

DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

May 19, 2010

The meeting began at 3:30 p.m. and Mark reported on the status of the reorganization:

- There are still two vacancies for School Improvement Officers (SIO) (middle school and high school);
- Field office positions are filled; working on placement for special education staff;
- May look at people who are 60% in schools to have a cubicle instead of an office;
- South Field Office will house secondary personnel;
- East Field Office will house elementary personnel;
- Holden will house Library Services, Auditory and Visual Assistance, Migrant, and Community Services
- Teledyne Building will house the Business Department---Medicare, Workers' Comp, and Technology; and others reporting to Melinda Garrett.
- The former North Region Office (Concord ES) will be held for school options---High School Ahead.

Strategic Plan: Mark stated that the Apollo Group is working on a plan for school year 2010-2011, that will be presented at the September board meeting. This will be the planning process. He reviewed a PowerPoint presentation of the update with the Board of Education about the strategic plan.

Interventions:

- Turn around the district's low-performing schools (TEA defined and AYP);
- Literacy will be tied to all subject areas;
- Equity in access; and
- Data warehouse-everything will funnel through in one place.

Culture of Trust through Action:

Internal –

- On-boarding new employees; and
- Keeping people up to date.

External –

- Capacity;
- Communication strategies – five core initiatives: teachers, principals, instruction, data-driven and culture of trust.

Noelia Garza and Bernadette Cárdenas presented the 2009-2010 District Improvement Plan (DIP) approved by the HISD Board in April 2010. HISD will now begin the process for the School Improvement Plans (SIP).

Noelia reported on the Board Monitoring Program. Are we moving ahead or staying stagnant? What do we want to get to? Through the process, HISD will identify core initiatives for HISD's transformation.

Input from the DAC – There are 12 targets, A – L, which Bernadette reviewed. One strategy might fit under more than one target. Participants were asked to pick one target and provide some possible strategies that might address that target.

Groups reported on:

1. Eliminating school achievement gaps
 - a. Looping;
 - b. PK for all students;
 - c. Diversity of testing and evaluating students;
 - d. Referrals and intervention for students who do not qualify for special education, but have significant learning gaps;
 - e. Parents- group that can talk to them; and
 - f. Make sure students have resources.
2. Promotion
3. Improve dropout and completion rates
 - a. Encourage students to pursue certificates and trade licenses
 - b. social workers to help address social and family issues

What's missing?

- Vocation training;
- Address academic skills of all students before they get to high school;
- More comprehensive summer school for credit recovery; and
- Evening courses a couple of days a week.

Supporting dual-language programs: Is Wharton K-8 the only real dual-language program in HISD?

Character Education – modeling classroom management such as at Patterson Elementary School.

Noelia announced that input is welcome at any time.

Mark announced that he has mailed the PowerPoint presentation.

The summer DAC meeting scheduled for June 24, 2010, has been cancelled.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.