

**The ARLINGTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL
DISTRICT-LEVEL INSTRUCTIONAL
DECISION-MAKING COMMITTEE**

functions as a representative advisory group for all AISD professional staff with regard to the establishment and review of the district's educational mission, goals, objectives and major district wide classroom instructional programs.

Jeannie Bailon, Nichols Junior High, ESL/Plato Lab Manager, 817-801-2600
Kevin Baker, Elementary School Parent, 817-467-2746

Matthew Brown, Larson Elementary, 6th Grade Teacher, 972-595-0000

Terri Butler, Sam Houston High School Counselor, 817-459-8200

Mark Castillo, Carter Junior High, Plato Lab Teacher, 682-867-1700

Stacy Chappell, Burgin Elementary, Kindergarten Teacher, 817-419-1300

Patricia Connor, Lamar High School, A.P. Psychology Teacher, 682-867-8300

Grace Courtney, Arlington High School, Plato Lab Manager, 682-867-8100

Kristen Craven, Foster Elementary, 3rd Grade Teacher, 817-419-5350

Kayleen Cress, Williams Elementary, 6th Grade Teacher, 817-419-5900

Eric Evans, Seguin High School, Technology Applications Teacher, 817-375-6700

Ed Farmer, Seguin High School, Principal, 817-375-6700

Kathy Giles, West Elementary, 1st Grade Teacher, 682-867-0100

Michele Marquess, Bailey Junior High, 8th Grade CATE Teacher, 682-867-0700

David McGarity, Barnett Junior High, 7th Grade Science Teacher, 682-867-5000

Donna Orr, Barnett Junior High, Nurse, 682-867-5000

Jeanne Paull-Turner, Foster Elementary, Principal, 817-419-5350

Dee Reed, Martin High School, Business Teacher, 817-561-8600

Becky Reynolds, Senior High Parent, 817-468-5863

Mary Schadt, Sam Houston High School, Communications Teacher, 817-459-8200

Susan Schadt, Beckham Elementary, Diagnostician, 682-867-6600

Ravonne Allmon Smith, Ousley Junior High, Fine Arts Teacher, 682-867-5700

Susan Spencer, Dunn Elementary, 5th Grade Teacher, 682-867-3200

Larry Spracklen, Bowie High School, CATE Teacher, 817-472-4400

Bryan Stewart, Community, 817-515-3316

Chuck Sturgeon, Community, 817-804-4332

David Tapia, Ferguson Junior High, Principal, 682-867-1600

Kathy Tucker, Young Junior High, 7th Grade Reading Teacher, 682-867-3400

Jeanne Paull-Turner, Foster Elementary, Principal, 817-419-5350

Perri Turner, Community, 817-272-7215

Edna Wilkins, Ousley Junior High, Librarian, 682-867-5700

WELCOME

Becky Reynolds opened the meeting and welcomed committee members. Ms. Reynolds thanked everyone for their attendance and for their commitment to AISD students. Items discussed:

CREDIT BY EXAM BOARD POLICIES

Dr. Wallace Carter, Director for Research and Testing reviewed recommended changes to local policies EEJA, EEJB, and EEJC. The proposed changes from the curriculum and instruction staff, as well as principals, are aligned with TEA and NCLB recommendations.

EEJA (local) Credit by Exam with Prior Instruction changes includes a definition of prior instruction. EEJB (local) Credit by Exam Without Prior Instruction changes include locally developed examinations. And EEJC (local) Correspondence Courses change opens the option beyond two credits. The DIDC had the opportunity to discuss the recommended changes and give input for school board consideration.

SPECIAL EDUCATION STATE ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW

Karen Hill, Special Education Director, Teresa Williamson, Special Education Assistant Director and Karen English, Special Education/Restart Coordinator presented an overview of the state assessment program and the Restart intervention model. The Special Education Department's primary initiative is to increase access to general curriculum and instruction in order to close the achievement gap for students with disabilities.

The overview included a historical perspective of the special education law. DIDC members explored the changing demographics of our district data.

There are dramatic changes ahead for how we assess students with disabilities. The test options this year are TAKS, TAKS-I (close or near grade level – measuring Science and Social Studies), SDAA II (off grade level testing), LDAA (locally developed assessments), and new this year is TAKS-Alt (online test, an observation of students with the most severe disabilities). Future test options will include only TAKS, TAKS-I (expanded to include reading, writing, math, science and social studies), TAKS-Alt, and the new TAKS-M (modified – has not been approved by the US Department of Education. It is on grade level content.) Ninety-seven percent of all students will take TAKS and TAKS-I. Two percent will take TAKS-M and the remaining one percent will take TAKS-Alt.

The trend is to move more toward a Response to Intervention (RtI). A model that addresses the needs of students through a continuum of services providing high quality instruction and tiered intervention strategies aligned with individual student need. We currently have the RAP (Realizing Academic Potential) process districtwide and Restart on selected campuses. Restart is designed to enhance, improve and increase student performance through intensive interaction with staff. The DIDC was presented with the components of the Restart team approach. Members had extensive discussions about the future face of special education.

QUESTIONS - To facilitate the answering of your question:

1. See if it can be answered with the resources within your building. 2. Refer your question in writing to the appropriate committee.

Scope of DIDC: Limited to AISD's educational goals, objectives, curriculum or instructional programs.

Scope of Professional Communication Committee: Limited to wages, salaries, hours of work, benefits (excluding insurance) and conditions of work of Districtwide importance. **Contact: Rhonda Clark, Administration Building**

Insurance Committee Contact Person: Laura Clark, Administration Building

Calendar Committee Contact Person: Jerry McCullough, Administration Building

Paraprofessional Communication Committee Contact Person: Lester Wolff, Administration Building

Maintenance/Operations/Warehouse Communication Committee Contact Person: Mike Shipskey

Transportation Communication Committee Contact Person: Mary DelBrail

Food Service Communication Committee Contact Person: Jackie Anderson

If you have **suggestions** about any of the AISD's educational goals, objectives, curriculum or instructional programs, please fill out this form and attach it to a summary of your comments.

Send to DIDC, Attention: Becky Reynolds, DIDC Co-Facilitator, c/o Anne Brassell, Secondary Instruction, Arlington Independent School District, Arlington, Texas 76013. The **deadline** for consideration at the next DIDC meeting is **January 2, 2007**. All input by this date will be shared with the committee at its January 16, 2007 meeting. Please include your name and phone number so we may respond to your request personally.

Name: _____ School: _____ Grade: _____ Subject: _____

Topic: _____

Suggested Solution: _____

Would you like to be contacted personally by a member of the DIDC? _____ Yes _____ No

Please note: The District Level Instructional Decision Making Committee (DIDC) UPDATE is now on the AISD Website*.

*(www.aisd.net)