



HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

ROSS SHAW STERLING AVIATION EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

11625 MARTINDALE ROAD - HOUSTON, TEXAS 77048

713.991.0510 Main Office - 713.991.8111 Fax

SDMC Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 19, 2022 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Members in Attendance:

Tannisha Gentry, Principal

Raven Thomas, Dean of Instruction (facilitator)

Shontel Roberts, Early College Dean

Hugo Duran, Teacher

Shirley Wiltturner, Teacher

Michelle Cuellar, Clerk

Andrea Spivey, Special Education Department Chair

Agenda: (minutes in blue)

I. Introductions

Principal – Tannisha Gentry

The meeting was called to order at 4:34 by Dean Raven Thomas who stepped in as facilitator as Principal Gentry was called to another meeting. All meeting attendees were familiar with each other, so introductions were not required.

II. School Improvement Plan

The school improvement plan was created with the input of Principal Gentry, the deans, assistant principals, and department leaders. The school's current rating a C with the goal of a strong B or higher. The SIP includes very specific targets with emphasis on helping students who are re-testers to be successful on the December administration of STAAR. This is critical as students who are not successful this December will then be required to take STAAR 2.0 in the Spring. Thomas provided a brief overview of STAAR 2.0 and its alignment to instruction with the 14 varied question types including the constructed response. Thomas reiterated that according to TEA and Lead4ward, the test is better, not harder. The 48 page document will be copied and distributed to all SDMC members.

III. Staffing

The new school year brought challenges never seen before due to the nationwide teacher shortage. To ensure competent individuals in all classrooms, we sought to fill the positions with aspiring teachers/Alternative Certification candidates to serve as long term sub. Currently we have, Chavez (English I), Colquitt (English III); Sampson (Algebra 1) and Jackson. (Biology). Recent hires include Barber (ETA Week of October 24), Paul (Computer Science), Augbon (Algebra 1) and 4 SpEd Teacher Assistants. There was also discussion around the loss of ELA teacher specialists and awaiting the approval to hire one using ESSER funds.



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There was also an update from Trudy, Budget Analyst, with her advisement to close some long-standing vacancies to save money in the current allocated budget and if qualified candidates are found then we can re-open in January of 2023, saving half the funds of those positions. More analysis for this option would be explored by Principal Gentry.

IV. HB4545 Updates

Thomas reviewed HB4545 and the district's efforts to streamline the process to track student participation in the extra instructional hours. Ms. Ursula Miller is the campus contact person for HB4545. The bulk of the minutes are coming from the 30 minute block that is added on to 2nd and 6th periods as well as the structured intervention that is to occur the first 20-minutes of every class period on Fridays.

V. Tutorials

Teachers have the flexibility to offer tutorials before school, after school or during lunch. Department tutorials are offered on Saturdays from 9 – 12. Teachers are paid using ESSER funds.

1st & 3rd Saturdays Math & Science

2nd & 4th Saturdays English & Social Studies

VI. School Safety

- Students are required to wear Sterling polo, black/khaki/jeans pants, clear/mesh backpacks, school I.D. badge. (*Gentry joined the meeting at approximately 4:50*) Students are also not allowed to wear hoodies. Thomas reiterated that several neighboring districts and schools also implemented this safety rule as a means to be able to more accurately identify students. Wearing hoodies and a mask makes identifying students especially difficult because in this instance only the eyes are exposed. The homecoming dressed days and now cooler weather has thrown us off kilter in enforcing this rule but we must all buy in in order to make the school safer.

Before the announcement of the next meeting and the adjournment, Thomas discussed the 90% rule and its effects on attendance appeal procedures. After Cycle 1, over 400 students had missed 4 or more days of class(es) and were notified to attend attendance appeal. This is a grave concern as a large number of students are running the risk of not obtaining credit for their classes. Roberts mentioned that the DRIP committee has been meeting to develop creative ways to increase our attendance rates.

Thomas also discussed the dire need to protect instructional time. There have been multiple disruptions including the false alarm from the system malfunction, the fall holiday and teacher service day, the restroom fire on the 3rd floor, pep rallies, homecoming week, picture days, etc all to be contributing factors to the loss of instructional time. Thomas urged school staff to re-



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prioritize instruction and to protect the time between now and December STAAR administration. *(Thomas had to leave the meeting at 5:07)*

VII. Next Meeting November 16, 2022 4:30 – 5:30 pm

Gentry thanked the attendees for coming and announced the next meeting.

VIII. Meeting Adjourned

Gentry asked for questions and adjourned the meeting at _____.