



District Educational Improvement Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 13, 2020 · 4:30 PM · *via* Zoom Conference

- I. Welcome (5 minutes) Dr. Ashley Stewart

Dr. Ashley Stewart opened the first DEIC meeting of the 2020-21 school year at 4:30 PM. She explained that this meeting will be in a different format than normal, with more District updates instead of breakout sessions. She introduced our Federal Programs Coordinator Tami Charest as well as Jennifer Aviles, Administrative Assistant prior to reviewing the agenda, and the [DEIC Website](#). She reviewed our District Scorecard and the Strategic Planning Process, emphasizing the common components: Student Success, Customer Service, Human Capital, Fiscal Responsibility.

- II. Purpose of DEIC (10 minutes) Ms. Tami Charest
 - A. Continuous Improvement Process

Ms. Charest explained that District and Campus site-based decision making committees were designed to ensure teachers, parents, and other community members have an active voice in local educational matters.
 - B. Presentation of DIP Summary

Ms. Charest explained that everything begins with the Comprehensive Needs Assessment (CNA). This process begins well before the school year starts, requires examination of all aspects of the district in a very honest and transparent manner and gives direction for the district and campuses for developing goals, objectives, and strategies. Our goals, objectives, and strategies are established by the Board and designed to be long-term and reached in 3-5 years. The objectives are designed to be reached in a year and are measurable. Strategies are activities that move the district/campus toward achieving the objective and identify funds necessary for implementation. This is a continuous process, and adjustments are made all year long. The documents reflect the most current efforts and resources. They're living, breathing documents. COVID meant we had to adjust and do things differently; this is reflected in this years' plans, beginning with our Strengths and Areas for Growth. All District and Campus Improvement Plans may be reviewed [here](#). Goals and Performance Objectives were reviewed.
 - C. Election of Co-Chairperson Dr. Ashley Stewart

Ms. Eileen Grose (VMS assistant principal) and Ms. Angela Fisk (mom of special needs student at BHS and an alumni as well as a current CES student)) will serve as external facilitators for DEIC and will meet with Dr. Stewart, Ms. Charest, and

Ms. Aviles prior to quarterly DEIC meetings in order to review community questions or concerns.

III. Review of district-level information (40 minutes)

A. Overview of Beginning of Year Dr. Tommy Price

Dr. Price welcomed the group, thanking everyone for ten successful weeks back to school. Our teaching and campus staffs have modeled resilience, one of our focuses through district-wide whole child teachings, throughout this pandemic. Good things: Boerne ISD recently was named a Top Workplace in the San Antonio area. Our extracurricular groups have been busy competing and performing, showing what they've learned and missed. BISD is the largest employer this side of San Antonio with 1,300 employees and over 9,000 students. It's remarkable how this large group has been able to bounce back, even through difficult times. Why did we start so early this year? There was a lot of fear out there. . . we started on time (calendar adopted via DEIC process) and have done great with our COVID protocols. This morning there are ZERO active cases, but by the end of day we had five. Of those five, they're all home-related transmissions, not school-related transmissions. Also, we gave students two options: e-Learning or face-to-face. We are proud to be able to give people choices. Our e-Learning process has evolved from what it was back in March and we've come a long way! 75% in person; 25% e-learning at the moment. It's a real challenge with students going back to in-class, logistically. 3% of students/families have chosen to NOT return to school, forcing us into recapture. Budget-wise, that's a real challenge. Districts around us are experiencing the same snags and enrollment issues due to COVID. We found, through BOY assessments, that our students' enrollment has suffered due to COVID. There are so many extreme views each way, but we are here to educate our students. Despite the meaner extremes on both sides, we are focusing on the positive experiences, like Top Workplace, performances, sporting events, etc. Less than 1% of students has tested positive for COVID, and Dr. Howard will update us on that. We have multiple perspectives on reopening, and we have to consider all sides when we make our rules. It's been one of the best years to see everyone coming together.

B. Impact of COVID Dr. Elaine Howard

Dr. Howard explained that despite what may be heard, our District has done a great job with COVID response and making sure students are coming to school prepared, and the data has shown us that cases are contracted outside the school environment. Our campuses have adapted well and it is a group effort as far as managing exposures. Protocols will continue to change and adapt to meet

the Districts's needs and guidance from other entities. Our definition of "close proximity" has changed, and our quarantine requirements have changed in response to that. Protocols for face coverings have been changed with regards to gaiters. While we do not hate or prohibit them, we will need to quarantine students in gaiters vs. masks when in close proximity. We have responded to our employee's needs during COVID, making accommodations (closed area, remote work environment) when needed, though we have found that we have to hire additional staff to cover the students who are in person, on campus. We need to make sure the needs of the staff we have are met, while we keep everyone healthy. COVID has changed our work and it's been an interesting experience.

C. Impact on Finance

Ms. Tish Grill

Ms. Grill discussed the impact of low enrollment and the impact of those students who chose not to return to BISD. We were in the middle of the budget process when the shutdown hit in the Spring. We did not budget for COVID costs, and we are facing a budget impact of 4.5 million due to a decrease in enrollment of 589 students as of the end of the first six weeks. We're looking at closing a budget deficit of 1.3 million deficit with property values as they are. HB 3 changed funding formulas, and we *used* to use prior vs. current values. That changed, getting us out of recapture. Due to drastic drop, we are forced back to recapture. The Board has allowed for some contingency plans to close that budget deficit in case we do have the full budget impact. We do have a healthy fund balance, but we can not sustain dipping into the fund balance. 21-22 will have some budget difficulties coming. As students come back, these numbers will change. We anticipate things may change in January with new legislative session.

D. BOY Assessment Data

Ms. Larissa Flores

19-20 assessments were cancelled due to COVID and we were put into a predicament as that's data we use to develop curriculum. We administered BOY assessments in August to grades 4-10. It was optional and we were the only Region 20 district that took advantage of this. Stats show serious regression and implications due to COVID closures from third through eighth grade from Spring 2019 - current. Data was reviewed w/ELAR & Math teachers in PLCs and campus-wide. Data was used to decide on instructional changes and goal setting. Campus teams planned targeted intervention for targeted groups.

IV. Breakout sessions (0 minutes)

No breakout sessions today due to time constraints.

V. Subcommittees (5 minutes)

A. Calendar Committee Formation

Dr. Ashley Stewart

Meetings will be held October 15, 22, 29 from 4:30 - 5:30 PM via Zoom. A sign up was shared with DEIC members, and those serving will be invited tomorrow. Members must attend all days for continuity purposes.

There was a question about how many sub-committees on which one can serve. There is no limit.

VI. Upcoming dates and topics

- A. December 15, 2020, *via* Zoom
- B. February 16, 2021, Location & Topics TBA
- C. April 20, 2021, Location & Topics TBA

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM.

Minutes reviewed and approved December 8, 2020.