The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. The following members were in attendance, Rev. Ray Mackey, CEO for Higher Impact Ministries and representative liaison for the Independent Heights Ministerial Alliance. Ms. Tanya Debose, the Independent Heights Community Liaison, Mr. David Zuniga, Ms. Guadalupe Padilla, Mr. Anthony Pollard and other invited school personnel were asked to come to make reports which were a part of their assigned duties. The agenda comprised of the following items, IAT, Budgeting, Student Dress Code and STAAR.

The first topic discussed was IAT and RtI process; and we wanted our members to have more in-depth knowledge base on how this system worked per HISD Compliance. Mr. Kyle Mackey was asked to give the committee a brief description on the program works. Rev. Mackey stated that he was amazed at how the IAT was so innovative with addressing students’ needs who were in danger/at-risk. Mr. Woods also addressed briefly how the Renaissance tool acts as another tool innovative program for intervening with at-risk students and how this new system played an important role aligned with IAT through progress monitoring any student in instructional groups (such as TIER I, TIER II, and TIER III with clearly defined plans of interventions to address the specific needs). Mr. Mackey, Burrus Assistant Principal has done a great job in monitoring IAT along with Ms. Rachel Tavera, Burrus Elementary Hourly Lecturer/At-Risk Coordinator.

The next topic discussed was budgeting. Mr. Woods thanked Ms. Guadalupe Padilla, Burrus Magnet Coordinator, for a great job with recruitment this year as the high level of new enrollment was able to help increase our campus budget this year. The magnet department has over 100 new students for this year, in addition to other students who were enrolled throughout the Houston and surrounding areas. Rev. Mackey informed us that the ribbon cutting ceremony would be happening next year for the newly built Independent Heights Apartments. Ms. Debose stated that this should help to add to our enrollment for the 2018-2019 school year, since the purpose of building the affordable housing was to bring in more families. Mr. Woods stated that he would be adding two new hourly lecturers for tutoring during the in-school tutorial programs, and purchasing other mandated reading, science and math materials for our afterschool programs with any extra funds. The committee thought that this was a good idea and a few members volunteered to come in and mentor tutorial students. Mr. Woods stated that since we were a demonstrations school for Wesley Elementary, we would be using some funds for Saturday transportation for Wesley students to come to Burrus Elementary to participate in our Saturday tutorials for reading, math, and science.
The next item for discussion was pertaining to the dress code scheduled to restarted in January 2018. The committee wanted to know were there any extra uniforms for any student whose family may not have access to any funds in getting uniforms for their children. Mr. Woods added that he would not know until the students return to school, but in the meantime the school would send out flyers, advertise with the school marquee, December newsletter, and that the school would make Connect Ed calls informing parents that the uniforms will be coming back in January. One of the committee members stated that they could donate to any student who may not be unable to have a uniform. Mr. Woods, thanked this committee member for their generous gesture.

The last topic on the agenda discussed was about the forthcoming STAAR assessments. Mr. Woods stated that we will continually prepare our students for this state mandated assessment until farther notice from the Superintendent. Mr. Woods, thanked all of the committee members for their continued dedication to Burrus Elementary and he invited them to the Christmas Program scheduled to be held on Wednesday, December 20, 2017 starting at 9:30 a.m. Rev. Mackey took the time out to thank the administration for the great job that they do for the school and their support to the community. Ms. Tanya Debose, also thank the school and gave a special shout out to the teachers, faculty and staff. She also informed us that she would serving on the Mayor Turner’s Special Committee aligned with communities as well as Good Morning America coming into our community. The meeting ended at 2:15 p.m. and everyone was asked to have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.