



**BROWNSVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
District-wide Educational Improvement Council (DEIC)  
2009-2010

November 16, 2009  
5:30 p.m.  
Board Room

**UNOFFICIAL MINUTES**

**Facilitators:** Mary Jo Monfils, Interim Assistant Supt. for Curriculum & Instruction  
Sharon Moore, Administrator for Secondary Curriculum  
Bea Garcia, Administrator for Elementary Curriculum

- I. Welcome: Brett Springston, Superintendent of Schools provided the welcome. Mr. Springston spoke about the proposed calendars for 2010-2012 and noted that there just a few holiday choices to decide. Mr. Springston reminded the Committee of the importance of keeping the College Readiness “R’s” in mind (Rigor, Relevance and Relationships) as we continue to work together to accomplish the district’s goals designed to ensure the success of our students.
- II. Roll Call was taken by sign in sheet with the following members not in attendance:

Emmanuel Benitez	Burns Elementary
Patricia Alvarez	Garden Park Elementary
Patricia S. Garza	Porter High School
Guadalupe Izaguirre	Brownsville Police Dept.
Veronica Cordova	Paredes Elementary (Parent)
Marisela Cortez	Hist. Brownsville Museum
Yesenia Maza	Holiday Inn
- III. Recommend approval of minutes for October 14, 2009: Josie Villarreal from Putegnat Elementary made the motion to approve the minutes and Josie Miles from Martin Elementary seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- IV. President’s Report: November Officers’ Meeting was held on Monday, November 9, 2009 and the minutes are in the members’ folders. No one had questions about the report.
- V. BISD Academic Calendar Options for 2010-2011 and 2011-2012: Mary Jo Monfils presented the calendar options to the Committee and highlighted the main differences provided in the chart. DEIC representatives are to take the calendars to their campuses and collect the votes from their campus to bring back at the December meeting. Each campus will have one vote. Campuses may hold their vote in whatever format they decide is appropriate for their site. The Committee members’ vote on the options will be sent to the BISD Board of Trustees for approval in January.
- VI. **Action Items:** Request for Teacher Pull Out Days
  - Instructional Technology training dates were presented by David Mitchell for Sharepoint software on December 10/11<sup>th</sup> and SmartBoard training on January 21, 2010. The committee had no questions about the dates. Oscar Guajardo from Perez Elementary moved to approve the dates

and Sara Aldape-Flores from Champion Elementary seconded the motion. The Committee approved the dates unanimously.

- Career and Technology training dates were presented by Felipe Reyes. The December 11-12<sup>th</sup> (Friday-Saturday) dates impacts 2 science teachers per high school. Ana Pena from Cummings Middle School made the motion to approve the dates, Rosie Gorena from Lopez High School seconded the motion and the Committee approved the dates unanimously.

- VII. Presentation on College Readiness Standards was made by Merrill Hammons from the Department of Advanced Academic Services. Highlights of his presentation included the definitions of College Readiness from both the Texas Education Agency and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. The basic definition is that students are prepared to enter college and be successful in pursuing their education without taking any “readiness” courses. He noted that Texas and BISD are ahead of most states and districts in getting our students college ready due to the College Readiness Standards. Texas and BISD schools offer many college readiness courses which include the Advanced Placement, dual enrollment, and concurrent enrollment classes. BISD is also ahead because we have almost all students graduating on the Texas Recommended Graduation Plan or the Distinguished Achievement Plan (DAP) as well as offering a significant number of dual enrollment classes. He pointed out that BISD has a Texas Education Agency Gold Standard award for the percentage of BISD students graduating on the Recommended Plan. One area BISD can improve in is to have more students take and be more successful on Advanced Placement exams and the SAT/ACT exams.
- VIII. Update: Listing of the DEIC Sub-Committees for the development of the District Improvement Plan was reviewed by Bea Garcia. She noted that most members were given their first or second choices for committee placements. On January 18, 2010 the sub-committees will break into content areas supported by the Curriculum Specialists and designated program administrators to review those sections of the DIP. Members will need to plan on a fairly long meeting due to the amount of material to be reviewed and potentially revised. On February 15, 2010 the sub-committees will meet for different program areas supported by the representatives from the Department staff responsible for those areas. She reminded committee members that the focus must remain on student success.
- IX. Update and Action Item: Committee Report on the needed revisions to the District Improvement Plan as a result of being placed on Stage 1 in the area of Graduation Rate and Special Education in Math and Reading was presented by Ben Estrada from the Department of Assessment, Research, and Evaluation. It was explained that the AYP addendum was put into place in case BISD did not get off of Stage 1 this Spring but would not be included in the actual BISD District plan until needed. The focus for the addendum is Mathematics and Reading Special Education students and there are 2 action items for each area—one with curriculum implementation with appropriate modifications and the other with focused tutorials. Funding will need to be allocated during the budgeting process for the tutorial implementation if needed for next year. Motion to approve addition of addendum if needed was made by Elizabeth Rojas of Paredes Elementary and seconded by Mae Solis of Garcia Middle School. The Committee voted unanimously to approve the addendum.
- X. Announcements were made by Sharon Moore:
- Next DEIC Meeting – Monday, December 14, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. in the BISD Board Room
  - Sylvia Cancino, our business partner for PUB, submitted her resignation from the DEIC effective Tuesday, October 26<sup>th</sup>.
  - RTI Pull Out Day was changed from the date previously approved (Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>) due to scheduling conflicts. The rescheduled date is Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>.
  - Quest Training Pull-Out days were originally approved for December 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>; however, these dates are being changed to December 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> due to the unavailability of the consultants.
- XI. Adjournment motion was made by Mae Solis from Garcia Middle School and seconded by Gloria Ayala from Longoria Elementary. The Committee unanimously approved the motion.