

Northside Educational Improvement Council

Special Note: Orientation for new members was held at 5:30 p.m. Training was conducted by Diana Ely, Director for Organizational and Staff Development and Rebecca Barron-Flores, Council Chairperson.

The October 1, 2002 meeting of NEIC was called to order by President Rebecca Barron-Flores at 6:18 p.m.

Members Present: Mary Adams, Diane Aguilar, Veronica Arteaga, Rebecca Barron-Flores, Janet Beach, Lynn Britton, Brian Christoffersen, Terry Condon, Isabel Fears, Yvonne Fernandez, Tammy French, Laura Hinton, Patricia Hitch, Roxanne King, Kathy Lindley, Nancy Medrano, Dr. Sybil Morgan, Jodie Meyer, Don Nance, Sheryl Parker, Lois Pearson, Rosemary Perez, Cindy Plunkett, Elaine Rodriguez, Jose Sanchez, George Terrell, Alex Travieso, Beth Ann Willstrop, Brian Woods.

Staff Members Present: Dr. Pat Teicher, Dr. Eleanor Elder, Linda Mora

I. Welcome and introductions

Introductions were made of all outgoing and new members to NEIC. Welcome to our new members Brian Woods, Nancy Medrano, Cindy Plunkett, Isabel Fears, Janet Beach, Kathy Lindley, Patricia Hitch, Veronica Arteaga, Tammy French and Brian Christoffersen. Many thanks to outgoing members Don Nance, Rosemary Perez, and Dr. Sybil Morgan.

II. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Jose Sanchez asked that a correction be made to the August 6, 2002 minutes as his name was omitted from the list of members present. Alex Travieso then moved that the amended minutes be accepted and Elaine Rodriguez seconded the motion. Motion passed.

III. Student Success Initiative

Dr. Eleanor Elder, Executive Director of Elementary Instruction, presented information on Northside's procedures related to the Student Success Initiative, state testing for promotion and the role of Grade Placement Committee. These procedures are in place due to state law (Texas Education Code 28.0211 a) that requires students not passing certain sections of the TAKS test be retained in their grade (101.2003-101.2015). Third graders must pass TAKS reading beginning in 2003, fifth graders must pass TAKS reading and math in 2005 and eighth graders must pass TAKS reading and math in 2008. Northside procedures have been specifically written to meet requirements of the Student Success Initiative for

grade three reading TAKS. These procedures include:

- Parent notification
- Early identification of students at-risk of reading failure
- Reading interventions
- Additional targeted intervention(s) after failure(s) of TAKS reading
- Role and membership of the Grade Placement Committee

Included in the packet were copies of parent notification letters, student assessment and interventions, record keeping and intervention planning and procedures relating to Grade Three TAKS Reading testing, GPC decisions for special education students and additional GPC functions.

IV. No Child Left Behind Act

Linda Mora, Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, presented the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 Superintendents Brief from Region 20. The NCLB Act of 2001 amends the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) and replaces the Improving America's School Act of 1994. The NCLB Act was ratified by Congress in December 2001 and was signed by President George W. Bush on January 8, 2002. There are four key Elements to this legislation:

- Stronger accountability for results
- Expanded flexibility and local control
- Expanded options for parents
- Emphasis on research-based methods, especially in reading

The Superintendent's Brief provides a summary of key provisions, helpful websites, organizational structure chart of the NCLB Act, new requirements of teachers, new requirements for paraprofessionals, actions to take in your district, and steps for NCLB Act of 2001 School Improvement.

V. Legislative Agenda

Linda Mora presented the Legislative Priorities 2003 brochure that will be available for all NISD patrons. NISD Board of Trustees supports legislation, which will provide a long-term solution to increase the state's funding capacity for public education and that provides districts with sufficient flexibility to address the diverse needs of each individual district, such as:

- Finance public education for Texas children
- Build classrooms for Texas children
- Expand school bus transportation for Texas children
- Increase technology for Texas children
- Help "at-risk" Texas children
- Protect Texas children and school staff

VI. Texas Scholars Program

Linda Mora presented the Texas Scholars Program sponsored by the Texas Business and Education Coalition. Texas Scholars is the collective name for a community's incentives and strategies to motivate all of its students to complete the state Recommended High School Program. This course of study, which includes math, science, social studies, and language arts, including languages other than English, will prepare students with the academic foundation in high school to succeed in whatever they choose to do. For more information a website is available—www.texasscholars.org.

VII. Election of Officers

NEIC members were asked to elect new officers for the year 2002-2003. Diane Aguilar was nominated for secretary by Mary Adams and it was seconded by Laura Hinton. Lynn Britton moved that Diane be accepted as secretary and seconded by Beth Willstrop. Motion passed. Elaine Rodriguez nominated Rebecca Baron-Flores for president and was seconded by Yvonne Fernandez. George Terrell moved that we accept Rebecca as president and was seconded by Beth Willstrop. Motion passed. It was moved by Laura Hinton and seconded by Beth Willstrop that Lynn Britton continue as our vice-president. Motion passed.

VIII. Other Issues

A powerpoint presentation will be made at our next NEIC meeting on the Legislative Priorities that will be placed on the NISD website. Dr. Eleanor Elder will present the passing rates after a child has been placed or retained. This was requested by Jose Sanchez. Information will be provided on the district criteria regarding the new regulations for Instructional Assistants and the compensation that will be paid upon completion of the requirements. This was requested by Roxanne King. Lois Pearson asked that information be provided on the differences between Honors classes vs. regular classes, criteria used for eligibility into these classes and what will be done in the future.

The next meeting of NEIC will be on November 5, 2002 at 6:00 p.m.

IX. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Lynn Britton and seconded by Laura Hinton. The meeting was adjourned at 7:31p.m.

APPROVED

Northside Educational Improvement Council (NEIC) is the district decision-making committee established in accordance with Texas Education Code Sec. 11.251, and 11.252. NEIC has 39 members, including staff, parents, business, and community members. The purpose of NEIC is to involve professional staff, parents, and community members in establishing, and reviewing the district's and campuses' educational plans, goals, performance objectives, and major classroom instructional programs. Staff are elected for a two-year term by their staff peers; parents, business, and community members are appointed by the Board for a two-year term. NEIC meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month unless otherwise posted. Meetings are open to the public. Items to be considered for the agenda may be submitted to either Rebecca Barron-Flores, President, at Passmore Elementary School (678-2800) or Linda Mora, Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, at Central Office, 5900 Evers Road, 78238 (706-8635). Agendas and minutes of all meetings are posted at Central Office and at each school.

NEIC MEMBERS:

STAFF REPRESENTATIVES:

Primary: Mary Adams, Carson Elem.; Joy Ulcak, Boone. Intermediate: Brian Christoffersen, Thornton; Veronica Arteaga, Brauchle . Elementary Specialist: Diane Aguilar, Ed Cody. Middle School (Academic Core): Thomas Koog, Connally; Elaine Rodriguez; Jordan Middle School (Other): Cindy Plunkett, Pease. High School (Academic Core): Lynn Britton, Jay; Isabel Fears, Sunset H.S.; High School (Business): Sheryl Parker, Business Careers. High School (Other): Beth Ann Willstrop, Health Careers. Special Campuses: Laura Hinton, N.V.T.P. Counselors: Christine Johnson, Pat Neff MS. Librarians: Kathy Lindley, Pat Neff. Nurses: Jodie Meyer, Oak Hills Terrace, Elementary Administration: Rebecca Barron-Flores, Locke Hill Elem. Secondary Administration: Brian Woods, Clark H.S. CO Professional Staff: R.C. Rodriguez, Bilingual/ESL; Paraprofessionals: Roxanne King, Pat Neff M.S.

PARENT REPRESENTATIVES: Roger Ayala, Tammy French, Dr. Bill Clark, Patricia A. Hitch, Nancy Medrano

PTA COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES: Lois Pearson

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES: Janet Beauch, Terry Condon, Christine Hernandez, Sharon Itz., George Terrell, Jose Sanchez, Alex Travieso

BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES: Johanna Rogers, Yvonne Fernandez, Eddie Barron