

***Northside Educational Improvement Council***

President Rebecca Barron-Flores, Principal of Passmore Elementary, called the October 4, 2005 meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. in the Northside School District Board Room.

**Members Present:** Mary Adams, Diane Aguilar, M. LaNeil Belko, JoAnn Campbell, Rebecca Barron-Flores, Dave Gannon, Brad Hebert, Christine Hernandez, Patricia Hitch, Lisa Holmes, Linda Koehler, Laura Lara, Maureen Lopez, Lourdes Medina, Carolyn Mullins, Candice Muster, Kim Neal, Priscilla Paul, Vicki Sills, Sharon Thornton, Linda L. Williams, Marie Ybarra, Terry Zablocki

**Staff Present:** John Folks, Linda Mora, Priscilla Lurz, Sara McAndrew, Linda Zarakas, Don Schmidt

**Guests:** Ed Somers, Richard Hill

Dr. Folks took time to address the group. He spoke to the record growth of 4086 students in one year, which is a big concern. He stated that Central Office is talking about Stevenson, Jordan, and Stinson middle schools and what they can do to relieve the pressure. He then commented that Stevens High School is already at 2000, which is more than was expected. He also spoke about the dedication of Stevens High School and what a wonderful event it was, especially with Chief Justice Stevens in attendance.

His next concern was the pending ruling from the state supreme court about school finance. We are all still waiting on the Court ruling and Attorney General.

The question was asked about the bond issue in 2007. Dr. Folks said that we are still on track at this time for a bond election in May of 2007.

Approval of Minutes from September 6, 2005. The motion was made by Patricia Hitch and seconded by Priscilla Paul to approve as written.

Linda Mora then called on all members, present and outgoing, to introduce themselves.

**G/T Advisory Council**

President, Ed Somers, presented the annual report from the G/T Advisory Council for Northside. He outlined the many accolades that Northside GT students received throughout the past year. As of September 2, 2005, NISD serves 6,177 GT students with 1,649 of those classified as economically disadvantaged. There is a noted disparity between the social/economic makeup of the district and that of the GT program. They are trying to close this disparity. Many of our lower socio-economic elementary schools still only have part time GT teachers. Initiatives for this year are to educate parents, build a collaboration of stakeholders in the future of GT students, meet and correspond with State and Federal Legislators, investigate the possibility of roundtable discussion on GT

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education, find ways to subsidize GT funding cuts with private capital, meet with the school board members concerning the program, and create a rapid response team to write, e-mail, and respond to media as needed. GT council recommends the District recognize the importance of the enrichment component duties of a gifted/enrichment specialist, consider the enrollment numbers when allocating staff to campuses, advocate for a minimum of one full-time gifted/enrichment teacher for every school in the west end of our district, and consider additional planning time for GT staff.

Concern came from a parent committee member about the fine arts aspect of GT. A high school representative spoke to the fine arts academy at Warren High School that serves the Fine Arts population and is not just limited to GT students. Linda Mora then spoke to the need to perhaps have the fine arts component of the district explain the district's program and its focus and direction. Suggestions also came from the NEIC members for improved communication regarding the accolades of all students. Elementary children need to see what students who have come before them have done. There was also discussion about improving ways of recognizing these students beyond the test scores and paper and pencil tasks. A suggestion was made to also request a speaker from NEF to explain the NEF policies and how donations may be targeted for specific program areas.

### **Waiver for Early Release on January 20, 2006 for Clark High School**

Due to an academic decathlon on January 20, 2006, at Clark High School, a waiver is requested for an early release to accommodate the event. Terry Zablocki moved to approve the request and Patricia Hitch seconded. The motion was approved.

### **Election of Officers**

The election of officers was then held. Terry Zablocki nominated Priscilla Paul to serve as president and Lourdes Medina seconded the nomination. Priscilla accepted the nomination and she was elected by acclamation. Nominations were then taken for Vice President. Terry Zablocki made the nomination and Patricia Hitch seconded, that David Gannon, serve as vice president. He accepted and was elected by acclamation. The nomination for secretary was then brought before the committee and Linda Williams was nominated by Patricia Hitch and seconded by Lourdes Medina. She was elected by acclamation to serve as secretary.

Linda Mora then recognized the outgoing committee members and welcomed the new committee members. She then presented outgoing president Rebecca Barron-Flores, Principal of Passmore Elementary, with a gift certificate for her years of service to the committee.

There being no other issues to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned by a motion from Diane Aguilar and seconded by Candice Muster at 7:55 p.m.

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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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 Priscilla Paul, NEIC President, at Brauchle Elementary School, (397-1500) 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: Mary Adams, Carson Elem.; JoAnn Campbell, Boone Elem.. Intermediate: Linda L. Williams, Howsman; Angela Fry, Knowlton . Elementary Specialist: Diana Aguilar, Ed Cody Elementary. Middle School (Academic Core): Lisa Holmes, Jordan M.S.; Cynthia Herrera, Sul Ross M.S.; (Other): Chris DeArmond, Pease M.S. High School (Academic Core): Terry Zablocki, Warren High School; Lourdes J. Medina, Warren High School. (Business): High School (Other): Brad Hebert, Health Careers High School. Special Campuses: Vicki Sills, N.S. Children's Center: Counselors: Priscilla Paul, Brauchle/Timberwilde. Librarians: Laura Lara, Ward Elementary,. Nurses: Maureen Lopez, Galm Elementary. Elementary Administration: M. LaNeil Belko, Brauchle Elem. Secondary Administration: Don Pittman, Warren H.S.. District-Level Prof. Staff : R.C. Rodriguez, Dir., Bilingual/ESL; Paraprofessionals: Marie Ybarra, Ed Cody Elementary

**PARENT REPRESENTATIVES:** Kim Neal, David Gannon, Dr. Bill Clark, Dr. Bette Austin, Patricia Hitch

**PTA COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES:** Kim DeCock

**COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES:** Joe O'Brien, Christine Hernandez, Janet Beauch, Leonard Preston

**BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES:** Bill Singleton, Candice Muster