District Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
August 25, 2022

Members Present: Jackie Anderson, Sarah Arvidsson, Joy Babb, Jenny Beech, Holly Beery, Maria Carrillo, Andy Chan, Terence Daniels, Naomi Doyle-Madrid, Monica Hill, Trudy Hilty, Ashley Ivory, Ruth Kravetz, Candice Lewis, Ravon Lewis, Coretta Mallet, Rolando Martinez, Karina Quesada, Daniel Santos, Alpa Sridharan, Tyrice Tomas, Tara Webb, Deborah Whitley, and Jose Zamora

Non-members Present: Dr. Shawn Bird, Margarita Gardea, Dr. Allison Matney, Dr. Connie Smith, and Paulette Caston

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm.

- Welcome and Introductions – Paulette Caston, District Advisory Committee Facilitator/Director, District Strategic Planning and Compliance

- Icebreaker - Birthday Lineup – Tara Webb, DAC Co-Chair

- Norms:
  - Treat each other with dignity and respect
  - Stay focused on the agenda topics
  - Listen with an open mind and remain positive
  - Speak one at a time
  - Raise your hand to request to speak

- Professional Development Presentation:
  Dr. Shawn Bird, Chief Academic Officer, reviewed the six pillars of Superintendent House’s Five-Year Strategic Plan. He focused on the pillar of providing high-quality teaching and learning and how it is tied to developing effective services. Regarding curriculum, Dr. Bird mentioned that Eureka is not in all schools right now because the district wants to be able to support this implementation. The highest-need schools were chosen to participate in the pilot, but other schools were selected to participate based on their interest. Due to the high number of schools interested in the implementation of Eureka, some were turned away because the district wants to build up our infrastructure so we can support teachers and leaders. The rollout plan is very intentional, and more campuses will be able to opt-in next year. Moving forward, there will be options for teachers to participate in focus groups with Dr. Bird. Dr. Bird also informed the committee that Curriculum Coaches were hired based on the belief that children can achieve a high level and that they can work with teachers. He expressed that we will honor teachers and the skills they bring to their job and not weaponize data against them.

- Specific Implementation:
  The next PD offering for schools implementing Eureka will be held on October 4th. The PD will be very different than what teachers have seen in the past. As we bring more schools on, we will continue to be tailored to Pre-K. We just adopted a curriculum for every Pre-K program in this school district. There will be times for us to calibrate and come together and see what is working and what is not working so that we can adjust. This is a big commitment where we believe that if everyone worked together, we stay the course and that every student in this district will be receiving consistent academic experiences regardless of the school they attend.
The district will invest in the curriculum from grades Pre-K-12th. It is based on research and it’s designed to engage students learning at all levels. The pilots have started this year and we will continue to implement and add schools as we go along. At every grade level, with a focus on the why and the how, it’s going to address conceptual understanding, fluency, procedures, and apply real-world scenarios.

This year we are currently piloting 40 campuses at the elementary level.

In addition to Eureka, we are piloting this year Amplify, a reading curriculum. It is being implemented at three elementary campuses and three secondary campuses. It is aligned to TEKS standards and it’s built on the science of teaching reading. These campuses will be supported through their implementation of the TNTP school kit and curriculum implementation coaches.

Another training we are doing as a district is the Reading Academies per House Bill 3. The bill passed in June 2019 and it requires all 3rd-grade teachers to be trained in the Reading Academy modules or the Teacher Literacy Achievement Academy. This is the last year we must certify to the state of Texas for every 3rd-grade teacher. There are 12 modules for a total of 60 hours. It is being provided through the blended model, which is an online model. In addition to taking those modules, teachers must be able to demonstrate an understanding and application of the concepts. This year, we are targeting all 2nd-grade & 3rd-grade teachers and new kindergarten teachers, new principals, and assistant principals. We provided two days of training during pre-service for them to engage in the models and suggested a campus completion time. Also, the principal may provide on-campus time for teachers to complete those modules. Teachers will receive a stipend for any modules that are completed after work hours.

Professional Development (PD) Catalog:
Since departments have a deadline to submit their courses by September 2, 2022., the PD catalog is not inclusive. The online PD Fall catalog will be updated every two weeks and courses can be accessed through OneSource. We will have additional professional development added to the catalog based on the feedback received from teachers.

Comments/Questions and Answers:
I am at one of the Eureka Math campuses and I will say that the coach on our campus has been incredibly helpful in supporting us.

What is the time commitment the district has to this program?
It’s not in all schools right now because we want to be able to support the implementation.

I talked to my school leadership today and my Assistant Principal said that it took her three full workdays to compile the PD that she needed to organize for pre-service. Is that in the catalog?
You can download the Excel document and sort it from there. It gives the actual description, dates, and OneSource course number.

Will, there be any in-person or virtual instructor LED training for kids?
It’s mostly virtual because it is asynchronous planning.
The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.