

DISTRICT EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
MAY 25, 2010 3:45
TRAINING CENTER

Attending: Robin Meadows, Jan Pierce, Teresa McBride, Cheryl LaFreniere, Carla Gentry, Stacy Dial, Lorie Harkins, Denver McMurry, James Moats, Sherry McAsey, Mark Mathis, Greg Fletcher, Terry McCutchen, Scott McPherson, Mac Edwards, Joyce Hardy, Patti Seckman

- I. Introductions- All committee members were given name badges to wear at meetings.
- II. Purpose – Conducting a Comprehensive Needs Assessment- See attached ppt. Patti Seckman explained the model and process recommended for determining needs of the district. The model developed by Victoria Bernhardt depicts four measures of data- “Demographics, Perceptions, Student Learning and School Processes” needed to perform a comprehensive needs assessment.
- III. Categories and Committees- See below. The committees are lead by school administrators who are trained in conducting needs assessments. The small group committees will meet together to analyze data, answer the probes of their categories, and identify strengths and weaknesses. The weaknesses will be formulated into problem statements. From these problem statements, goals and action plans will be developed and placed in the District Improvement Plan. Committee leaders will provide appropriate data in a format of graphs or charts, when appropriate.
- IV. Recommendations for policy revisions from campus site-based committees
 - A. Parent request to address the committee- The parent of a high school student requested the district committee consider recommending to the board a policy change in the dress code to allow the hair of male students to be over the ears, either at the top or bottom of the earlobe.

A sub-committee was formed to review the policy for possible recommendations to the board. Members- M. Edwards, S. Dial, J. Pierce, P. Seckman
 - B. Campus reports-
 - High School- No recommendations
 - Junior High- Mr. Edwards reported discussion at JH on the rationale for allowing long wind pants but not athletic style shorts for classroom attire at the JH. The request came on the suggestion that “panting” was not an issue anymore. Mr. Edwards shared it is still an issue, and his input is the policy stays as is. The JH committee looked at the current policy not enforcing or clearly defining “sweats”. Also, from the JH committee is the recommendation for review of the statement for hair to be out of the eyes to include females as well as males. Teachers on the district committee agreed there has been an increase in females with this issue.

Intermediate- No recommendations

Elementary- No recommendations

V. Attendance- Staff- See ppt. slide- Employee attendance is at 94.80%. The district goal is 97.0%. Discussion focused on the impact of instruction for the students when the teacher is not present. Research states the single most important factor in achieving student progress and success is the effective teacher in the classroom. The second negative effect of the absences is the financial cost to the district which has climbed steadily from \$93,118 in 2006-07 to over 130,000 in 2009-10. A committee was formed to review the policy of Paradise ISD and to develop a policy and plan to correct this problem. Those serving on the committee are Terry McCutchen, Cheryl LaFreniere, Teresa McBride, and Patti Seckman. A teacher representative from the High School Campus and the Junior High Campus will be asked to serve, too. Tentative meeting time- 1:30 on Friday, May 28th.

VI. Professional Development plans from campus site-based committees –
Elementary –

- Texas Treasures (New Reading Adoption)
- Power Teaching
- “Best of Teaching Practices and Classroom Management” – workshop put on by Elem. Teachers out of GE, Time to Teach, Love and Logic, Playground rules, Hallway rules, etc.
- Collaboration with grade level on curriculum mapping (Reading/ELA, Math, Science, and SS)
- Vertical campus meetings to review maps and discuss field trips, activities, lessons, etc.
- Technology Applications- How to use an iTouch, iPad, etc. in the classroom
- Hands-on Science for PK-3.

Intermediate-

- iPads and Apps. That work in the classroom
- Glogster, Gagle, and Web 2.0 in the classroom (actual ideas that can be used)
- recognizing and prevention of depression and suicide
- bullying-recognition and prevention
- reaching the low socio-economic students.

Junior High-

- Vertical meetings
- College Readiness/What do we need to do to prepare Paradise ISD kids better
- GT Training
- Differentiated Instruction

High School-

- ELA- Pearson Prentice Hall training on new adoption

VII. Title II, Part A - Planning amount \$28,559 – This federal fund for Teacher, Assistant Principal Training and Recruitment was discussed. The fund must be used to increase the

quality of the teaching staff or principal or to reduce class size. Two years ago an additional ELA teacher was hired with TPTR funds. The committee discussed several options for improving the quality of the staff, but decided the best use of the fund is toward the salary of the ELA teacher at the JH to keep class size at approximately 16.8 instead of 25.2.

VIII. Safe and Drug Free Schools and Community Survey results – See ppt. slide The online survey results of the student survey for grades 5-12 were reviewed. The positives included the high number of students who considered their school “Very Safe.” Areas identified as needs:

- Bullying/Threats
- Process for students to report physical, psychological, and sexual abuse
- Abuse/Harassment via Facebook, cell phones and for students to understand the consequences of such behavior
- Avenues to supply parents with more information

Observation- Peak age of experimenting with substances- 12, 13, 14

Plans- Continue to define what constitutes Bullying in guidance lessons. Staff training on Bullying, Abuse/Harassment via Facebook, cell phones, ect.

Categories

- Demographics; and
- Student Achievement – Stacie Meadows and Mark Mathis
Stacy Dial, Carla Gentry
- School Culture and Climate - Scott McPherson and Greg Fletcher
Teresa McBride, James Moats, Denver McMurry
- Staff Quality, Recruitment and Retention; and
- Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment – Joyce Hardy and Patti Seckman
Jan Pierce, Cheryl LaFreniere, Robin Meadows
- Family and Community Involvement – Terry McCutchen
Eva Read, Susan Smith, Kristin Gage
- School Context and Organization – Monty Chapman
Vann Wakefield, Tammie Jo Gentry
- Technology – Mac Edwards
Sherry McAsey, Lori Harkins