

Northside Educational Improvement Council

The meeting of September 6, 2005 was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Northside School District Board Room.

Members Present: Bette Austin, Rebecca Barron-Flores, Janet Beauch, Gretchen Bernabei, Patty Conlin, Chris DeArmond, Dave Gannon, Cynthia Herrera, Christine Hernandez, Patricia Hitch, Linda Koehler, Lourdes Medina, Priscilla Paul, Don Pittman, R. C. Rodriguez, Jose Sanchez, Sharon Thornton, Linda L. Williams, and Terry Zablocki.

Staff Present: Dr. John Folks, Linda Mora, Lynda Reyes, Linda Zarakas, Sara McAndrew, George Torres, Oscar Cardenas

Dr. Folks addressed the group with the following statistics:

- 138 students enrolled from Katrina to date
- 119 students from shelters to come, possibly more
- Baptist Children's Center, Levi-Strauss, and a church are shelters in our district
- Thursday enrollment from shelters and Friday they begin school
- Very mobile, migrant population
- Schools already have information on how to code and keep track of this population
- Danger of no shots is to the population displaced by Katrina; there will be a 30-day waiting period for immunizations
- NISD has 3466 more students this year with a total of 77,338 students. We have exceeded our projection for this year already.
- The State Board of Education will probably give teachers displaced by Katrina a one-year certificate. One possible trouble spot is references and criminal history checks

Chairperson, Rebecca Barron-Flores then called for additions, corrections to and approval of the minutes from the May 4, 2005 meeting. Linda Koehler made the motion and it was seconded by Patricia Hitch to approve the minutes as written.

Bobby Flores then reported on the Curriculum Management System, the district's new data warehouse for student information and curriculum. He reported that the district trained 6,500 district employees in two days and that this was part one of the three phased training. The next training will be Align Part II (which is the curriculum), and Account (student data). The Outreach/Parents portion should be up in February or March. He reiterated that the data would be updated nightly. The committee then watched the video called CSI – Critical Student Information.

The committee heard a report on the Strategic District Improvement Plan -Year 3 from Sally Lewis. She led the committee through the preparation of the Year 3 Plan by the Superintendent's Cabinet. Evaluation of the plan will take place three times during the school year, November, March and May. This plan will be posted to the Internet after

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presentation to the Board on September 20th. Ms. Lewis then asked for and concerns or recommendations from the committee. They were as follows:

- Terry Zablocki expressed concern about the SAT/ACT testing waivers. She added that Northside needs to emphasize the use of the waivers to better address monetary issues for some children.
- Bette Austin asked how the special needs group was doing and what affects were noticed on the school ratings. Linda Mora reported that only two schools did not make AYP and some requirements are being addressed with:
 1. Students reading 2 grade levels below may take SDAA or TAKS, whichever is most appropriate
 2. ARD committees are asked to look very carefully at student testing
 3. Raised awareness of percentage of students being placed in special education
- David Gannon asked for clarification on areas Northside is struggling. Linda Mora stated that math and science are still concerns and the district is addressing these issues with:
 1. Revised curriculum documents and focused on training for middle school teachers. Project checks change the activities every year.
 2. Nothing really stands out that is significantly behind.He also expressed concern with control of people coming on the campuses and the security issues that encompasses.

Linda Mora then gave a report on the Classroom Reimbursement Monies from the State. The stats are as follows:

- \$120,000 available, used \$53,000 returning half of the balance, \$33,000
- Monies are possibly going to be available this year and we will have to prepare guidelines

Terry Zablocki gave thanks from the committee to all who helped to get the monies and administer the monies.

George McKnight reported on the Avid Program, a high school program that focuses on middle/average student. The goal of the program is to increase preparation for college and improve the college-going culture. There are discussions in place to possibly extend the program into the middle school programs

The committee was then reminded of the NEIC Elections being held to replace outgoing members. The schedule of the committee was discussed. Linda Mora said that there would be no meeting in December or January and that the committee would meet in the months of October, November, February, March, April, and possibly in May.

Ms Mora then introduced Linda Zarakas, Director of School Improvement Initiatives. She will be working with the schools on the school improvement plans.

Being no other business the motion was made by Patty Conlin and seconded by Terry Zablocki to adjourn.

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The 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 at 6:00 p.m. on the 1st Tuesday of each month, in the Northside Board Room at 5900 Evers Road, unless otherwise posted. Meetings are open to the public. Items to be considered for the agenda may be submitted to either Rebecca Barron-Flores, NEIC President, at Passmore Elementary School, (397-0500) or Linda Mora, Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, at Central Office, 5900 Evers Road, 78238 (397-8635). Minutes of all meetings are posted at Central Office and at each school.

NEIC MEMBERS:**STAFF REPRESENTATIVES:**

Primary: JoAnn Campbell, Boone Elem.; Kelly Mantle, Howsman. Intermediate: Linda L. Williams, Howsman; Sharon Michael-Chadwell, Raba . Elementary Specialist: Linda P. Koehler, Ward Elementary. Middle School (Academic Core): Sue Richards, Luna M.S.; Cynthia Herrera, Sul Ross M.S.; (Other): Chris DeArmond, Pease M.S. High School (Academic Core): Terry Zablocki, Warren H.S.; Gretchen Bernabei, O'Connor High School. Milton Fields, Taft H.S. High School (Business): High School (Other): Lourdes J. Medina, Warren High School. Special Campuses: Ronald Hyde, Northside Excel Academy. Counselors: Priscilla Paul, Brauchle. Librarians: Denise Stanton, Colby Glass Elem. Nurses: Patty Conlin, Stevenson Middle School. Elementary Administration: Rebecca Barron-Flores, Passmore Elem. Secondary Administration: Don Pittman, Warren H.S.. CO Professional Staff: R.C. Rodriguez, Dir., Bilingual/ESL; Paraprofessionals: Sharon Thornton, Northside Habilitation Program.

PARENT REPRESENTATIVES: Randy Harmon, David Gannon, Dr. Bill Clark, Bette Austin, Nancy Medrano, Patricia Hitch

PTA COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES: Kim DeCock

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES: Terry Condon, Jose Sanchez, George Terrell,, Alex Travieso, Christine Hernandez, Janet Beauch, Phil Lange

BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES: Danny Adams, Bill Singleton

NEIC Officers: Rebecca Barron-Flores, President; Christine Hernandez, Vice President; Linda Williams, Secretary.