

EIC Meeting Minutes: October 12, 2021

The following EIC members were present:

Nilda Camarena – STPA

Annalisa Salinas – STPA

Ricardo Benavidez – RSA

Kathleen Gavino – World Scholars

Hanani Vasquez – Medical Professions

Francisco Vasquez -Medical Professions

Katherine Castaneda – Health Professions

Loryn Rodriguez – Health Professions

Magda Salinas – Science Academy

Alyssa Perez – Science Academy

James Galvan– Virtual Academy

Wilmer Romero – Professional Non-Teaching

Denise Garcia – RSA Parent

Alberto Roy Gonzales – Community Member

We have updated the policies and procedures of our EIC guidelines. “We exist for academics, and we will advise the superintendent on academic progress, success, and future.” – Dr. Lara

Changes in EIC Calendar- requesting to meet monthly.

First Tuesday of the month Approved with an exception of November; meeting in November moved to Monday November 1st.

The last Tuesday of every month is reserved for board meetings. Administrators will share updates about board meetings and bring it to the EIC committee the following week.

Student success framework has four components for creating our district improvement plan.

They consist of:

- Culture of excellence
- Transformational curriculum
- Innovative Instruction
- Teacher supported growth mindset

We will pick up on this work and continue to work through the remainder of the framework to better align our professional development.

The district underwent a curriculum audit last sprint and was provided feedback for the improvement of our district. We have a lot of areas that need attention including curriculum & teacher development. That is the first component we are addressing. We prioritized teacher training for our teachers to better serve our students. We focused on the way we prepare for and deliver lessons. We cannot address all parts of the modules at once, so we will work in it over the course of 5 years; we are working towards professional development and instructional development first.

We started a curriculum writing training with our teachers. We selected a group of teachers who applied to write the curriculum and they participated in a professional training before given the chance to write the curriculum over the summer. Our training is district wide with intentional and targeted areas of training. We are working towards bringing all of our teachers together to share their expertise with other teachers from various campuses throughout our district.

We want to provide opportunities for cross campus curricular development. The curriculum audit also indicated a lack of a valid teacher evaluation system so as a result we will move into t-tes and train everyone on that teacher evaluation. Trainings are coming in the spring.

We also conducted a CTE audit to making sure we had a course sequence and alignment for the CTE offerings, ensuring students have the option for certifications. We want to see the sequence and alignment of CTE match. We want to make sure the courses we offer are relevant to today's workforce opportunities.

We want to continue innovating and setting ourselves apart from other schools and ensure that we are leaders in education. We need ask ourselves "what are we doing differently?" and "what's going to set us apart?" We also want to look at P-Tech programs. Construction: Residential or commercial construction – we need a labor force.

District of innovation strategic district plan will expire this year so we will revisit and look at how we can improve the plan for the following years. 2023-2027. We have a lot of work to do so we approved the notion of meeting once a month – first Tuesday of every month was approved.

District and campus improvement plans need to change and make sure they are reflecting our growth and where we want to be. The "normalcy" has changed so we need to ensure our plans reflect the times and the work we are doing.

We were one of the first districts to ensure we have a virtual option for our students (250 students are enrolled, waitlist was 800+) and we are doing great. The purpose of the trainings for that campus will be geared towards teaching and learning online, their professional development is different from the rest of the district.

The calendar is an important first deciding factor, but we need to ensure we can work on district of innovation; we have a lot of flexibility. We have decided to start school earlier and now we plan to decide: should we start the 4th Monday of August? Or should we be competitive and start earlier?

Under district of innovation, we were able to create a teacher evaluation system and after our audit, we are going to transition to T-TESS next year. Teacher Incentive Allotment is state funding for teachers to receive bonuses based on evaluation system by showing growth in state assessment, and if they hit certain markers, the teachers get financially compensated. We need to ensure we have a robust teacher evaluation system, so that will be where TTESS comes in, Purposeful and meaningful for goals.

CTE programs of study have been updated and we are now ensuring we are following the CTE course sequences. We can also ask teachers to propose new courses in JR high to High school. They can have certifications in these courses and it will allow more funding for our students who complete certification programs.

The board has been advised about the audit and feedback. We are starting to propose the beginning of 6th grade- the virtual academy will be 6-12th with the growth of one grade level at a year. The development of the campus is intentional and done in phases. We need to develop new buildings and we will grow over the course of two years.

We will phase it out where we will have a small 6th grade class, then we will work on growing the curriculum then the following year we will open up with facilities and at full capacity. We will make sure to add some courses for Jr high and new courses on high school so we can entice them to stay with STISD and continue their education in high school. We want to partner with other organizations and create internships, externships and partner with local companies; maquiladoras and Space-X, for example.

District Organizational chart: Consisted of Principals, an Administrator for Public Relations and Marketing, Assistant superintendent of Finances, and Deputy Superintendent. Recent additions to our district organizational structure now include an Assistant Superintendent Human Resources, a Chief Academic Officer and an Executive Director for Student Support.

The following meeting will take place 11/1st at 5pm.