



Always Innovating

**South
Texas ISD**

RIO GRANDE VALLEY | GRADES 7-12

Educational Improvement Sub-Committee

Minutes for the Meeting of February 12, 2020

Attendance

EIC Chair: *Virginia Leonardelli*

From STPA: *Robert Schmidt*

From Rising Scholars: *Juan Hinojosa*

From World Scholars: *William Prock*

From Medical Professions: *Patricia Hernandez*

From Health Professions: *Dr. Yael Leal*

From Science Academy: *Dr. Michelle Guajardo*

From Administration: *Dr. Antonio Lara, Ed. D. (Superintendent), Mr. Jeff Hembree (Deputy Superintendent), Irma Castillo, Ed. D. (Principal-Science Academy), Harry Goette, (Principal-Medical Professions), Ana Castro (Principal-STPA), Rigo Olivarez (Assistant Principal-Health Professions)*

NOTE: All reports and document referenced in the Minutes below are to be found in the relevant EIC folder, http://www.stisd.net/about_us/district_councils_committees/educational_improvement_council_e_i_c

Minutes

1. Welcome: *EIC Chairperson Virginia Leonardelli* called the meeting to order shortly after 3:00 pm and welcomed the members of the EIC Sub-Committee.
2. Review and Discuss Proposed Calendars: *Mrs. Leonardelli* introduced the calendar samples from each of the six campuses of South Texas I.S.D. Members first examined the Science Academy calendar which had been updated as well as looking at the proposed calendar-at-a-glance document to examine the different instructional design days, staff development days, and teacher workdays. The total number of teacher workdays must be 187 days, so the committee worked to develop a plan to formulate the calendar to meet this standard. One topic that was brought up was a possible 7-hour workday, but Mr. Hembree said that the current STISD instructional day is 7.5 hours or 450 minutes per day using state definitions.

Another topic that was brought up was teacher start dates. Each campus had a different start day, so it was agreed upon by the sub-committee to work on reaching a consensus. Dr. Lara confirmed that the start dates on each of the proposed draft calendars for each South Texas I.S.D. campus had the same end date but different start dates. A third topic that was brought up by the sub-committee was trying to make sure that the calendar dates would coincide with the end of summer session classes at both UTRGV and STC. Dr. Lara then asked for the sub-committee to focus on coming up with what the exact student start date would be. He mentioned the importance of how our calendar is all about maximizing instructional time for our students as well as making sure we as a district are able to come together and discuss ideas that will continue to benefit our district. A fifth topic that was discussed was in-service days. Different campus leaders and representatives from across the district shared their thoughts and ideas, supporting the directive of Dr. Lara and Mr. Hembree to reach a common ground as a district and decide upon our calendar for the upcoming 2020-2021 school year. It was discussed that there needed to be a certain amount of instructional design days, staff development days and teacher workdays for this coming calendar year.

3. Draft 2020-2021 School Calendar: The creation of the new 2020-2021 school calendar by sub-committee members focused on establishing important dates such as student and faculty start and end dates for the calendar year. Each member was able to provide their own individual campus insight concerning the specific dates and months in which there would be instructional design days, staff development days, and teacher workdays on the calendar. A concurrence of important dates was proposed and worked upon by all members of the sub-committee. The number of instructional design days, staff development days and teacher workdays were discussed and decided by the sub-committee. After reaching an agreement on the finalized draft of the 2020-2021 school calendar, Dr. Lara distributed copies to each of the members of the sub-committee. After checking to make sure the number of instructional days met state standards, the sub-committee agreed upon the calendar as a group. The calendar will be approved by the South Texas Independent School District Board in the next upcoming Board meeting. The calendar, amongst other items, will be discussed in the next EIC Meeting on March 9, 2020.

4. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made at 5:04 pm.

William Prock

EIC Secretary

February 12, 2020