



**District Improvement Team (DIT) Meeting**  
**Wednesday, July 22, 2020**  
**3:30 – 4:30 p.m.**  
**MINUTES**

**Meeting start time:** 3:34 pm

**Meeting end time:** 4:31 pm

**Current Member Attendance**

Paula Baker, Jennifer Blaine, Tamesha Bullock, Carrie Campbell-Bishop, Kristin Craft, Ivonne Davis, Crystal Fain, Molly Ferguson, Charlotte Fisher, Tammy Hampton, Mary Hand, Tamma Howell, Shaundra Jacobs, Rahil Jagetia, John Kenna, Meg Maguire, Michelle Marcil, Leslie Marquez, Clifford Nickel, Angelica Oprea, Karen Peck, John Pisklak, Christian Rice, Holly Saunders, Betty Smith, Dan Tatulescu, Jennifer Thorpe

*Percent of current DIT members in attendance: 68%*

**Incoming Member Attendance**

Lise Colon Melendez, Anne Daily, Laura Dawson, Michael Ferrier, Vanya Karia, Julie Knapp, Noemi Lopez, Buffie Matthews, Mimi Meacham, Nicolas Papadakos, Vicky Putnam-Frayser, Laura Radich, William Schwartz, Jennifer Stuart, Van Tran, Julie Turrentine, Kate Waldorf

**Non-Member Attendance**

Amy Accardo, Rebecca Brown, Linda Buchman, Lawanda Coffee, Joyce Evans, Pam Goodson, Alexia Marshall, Christine Porter, Stephanie Sandifer, Lance Stallworth, Tyra Walker, Becky Wuerth

**Welcome**

Dr. Jennifer Blaine, Superintendent, opened by welcoming current and incoming 2020-21 DIT members. She stated the focus of discussion would be return-to-school calendar options presented at the Special Board Meeting on Monday, July 20, 2020.

**Learn SBISD Update**

This plan was developed on two guiding principles: 1) Safety, health and wellness of students and staff is primary; 2) Students deserve a robust, rigorous academic and social-emotional learning experience. All decisions are made through the lens of those priorities.

Parent survey results showed families were happy to be offered a learning choice in fall. Many don't want an all-virtual experience. At the same time, teachers have indicated they don't feel safe returning in person on August 17<sup>th</sup>.

Alternative calendars are an attempt to get everyone closer to their desired outcomes. The Board reviewed three draft calendars that shift our start date by 1, 2 or 3 weeks. Any option selected must include 75,600 instructional minutes.

**Proposed Calendar Review**

Dr. Lance Stallworth, Executive Director for Student Support Services presented details of a modified calendar with school beginning after Labor Day.

Key details include:

- All teachers return on August 13<sup>th</sup>, but additional Professional Development time is built in prior to school start.
- September 4<sup>th</sup> becomes a Teacher Flex Day.
- School begins September 8<sup>th</sup>.
- November 3<sup>rd</sup> becomes a remote learning day for all.
- October 12<sup>th</sup> and April 30<sup>th</sup> are Professional Development days.
- Holiday breaks do not change.
- First semester ends in January rather than December in order to balance numbers of days between the two semesters.
- All half-days are removed.
- Graduation takes place May 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Finals take place June 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> and teachers finish on June 4<sup>th</sup>.

Since teacher contracts are based on days, rather than minutes, we must honor the number of contract days (188) while finding the required 75,600 minutes.

Dr. Blaine then opened the floor for feedback and responded to clarifying questions from the Chat.

### **Closing**

Dr. Blaine thanked everyone for their feedback and acknowledged this is a challenging situation where it's not possible to satisfy all constituents. As key leaders, the DIT can help communicate the "why" behind district decisions, even if members don't personally agree.

The meeting concluded at 4:31pm.