

**McNamara Elementary**  
**Shared Decision-Making Committee Minutes**  
**September 28, 2021**  
**3:15 – 4:30 PM**

**Members Present:**

Toufic Elachkar  
Carol Applebaum  
Melanie Brooks  
Sanfora Foote  
Charity Maina  
David Sadof  
Lindsey Turner  
LaTanya Paul

**Agenda Items:**

**I. Welcome**

We are happy to have our volunteer and SDMC member, Ms. Applebaum, back in the building. She really enjoys working with the Kindergarten students and we appreciate her.

**II. School Improvement Plan (SIP) Review**

The SIP is accessed through Plan 4 Learning. We went through the plan and discussed the different parts.

Our goal is to prepare students academically and to be culturally responsive citizens. Our enrollment projection was 916 and we met the projection with 923 students, so our budget is fine.

Budget is different this year. In the past our numbers had to be maintained by the last Friday of the month. Attendance may be the factor now which is a concern due to COVID issues. To address safety issues, we have asked and got a temporary custodian to replace the one that was moved abruptly to another school. She will assist with daily disinfecting and fumigating until a permanent custodian is hired in the place of the one we lost. In addition, we are asking for an additional permanent custodian. If we are approved, we will have one additional full-time custodians. Hopefully, this will help to reduce the number of students being absent due to illness.

Our demographics are 68% Hispanic, 14% Asian (Afghans and Burmese), 5% White (Afghans are considered Asian and some white-5%). (People from Middle eastern countries like Iraq & Syria are considered white by law). 12% African American, 63 % limited English, and 22% refugee immigrants, 5% Gifted and Talented, 6% Special Educations, 96% Economically Disadvantaged and At Risk.

Everyday students from Afghanistan are registering. The President of the Afghan Cultural Center has informed us that 3500-5000 Afghan families will be coming to Houston. We may have 100 coming to our school.

Our TEA rating is the same. We continue to hold high standards for our students. We are hoping with face-to-face instruction things will get better.

Our school goals are in tune with the District Board Goals.

We had a calibration walk through and everyone was working hard. There were lots of positive things happening in the classrooms. A few adjustments were made. Mr. Sadof had his objectives posted. Mr. Liu and Ms. Turner already started Reading Mastery lessons.

**III. HB4545**

It is a requirement for all students who did not take or failed the STAAR test to receive 30 hours of tutorials in Math, Reading, or both. We have tested 85%, but a few are out sick or for other reasons. We will continue testing and hope to be done by next week. Tutorials will start immediately after that. The program was designed to be done 3:1. However, that would be impossible with high enrollment, so the ratio might become 5-6:1. Parents must approve for their child to be in a 5-6:1.

**IV. Interventions**

The main interventions are Reading Mastery, Corrective Reading, and Focused Math. The program will be used during interventions by classroom teachers, teacher assistants, and hourly interventionists. Congratulations to Ms. Turner for administering the Reading Mastery placement test to her students and starting groups.

**V. Reading Mastery-Corrective Reading-Focused Math**

Interventionist are helping administer placement test. The younger bilingual students are difficult to test so we are helping teachers. The bilingual teacher or a bilingual teacher assistant can help the interventionist with instructions in Spanish.

**VI. Questions, Comments, Suggestions**