

Northside Educational Improvement Council

President Kristi Bolstad called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Northside Board Room. She called for approval of the minutes from the February 6, 2007 meeting. Laura Lara moved to accept the minutes and seconded by Diane Aguilar.

Members Present: Susan Allain, Melynn Young, Laura Lara, Angela Fry, Maureen Lopez, Robbie Bland, LaNeil Belko, Christi Evans, Matt Foxhall, Kristi Bolstad, Dori Peterson, Romy Vela, Elizabeth Moffett, Brad Hebert, Carolyn Mullins, Diane Aguilar

Staff Present: Linda Mora, Marci Barrientos, Paul Kienlen, Stan Drezek

Update on Boundary Changes

Mr. Stan Drezek reviewed the 9 steps followed before boundary change takes place. He talked about area boundary changes, the direct and indirect effects of new school locations, and that ideally an attempt is made to align elementary, middle school and high school attendance zones.

Driggers Elementary, Aue Elementary, Hatchett Elementary, Jefferson Middle School, and Potranco North Middle School have required boundary changes that need to be implemented.

Mr. Drezek spoke regarding the growth in NISD and the positive experience in the district regarding land and utilities. He stated that future new “single family” sales are a driving factor in projecting large growth. Also included are births, job growth, and kinder projections.

Mr. Drezek said, “Growth is good, but a tremendous strain on the school district, however growth is one of the main reasons Bond 2007 is so big.”

Northside is the 44th largest district in the U.S. and soon will be the 4th in Texas with 85,332 students at this time.

Discussion of Summer School Programs

The February Elementary Testing (first round) scores are in:

3rd grade: 92% pass

5th grade: 89% pass

Dr. Mora informed the committee that summer school will be held at Stevens H.S. June 12- August 3 and that tuition is up a bit at \$220 for a full credit course. The summer school principal will be Oscar Garza. New courses being added are Art 1 and PreCal.

Summer Credit Retrieval will be held June 6-29 for individuals who failed with a 60-69%.

TAKS blitz will be held for individuals in 11th and 12th grade who have not passed TAKS.

The four sites for the District Bilingual/ESL are Cody, Howsman, Linton, and Knowlton Elementary. Also discussed was the Building Transitional Vocabulary for Bilingual fifth grade students. This program is optional for parents. Other programs discussed were: The Spanish Language Enrichment Camp for dual language immersion students, Bilingual Elementary ESL Program, Bilingual Middle School ESL Program, Bilingual High School ESL Program, Summer program for Unschooled English Language Learners, Summer School Enrichment Programs, Excel Math Program and Fine Arts Summer Camp Schedules.

Update on Arabic Language

For the past two years, NISD has submitted an “Exception for Bilingual Education Program” for our Arabic-speaking population. An update on student enrollment and the possibility of establishing an Arabic bilingual program was discussed. Comments were made that teachers are hard to find and location is in the Raba Elementary area.

Update on Dual Language Program

NISD currently operates a dual language bilingual program at May and Esparza Elementary School. Similar program will start with Kinder at Villarreal implementing 50-50 model.

Discussion of Waivers

Waiver to implement a modified schedule for TAKS Testing Days for 2007-2008 was unanimously passed. TAKS testing days are hectic and this allows NISD to modify schedule.

Waiver request for Early Release Days for 2007-2008 & 2008-2009 unanimously passed.

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Dori Peterson, motion was approved.

Happy Spring Break

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 Kristi Bolstad, NEIC President, at Connally Middle School, (397-1000) or Linda Mora, Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, at Central Office, 5900 Evers Road, 78238 (397-8635). Agendas of all meetings are posted at Central Office and at each school; minutes of all meetings are posted at each school.

NEIC MEMBERS:**STAFF REPRESENTATIVES:**

Primary: Mary Adams, Carson Elem.; Jill Palmer, Helotes. Intermediate: Wendi Costas, Blattman; Angela Fry, Knowlton. Elementary Specialist: Diana Aguilar, Ed Cody Elementary. Middle School (Academic Core): Lisa Holmes, Jordan M.S.; Kristi Bolstad, Connally M.S.; (Other): Cindy Plunkett, Pease M.S. High School (Academic Core): Romy Vela, Jay H.S.; Dori Peterson, Stevens H.S. (Business): Carolyn Mullins, Business Careers High School (Other): Brad Hebert, Health Careers High School. Special Campuses: Vicki Sills, N.S. Children's Center: Counselors: Melynn Young, Connally M.S.. Librarians: Laura Lara, Ward Elementary,. Nurses: Maureen Lopez, Galm Elementary. Elementary Administration: M. LaNeil Belko, Ward Elem. Secondary Administration: Susan M. Allain, Connally M.S., District-Level Prof. Staff : Rosemary Perez, Dir., Compensatory; Paraprofessionals: Robbie Bland, Mead Elementary

PARENT REPRESENTATIVES: Kim Neal, David Gannon, Dr. Bette Austin, Elizabeth Moffett

PTA COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES: Meri Ann Christopher

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES: Karen Nance, Christi Evans, Mathlide Scully, David Maze

BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES: Matt Foxhall, Candice Muster

President – Kristi Bolstad; Vice President – Matt Foxhall; Secretary – Jill Palmer