District Level Instructional Decision-Making Committee

UPDATE

Vol. 23, No. 1 September 13, 2011

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.

Anna Baggett, Martin High School, Science Teacher, 682-867-8600

Patti Belknap, Johns Elementary School, Kindergarten Teacher, 682-867-2500 Sergio Bento, Arlington Chamber of Commerce, Community, 817-515-3036 Tracy Bolding, Elementary School Parent 817-739-6422

Jennifer Boyle, Senior High Parent, 972-602-1922

Jennifer Brazile, Duff Elementary School, Nurse, 685-867-2000

Wendy Britton, Beckham Elementary, Special Education Teacher, 682-867-6600 James Cagle, Barnett Junior High School, 8th Grade Math Teacher, 682-867-5000 Mike Cinatl, Tarrant County College, Community, 817-515-3036

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Lavetta Johnson, Bailey Junior School, Tech Applications Teacher, 682-867-0700 Roger Jones, Young Junior High School, Junior High Principal, 682-867-3400 Jana Mulkey, Key Elementary School, 6th Grade Teacher, 682-867-5500

Terri Nedderman, Sherrod Elementary School, RESTART Manager, 682-867-3700 Steve Paulsen, Elementary School Principal, 682-867-1000

Jeannie Bailon Peel, Nichols Junior High School, ESL Dept. Chair, 682-867-2600 Suzanne Sharum, Larson Elementary School, Diagnostician, 682-867-0000

Shanda Shoop, Seguin High School, Comp. Science Appl. Teacher, 682-867-8200 Chad Strother, Carter Junior High Teacher, Band Teacher, 682-867-1700

Royce Swayne, Young Junior High, Technology Teacher, 682-867-3400 Lisa Thompson, UT Arlington, Community, 817-272-2610

Catherin Van Slyke, Sam Houston High School, Credit Recovery Tchr, 682-867-8200 Amy Willmann, Starrett Elementary School, I.F. / Teacher, 682-867-0400

Kathy Woods, Moore Elementary School, 3rd Grade Teacher, 682-867-3200

Jennifer Young, Arlington High School, Principal, 682-867-8100

Karen Hill, DIDC District Co-facilitator, Ex. Director of Secondary Instruction, 682-867-7303 Debbie Williams, DIDC District Co-facilitator, Ex. Director of Elementary Instruction, 682-867-7227

Marcelo Cavazos, District Contact, Deputy Superintendent, 682-867-7300

WELCOME

Karen Hill, Executive Director, Secondary Instruction, welcomed the committee. Committee members shared information about how the first week of school went on their campuses from the parent and teacher perspective.

OPERATION GRADUATION

Electra Kitchin, Coordinator of Drop-out Prevention, shared information about Operation Graduation's second successful year. Other committee members shared their experiences with helping students to get back into Graduation coaches are able to help keep the students school. connected to school.

GENERAL QUESTIONS

Karen Hill responded to a question about 6th grade moving to junior high. Karen referred to the MGT report that is located on AISD's website. She indicated that the study is beginning in regards to space and any possible boundary changes. Jimmy Walker, Superintendent of Administration, and Karen Hill are leading the study.

A question was asked about the possibility of high schools having seven periods a day. Karen shared that the High School scheduling option committee is being re-established to check into options for high school scheduling. The composition of the committee was reviewed.

DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT PLAN UPDATE

Karen Hill reviewed the district goals that have remained the same since 2008 when Mr. McCullough became interim superintendent. The campus improvement plans are posted on the internet. There are specific strategies under each goal. For example, a strategy under the goal to reduce the drop-out rate is Operation Graduation that was discussed. Strategies under reduce course/subject failure rates support 9th grade algebra students, which is the area with the highest failure rates. Vertical alignment of the curriculum is continually updated on Curriculum Central.

Some of the District Improvement Plan highlights were reviewed including curriculum assessments aligned with STAAR. We have five Unacceptable campuses and eight Academically Acceptable with Exceptions campuses. Effective instructional support is being provided to these campuses through a collaborative approach.

The use of technology to support several district goals was discussed.

The initial phase of RTI Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) will be implemented on all campuses. Students being ready, respectful, and responsible and teaching them appropriate school behavior is a focus. Improving the overall quality school environment by implementing higher level safety and security measures was discussed, such as the possible use of Raptor and uniform name badges for personnel.

The Crossroads project was discussed. This grant is to increase the completion rate of 17 – 19 year olds.

Accountability Indicators for local accountability were reviewed. campuses will have a STAAR - TAKS comparability study, and Value Added will be used for curriculum assessments to determine extremes and trends. Additionally, high schools will use completion rates, junior highs will use discretionary disciplinary placements, and elementary

schools will use K-2 assessment results. All campuses will have three indicators for student improvement to determine if the campus is making progress.

A recommendation is for the DIP and CIP Goals to be revised for 2012-2013 to align with the district's strategic plan.

PAPERWORK REDUCTION

Linda Rodgers, Secondary Special Populations Coordinator, shared information about the Paperwork Reduction Committee. This committee looks at paperwork reduction the first six weeks and the last six weeks of the school year. Linda explained the process for gathering the different paperwork. In May 2011 the committee looked at general education paperwork, 147 forms, separately from special education paperwork required for compliance, 144 forms. The committee reduced the general education forms to 139 and special education forms to 103. This committee will meet Thursday, September 22, to review the forms as required by board policy. Bilingual and ESL forms are also needed for federal compliance. All new forms must be submitted to the committee for review. Two teachers from DIDC need to be on the paperwork committee.

EOC ASSESSMENT POLICY

Karen Hill reviewed information about the two EOC assessment concepts that have significant policy implications for districts in the areas of course credit, grading, and class rank. Districts are required to have local board policy stating that an EOC assessment score counts as 15 percent of the final course grade. Additionally, a student is permitted to retake an EOC assessment for any reason at any of the scheduled testing administrations, with the district determining whether to count the retake score as 15 percent of the final course grade. As more information is received it will be shared with the committee.

FALL ELECTION DISCUSSION

Karen Hill explained the election process and explained the attachments which reviewed Policy BQA, the election schedule, vacancies, and the DIDC election update. The timeline was reviewed and the election subcommittee was appointed. The subcommittee's expectations were reviewed. The following members volunteered for the subcommittee: Pam Durall, Traci Bolding, Catherine Van Slyke. Members were thanked for their service to the committee.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 6:10 P.M.

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: Jimmy Walker, Administration Building

Paraprofessional Communication Committee Contact Person: Rick Tice, 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: Geoffrey Grissom c/o Karen Hill, Secondary Instruction, Arlington Independent School District,

Arlington, Texas 76013. 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*.