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STISD.NET

Education Improvement Council (EIC) Meeting Minutes: March 11th 2026

Meeting Duration: 5:00PM-5:39 PM

South Texas Preparatory Academy: Saire Moreno, Jada Carrera
South Texas World Scholars Joshua Zamora, Veronica Castro
Medical Professions: Hanani Vasquez, Bruno Sanchez
Health Professions: Ariel Nieto, Paola Salazar
Rising Scholars Academy..... Debbie Delgado, Elvis Reid
Science Academy Lorena Lopez, Esthela Pacheco
Virtual Academy Lirio Arredondo, Monica Perez
Student Representatives.....Andrea Guerrero (SA) Eiza Salinas (HP)
Professional Non-Teacher Amy Pena
District Level Professional Marcos Flores
Parents.....Eddie Lucio, (RSA), Armando Salinas (HP), Angelica Camarillo (MP)
Community Members Isabel Alvarez (SA), Sonia Kerps (WS)
Business Members Nativdad Hinojosa (MP), Christine Molis (STPA)

EIC Meeting Minutes 5:00-5:39PM

Meeting Start at 5:00PM

- **Welcome:** Introduction by Chairperson Amy Pena
- **Agenda Review:**
 - Item number three regarding summer camp proposals is struck from the agenda.
 - **Rationale:** Summer camp proposals are due on March 31; therefore, there is no full list available at the time.

Review and Approval of Minutes

- **EIC Minutes:** Review and vote on the minutes from previous meetings on:
 1. **February 10**
 2. **February 23**
- **Minutes Review Process:** Participants were given two minutes to review.

- Request for motion to approve the minutes from February 10.
- **Motion for February 10 Minutes:**
- **First Motion:** Paola Salazar
- **Second Motion:** Joshua Zamora
- Minutes approved for the February 10 meeting.
- **Moving to February 23 Minutes:** Process repeated for February 23 minutes.
 - **Motion for February 23 Minutes:**
 - **First Motion:** Bruno Sanchez
 - **Second Motion:** Hanani Vasquez
 - **Outcome:** Motion carries.

Professional Development for May and August

- **Agenda Item Transition:** Moving to item four regarding professional development for the end of May and beginning of August.
- **Discussion of Professional Development Schedule:**
 - Aim to align these with the strategic plan and framework for SDISD.
 - Emphasis on reviewing topics for specific weeks of training.
- **Request for Motion to Approve May and August Professional Development Schedule:**
 - **Discussion:** Inquiries regarding virtual training as well as in-person training effectiveness discussed.
 - **Relevance of Compliance:** Noted that many trainings in May pertain to compliance requirements mandated by the state.

Discussion Points from the Floor

- **Virtual Training Accessibility:** Importance mentioned regarding accommodations for virtual attendance.
 - Acknowledgment to discuss with the executive director about virtual academy training accommodations.
- **Question on PGT Update:** Clarification sought on whether the update pertains to policy or training hours.

- **Response:** Training hours confirmed.
- **Inquiry on Special Education Training:** Request for more time dedicated to special education training.
 - **Follow-Up Plan:** Director to coordinate on further training improvements.
- **Question on School AI counselors:** Asked whether the AI representative would be a company representative or task force participant.
 - **Response:** A combination of both mentioned, confirmation pending.
- **Motion to Approve May and August PD Scheduled:**
 - **First Motion:** Paola Salazar
 - **Second Motion:** Joshua Zamora
 - **Outcome:** Motion carries.

Review and Recommendation of Courses

- **Personal Finance Literacy Course Update:**
 - Legislative mandates now require personal finance literacy as a graduation requirement; new state ID discussed.
 - **Course Details:**
 - Requirement: Must be offered as part of graduation plan but was not mandatory to take previously.
 - Upcoming change indicates students now must take and successfully complete the course for graduation.
 - **Motion to Approve Personal Finance Course:**
 - **First Motion:** Lorena Lopez
 - **Second Motion:** Joshua Zamora
- **Science Academy Course Proposal:** Two courses presented:
 1. **Psychology Course (Dual Enrollment):** Made as part of associated degree program through STC.
 2. **Practicum in Engineering (Second Time Taken):** Designed for students needing a second enrollment opportunity to gain credit.
 - **Discussion:** Course path not previously included due to communication error.

- **Motion to Approve Science Academy Courses:**
- **First Motion:** Lorena Lopez
- **Second Motion:** Esthela Pacheco

Introduction and Expansion of AVID Program

- **AVID Program Addition to Virtual Academy:** Proposal to integrate AVID into the curriculum with a focus on:
 - **Structure:** Introduce AVID I-IV over time across grade levels to build towards complete implementation.
- **Implementation Plan:**
 - **Next School Year:** AVID levels 1 and 3.
 - **Future Plans:** Include additional levels progressively each year.
- **Supporting Details:** Proposed course structure targets various skill developments, college readiness, and degree preparation.
 - **Measure of Success:** Key metrics linked to TSI completion and post-secondary opportunities.
- **Discussion on Staffing:**
 - Current staffing sufficient to implement without additional hires; PD discussed for AVID teachers once identified.
- **Motion for Approval of AVID Courses:**
 - **Final Motion:** Approve courses AVID I-IV for Virtual Academy.
 - **First Motion:** Bruno Sanchez
 - **Second Motion:** Hanani Vasquez,
 - **Outcome:** Motion carries.

Conclusion of Meeting

- **Adjournment Motion:** Motion to adjourn brought forward, indicated as wanted by the assembly.
- **Outcome:** Adjournment motion carried.
- **Closing Time:** Meeting adjourned at 05:39.