



Daniel Ortiz, Jr. Middle School SDMC Meeting



Meeting Minutes
September 24, 2019

Attendance:

Name	Title	Present
Martinez, Marlen	Principal	X
Garcia, Tina	Chairperson	X
Anderson, Jackie	Teacher	X
Collins, Brandi	Teacher	
Davis, Jasmine	Teacher	
Denson, Revordia	Teacher	X
Johnson, Dorothy	Teacher	
Shewcraft, Maryah	Teacher	

Name	Title	Present
Maldonado, Ester	Non-instructional Staff	X
Espindola, Jennifer	Parent	
Johnson, Natasha	Parent	X
Reyes, Rudy	Community Member	X
Ortiz, Gabriel	Business Member	
Khaliq, Yasmeen	School-based Prof. Staff	X
Brown, Jesseye	School-based Prof. Staff	X
Tavera, Jenifer	School-based Staff	X

Welcome

Ms. Martinez opened the meeting at 4:17 p.m.

TEA School Accountability Information

Ms. Martinez explained to the committee that we were rated a C by the Texas Education Agency on the state's accountability system. Our number was 76. Our goal this year is to be a B campus. On Friday we will share with teachers the information that we need to reach that goal.

School Improvement Plan

Ms. Martinez reviewed the School Improvement Plan, explaining that last year we had a growth of about 10% overall on STAAR. For this year, we wanted to set a realistic goal, one that is attainable. We set a goal of 8%. Ms. Martinez continued the SIP review by pointing out the new Mission Statement, which is the one that our IB committee worked over the summer to create. Our data is next. Huge gains were made in all areas. We need to shoot for goals that are attainable/realistic this year, what we need to get a B next year. We received a D in Domain III: Closing the Gaps because of the growth requirement for reading and our English Learners (ELs). Those are two areas we're focusing on this year.

Our first goal is Reading/Language Arts/Literacy, specifically to increase overall STAAR Reading scores by 8 percentage points. The three strategies under this goal are:

1. Implement small group interventions for students identified as two grade levels and below. Small groups should be implemented by next week.
2. Use trackers after our first common assessment data is in. Waiting until after the common assessments will give us three data points so that we can set goals for each student. Every student should have a goal (for each STAAR-tested subject) by end of October. Data will be added after each assessment and goals will be monitored.
3. Ensure teachers are creating aligned lessons.

If the three strategies are implemented with fidelity, we should be able to reach goal of 8%.

When asked about students new to this country, Ms. Martinez stated that we have received quite a few students from Central and South America. We have Beginner cohorts that travel together. The teachers who have those students are trying to work outside the box to help those students learn English and foundational skills. They travel to specific teachers in each grade level.

When asked how the goals are being used to help students with learning needs, Ms. Martinez explained that we are tracking growth. Each teacher has the student folder and knows what accommodations they need. Even with testing, the students will be accommodated now and throughout the year. We are an inclusive campus and use co-teachers within the regular classroom.

Next goal in SIP is for student achievement in math. Again, it's an 8-point gain. Strategies look a little similar to ELA:

1. Analyze data reports to create student groups for intervention or enrichment. Working on creating a poster of the TEKS for teachers to keep track of where each class is regarding each specific TEKS.
2. Focus on hands-on strategies, more opportunities for students to have conversations in math, and engage students in project-based math units.
3. Utilize backwards planning, looking at our exit tickets as well as the assessments.

Domain III: Student Achievement. This goal is focusing on our sub-populations. Our goal is that all our sub-pops will achieve their growth and achievement for reading and math. To help reach this goal, we are creating goals for growth. Within our data trackers, we're including a column to show teachers what a student needs to show growth. Not about pass/fail, but about growth. Teachers will have trackers in their classrooms and students will have their own trackers to see their progress as well.

We're also focusing on over-age students (by 2-3 years). One of the goals is to identify students who can be placed on fast track and placed in the next grade at semester break. We have about 4 students right now. We have over 100 students who are over-age. But we're focusing on those 2-3 years over age and if they will be successful when they get placed in January. We have to do our due diligence to make sure they will be ready for that transition.

The next goal is for Post-secondary readiness: moving our students from Meets to Masters. Our Approaches has gone up but meets and masters has not. We need to bump them up so that they show growth as well. One strategy is workstations. We going to implement slowly. Students will collaborate independently while teachers work with small groups. Requires a lot of support. We will also track students with data and provide our teachers with support. Backwards planning and aligning lessons also go with this goal.

The next goal is Attendance. Our goal is to increase our attendance rate to greater than 97%. We were at 96% last year. We're going to identify students with high absences. Ms. Tavera, our wraparound services specialist, will look at data, identify groups, and have our coaches mentor them. Coaches will check on them each morning, make sure they're here, encourage them to have a good day. We're going to take attendance at 9:00. SIMS clerk will run report. Committee will call homes so we can go and pick up students, find out why they are not at school, etc. Ms. Tavera has also gone to apartment complexes and connected with managers, asking them to call school if they see students hanging around who should be in school. Ms. Booher has also made home visits. We're also checking addresses and verifying if students are zoned to us.

The next goal in the SIP is about Behavior (Culture): Last year we had 990 behavior infractions. This year, the goal is to reduce that number to 495. Teachers had Restorative Discipline training in our pre-service PD. If there is conflict between students, we take them to the thinkery room, and talk it out.

Teacher-Student conflicts – today is the first day that Ms. Martinez received one. All other incidents have been student/student.

Next Goal is in regard to Parent and Community Involvement. Our goal for this year is to reach Gold level through HISD's Family and Community Engagement department (FACE). A survey is in the works to ask parents to submit info about what kinds of services they are interested in. Hosting a Health Fair may be a possibility for later this year. The Nurse does a yearly field trip for students to receive free eyeglasses for students. Our wraparound specialist, Ms. Tavera, will be looking into the interest of parents in having ESL or instructional classes. We would also like to start a PTO or PTA.

Last goal is Special Populations. This year, we're focusing on our ELs and SpEd students to show 10% growth. To achieve this goal, we will provide sheltered instruction PD to teachers. This Friday, teachers will be trained on how to track ELs and their growth. Also sending certain teachers to PD for strategies in working with EL students. Also implementing word walls and anchor charts this year.

Ms. Martinez emphasized her confidence that this year's goals are very attainable.

The SIP was accepted by the SDMC.

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.