



**District Improvement Team (DIT)  
Meeting  
September 3, 2009  
5:30 – 7:30 p.m.**

In attendance: *Kathy Abshire, Allison Birney, Amy Byrom, Barbara Cofer, Ellen Davis, Holly Durham, Paz Guerra, Lacy Herndon, Susan Kellner, Duncan Klussmann, Scott LeMaire, Myra Lewis, Nicole Rae Morgan, Patty Nilsson, Jimmie O' Quinn, Kristin Pavlik, Oswaldo Rios, Susan Sabeth, Blake Seline, Janet Smith, Lance Stallworth, Carol Strickland, Katie Teeters, Liz Weaver* . There were 63% of DIT members in attendance at this meeting

Dr. Duncan Klussmann, Superintendent of Schools, welcomed everyone and thanked the students for joining the team. Each person shared something about themselves as part of the introductions.

Duncan reviewed the meeting agenda.

**DIT Chair Selection for 2009-10**

Duncan welcomed everyone and gave a brief description of the responsibilities of the DIT Chair – assist in the development and preparation of the agenda, facilitate the meetings, and sign documents, as needed, as the representative of the DIT.

Jimmie O'Quinn, 2008-09 DIT Chair, asked for nominations for the DIT Chair position for 2009-2010.

Ellen Davis and Kristin Pavlik were named co-chairs, all members approved.

**DIT Roles and Responsibilities**

Duncan reviewed the DIT Roles and Responsibilities. Policies TEC §11.251 and TEC §11.252 defines what has to be in the District Improvement Plan (DIP), requires a joint meeting of the DIT and Board after the District receives the AEIS report and establishes work of the committee.

Duncan shared that the district has targeted task forces and would like for the DIT members to volunteer to be on a Task Force. A list of the task forces will be emailed to the DIT. The members will report the committee's work to the DIT and take any suggestions back to the committee.

The DIT reviews all district-wide waivers and the Five Year Educational Plan.

**Initiatives**

Duncan reviewed updates for this year that are developed around the Five Year Educational Plan.

- The district implemented new financial software for Human Resources and payroll.
- The district is in the process of implementing new student accounting software for the next school year. Principals, teachers, counselors and registrars will be trained this year for implementation next August.

Questions:

Ellen Davis: Can you send electronic transcripts through the new student accounting system?

*Duncan's answer: I'm not sure if this system has the capability, but I will check into it.*

### **Classroom Management**

Duncan talked about focusing on Classroom management

- Teachers need to become more consistent with their approach to homework.
- Some staff development time should focus more on classroom management.
- The district will have trainers who will go out and instruct teachers consistently.

### **Standardized Test's**

Duncan talked about the Stanford Test being given in all 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classrooms across the district this school year. The test gives a better assessment of how the child is doing and doesn't "top out." Also the test will help identify more gifted & talented students.

### **Branding**

Duncan talked about the district re-branding campaign, including:

- New logo
- New website
- New tagline

Comments:

Kristin Pavlik says on the pre-kindergarten logo when copied in black and white, the "pre" part in the yellow part of the logo does not show.

### **Technology**

Duncan spoke about new technology in the district:

- Classroom Active Boards will be on campuses by the end of December for grades 1-12 in core classes.
- \$11M from bond funds is to be used for new technology in the classroom.
- Implemented 15 technology grants (5 elementary, 5 middle school, and 5 high school) to test what new technology should be purchased for classrooms in SBISD.
- Spring Woods High School and Woodview Elementary libraries have new technology such as flip video cameras, iPods, and Apple computers for students to use.
- Across the district, media centers are being implemented.

Questions:

Janet Smith: Is there going to be any new system in place where technology in the district can be switched faster?

*There will be a four- year rolling, three-cycle replacement. We plan at least 2-3 cycles out.*

Katie Teeters, student at Stratford HS: Is there a district plan to take care of updates and maintenance of technology? Does the campus have to pay for it?

*The cost comes out of the campus technology funds, which are funded by the state.*

Can a PTA enhance or accelerate technology on a campus?

*The PTA must follow district technology guidelines and go through the campus principal for purchasing technology equipment.*

### **PEIMS**

The district is implementing a major push to improve our data quality.

### **Eduphoria**

Eduphoria is software that is being implemented and will be put into operation this year. It will include lesson planning, student data, curriculum & instruction, as well as other recording functions.

### **Teacher Appraisal System**

PDAS is the new Teacher Appraisal System which is being implemented this year.

### **Graduation Requirements**

Due to HB3, there are changes in the graduation requirements for the 2009-2010 school year. The Program of Studies task force will work on implementation and course selection so students will have more course choices.

### **Update on the Bond program**

Renovation is under way for many campuses around the district such as:

- Hollibrook Elementary – new school is under construction
- Westwood Elementary – new school is under construction at a different location
- Ridgecrest Elementary – new school is under construction
- Edgewood Elementary – working on plans to build new school at a different location
- Tully Stadium – major renovations to meet ADA standards – adding an elevator
- Don Coleman Coliseum – major renovations underway
- Natatorium – major renovations complete
- Spring Woods High School Competition Soccer Field – under construction
- Track Renovations – completed this summer

Seven projects are going to begin next summer as well.

### **Alternative Learning**

Alternative learning programs will be expanding over the next year or two. The alternative learning center will not only focus on needs of struggling students, but also will focus on the students who want to get ahead. One new thing that will be offered will be virtual courses. The first training session for the teachers who will be instructing these classes will take place on September 21, 2009.

### **Homework Policy**

The Board of Trustees adopted a new homework policy that defined a new approach to homework. The Board wanted teachers to think about how much homework they are assigning as well as the quality of the homework they are handing out.

### **Next Meeting**

Thursday, November 5, 2009 (5:30 – 7:30 p.m.)

Administration Building, Board Room

Agenda items include: Review *Five Year Educational Plan*

Review District-wide waiver

Note: If DIT members have suggestions for agenda items, please notify Ellen Davis, Kristin Palvik, or Sue Loudis.