

**Minutes of the District Educational Improvement Council (DEIC)  
October 2, 2024**

The District Educational Improvement Council (DEIC) of the North East Independent School District met on Wednesday, October 2, 2024 in Room 614 of the Richard A. Middleton Education Center, 8961 Tesoro Drive, San Antonio, Texas.

The following DEIC members were present:

Rebecca Esquivel	Rocio Ocon-Garrido	Kristi Gilbert	Cory Caroll
Melissa Hernandez	Mark Tafolla	Alma Elena Braun	Nicole Reich
Melissa Garcia	Rob Shapiro	Jessica Smith-Perry	Ida Nunez
Amy Kamata	Tina Finley	Jeff Fair	Kelli Nungesser
Cooper Harris	Joan Lovin	Jessica Acosta	Melissa Barnes
Elizabeth Malin	Gen Sugalski	Julie Blackstone	

Presenters:

- Kellye Dear, Director, Federal Programs
- Brande Merriman, Director, Performance and Planning
- Dr. Esmeralda Munoz, Executive Director, Learning Support Services
- Dr. April Muzquiz, Executive Director, Elementary Education
- Ravae Shaeffer, Executive Director, Secondary Education

**I. Meeting Called to Order**

Mr. Jarrett called the DEIC to order at 4:35 pm. Mr. Jarrett introduced Dr. Maika, Superintendent, to give a welcome.

**II. Welcome and Introductions**

Dr. Maika welcomed the DEIC members and thanked them for their service. Please help problem solve and speak your mind. Your feedback is very important to the district. We do not rubber stamp these meetings. Diversity of thought is needed, and unity in the goal.

After Dr. Maika's welcome all DEIC members were asked to introduce themselves and state where they are from.

He then had all central office employees in attendance introduce themselves.

**III. Orientation: DEIC Roles and Responsibilities**

Mr. Jarrett showed a PowerPoint about DEIC and discussed the roles and responsibilities of the group. He reiterated how important DEIC is and for members to speak up and give their input. Your voice matters. Reviewed the federal and state laws that govern DEIC. Student achievement is most important. All policies are posted on the district website. A timeline was given for the subjects of future meetings.

#### **IV. Naming of Chairperson**

Mr. Jarrett addressed the committee about the roles of the chairperson. He then opened the floor for nominations for the 2024-2025 DEIC Chair. Rob Shapiro nominated himself. And Mark Tafolla nominated himself. Both members were asked to tell the group a little about themselves and why they would be a good chair. After that DEIC voted Mr. Tafolla received 9 and Mr. Shapiro received 12. Mr. Shapiro was given the position as chair.

#### **V. Review of May 8, 2024 Minutes**

Minutes for the May 8, 2024 meeting were reviewed by the DEIC members present. After minutes were reviewed, Mr. Shapiro, in his new role as Chair, asked the committee if they have a motion for approval. Jeff Fair motioned for the review and acceptance of the minutes. Jessica Smith Perry seconded the motion. The minutes were accepted unanimously as presented.

#### **VI. Family Engagement Policy and State Funding and Federal Assurance**

The Chair called on Learning Support Services to present on Federal Programs and Calendar. Kellye Dear, Director, Federal Programs presented a PowerPoint about the federal funds and compensatory funds given to the district. She explained the two different funds and how they were used and who they could be used for. Mrs. Dear handed to presentation over to Araceli Dominguez to go over the Family Engagement District Policy. At the end of the presentation the floor was open to questions.

#### **VII. Calendar Development**

Dr. Esmeralda Munoz, Executive Director, Learning Support Services, presented suggestions and guidelines for the 2025-2026 school year. Once again the calendar survey is being introduced earlier this year in order to get more feedback and give everyone a voice. Surveys will be sent to stakeholders and campuses. Once complete they will be brought back to DEIC for input and suggestions. Dr. Munoz answered how they came up with the questions for the survey and what the calendars must contain. She asked the members of DEIC to scan the QR code and answer the questions to see if the survey needs to be adjusted.

#### **VIII. 2024 Accountability Refresh & STAAR Redesign**

The Chair introduced BranDe Merriman, Director, Performance and Planning. Ms. Merriman presented the redesign of the STAAR test and how it impacts our district. She showed how TEA will measure growth in the future and how their questions are now modeled. The redesign was very extensive and now includes on-line testing. The ways

that scores are calculated was also changed. With the new changes before and after Covid there was a drop in scores but are working their way back up. Mr. Jarrett also showed the difference in the previous scoring to the new scoring.

## **IX. District Instructional Improvement Planning (DIIP)**

### **Work Session in small groups**

Mr. Jarrett went straight into instructions for the work sessions and how they should use the DIIP. He showed the different areas of the DIIP and how to read them. He asked that Mrs. Ravae Shaeffer, Executive Director, Secondary Curriculum and Dr. April Muzquiz, Executive Director, Primary Curriculum, to lead the work groups. Each group was asked to submit feedback and offer suggestions for strategies to improve student outcome. Executive Directors and Directors were available for questions during the work period. Groups were given 35 minutes to work on the project.

Categories are:

1. What parts caught your attention?
2. What good news is there to celebrate from the data?
3. What are some areas of concern from the data?
4. Are the goals strategic, measurable, attainable, realistic, time bound?
5. Last 10 minutes to document any key conclusions.

Paperwork with committee notes were collected. Members were told they could submit additional information if they thought of something after the meeting. Information collected will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Mr. Jarrett gave closing remarks.

### **Adjourn**

Chairperson Shapiro requested a motion to adjourn. Mark Tafolla gave the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Melissa Hernandez seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 6:36 p.m.