

MINUTES OF HISD BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL EDUCATION AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, June 15, 2017

Committee Members Present:

Anne Sung, Committee Chair	Jack Fletcher
Holly Maria Flynn Vilaseca Ocampo, Trustee	Barbara Mullen
Jackie Anderson	Joshua Rotenberg
Courtney Bensch	Jamie Wilkes
Ebru Erdini	

Committee Members Absent:

Diana Davila
Michelle Black
Jackie Cross-Ecford
Hannah Mose-Harvey
Shana Halvorsen
James Troutman

Administrative Resources Present:

Dr. Joan Anderson, Interim Assistant Superintendent (HISD)
Dr. Grenita Lathan, Chief Academic Officer (HISD)
Glenn Reed, Gen. Mgr., Budgeting and Financial Planning (HISD)
Lisa McBride, Board Counsel, Thompson & Horton LLP

AGENDA

OPEN SESSION

1. **Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order at 4:15 p.m.
2. **Meeting Objectives.** The Chair reviewed the meeting objectives.
3. **Outcomes for HISD students with disabilities.** The Chair reviewed the District's goals for the Superintendent as well as the updated Mission, Vision, and Belief statements resulting from HISD's recent June 2017 Board Retreat. The Committee spent some time analyzing the difference between goals, progress measures, constraints and restraints. The Committee discussion that followed focused on the following themes/principles:
 - All special education students are general education students first. There should be no special education "silos" within the District.
 - Addressing the needs of students with disabilities requires collaboration between special education and regular education, including resources, training, curriculum and accountability.

- Student data that is presented to the Board should be disaggregated to specifically focus on special education students.
- IEPs do not belong to the special education department or the special education teacher; they belong to the entire team working with a particular student, including regular education teachers.
- The District must track whether teachers are receiving training concerning special education and the quality of that professional development.
- Professional development concerning special education not only must be required of special education teachers but also of regular education teachers.
- By the same token, special education teachers must learn regular education pedagogy for there to be true inclusion teams, with general education teachers providing the breadth of the curriculum and special education teachers “diving deep” to close any gaps.

The Chair agreed to draft proposed language to add to the District’s goals, goal progress measures, constraints and vision statements capturing these principles.

4. **2017-2018 Special Education Budget Overview (PowerPoint Presentation).** Glen Reed presented the revised proposed 2017-2018 budget, which removed specific line items for special education testing materials, the TREK program, funding for additional nurses, software, and funding to support 2 additional special education manager positions. The Committee asked several questions concerning the adequacy of the proposed budget. The Administration outlined how it planned to meet the goals established for the special education department within the proposed budget. The Administration agreed to re-examine the revised proposed budget and to also determine whether funds from the superintendent’s budget could be used to support special education initiatives. *Note: The line items above were ultimately restored to the budget adopted by the board at its June budget meeting.*

The next Committee Meeting will be held on July 28, 2017.

5. **Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m.