in need of qualified employees. The CEO would like SBISD to identify 50 academically achieving sophomores to work and learn during the summer, before junior year. These students will be paid \$12 an hour. If these students are interested in pursuing the career route, the CEO will pay to provide the teachers to teach these students the necessary skills they need to further their education in relations to the electrical field. HCC will certify the teachers and the students will receive dual credit. When the students graduate from high school, the CEO will guarantee them a job or they can pursue an engineering degree. This CEO is paying for this opportunity for the students, ensuring he gains qualified employees and these students reach their goals.

An SBISD mother who is also a dermatologist is interested in helping high school students by providing free dermatology services to low income students that are exceptional academic students. This parent understands that skin issues such as acne can be a barrier for many students. This could potentially provide the students with the confidence they need to achieve success.

John Pisklak provided final comments. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.