

EPAC Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 15, 2015
DSC Conference Rooms C&D
4:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at approximately 4:30 p.m.

Members Present:

Elizabeth Ponce Lugo	Sherry Lewis	Jackie Beltran	Gina Panfile
Dianna Rios	Luz I. Apodaca	Mayte Marquez	Annie Gibson
Sam Cable	Lee Ann Troncoso	Jessica Ferando	Cynthia Reyes Madrid
Deana White	Maria Belinda Arnold	Angelica Soto	Oscar Gonzalez
Edgar Rincon	Robert Hood	Sonia Schulte	Leslie Nava
Luis Miranda	Elena Burdan	Monica Hernando	Jesus Malanche
Kelley Akins	Johanna Jauregui	Kimberly Holt	Dr. Magdalena Aguilar
Carlos Contreras	Cathey Kaiser	Olga Terrazas	Rosie Vasquez
Emily Thompson	Martha Ortega	Lizette Castro	Earl Sanchez
Frenda Serda-Gerardo	Gerardo Morales	Herlinda Johnston	Lorena Cartagena
Ruth Harris	R. Chavez	Tiffany Heras	Torita Hansby
Ryan Trujillo	Vanessa Parra	Sandra Burton	

Cabinet/Staff: Dr. José Espinoza, *Superintendent of Schools*; Marivel Macias, *Assistant Superintendent - Administrative Services*; Alisa Zapata-Farmer, *Assistant Superintendent - Elementary Education*; Daniel Escobar, *Chief Communications Officer - Public Relations*; Tom Eyeington, *Chief Operations Officer - District Operations*; Tony Fraga, *Chief Academic Officer - Academic Services*; Hector Reyna, *Chief Technology Officer - Technology Services*; Tony Reza, *Chief Financial Officer - Financial Services*; Dr. Maria G. Arias, *Director - State and Federal Programs*; Cory R. Craft, *Academic Compliance Officer - Academic Services*; Jennifer Davila, *Director - Bilingual / ESL Education*; Dr. Holly Fields, *Director of Secondary Staffing - Human Resources*; Kelly McBain, *Director - Research and Evaluation*; Lisa Noe, *Director - Special Education*; George Thomas, *Director - Career and Technical Education*; Joyce Zarowski, *Director of Elementary Staffing - Human Resources*; Melissa Olivarez, *Assistant Director - Special Education*; Fernie Vasquez, *Assistant Director - State and Federal Programs*; Ismael Castro, *E.O.P. Manager - Administrative Services*; Christy Flores-Jones, *Senior Communications Specialist - Public Relations*; Tammi Mackeben, *Coordinator - Guidance and Counseling*; Rebecca Madrid, *Manager of Health Services - Administrative Services*; Miguel Moreno, *Coordinator - Instructional Technology*; Catherine Morrel, *Coordinator - Advanced Academics*; Rosario Rojas, *Coordinator - Advanced Academics*; Susan Thompson, *Coordinator - Library Services*; Albert Aragon, *Officer - Police Services*; Yvonne Aragon, *Instructional Officer, Secondary ELAR - Instructional Support*; Sylvia Gomez, *Instructional Officer, Elementary ELAR - Instructional Support*; Jennifer Ellis-Martinez, *Instructional Officer, Elementary Science - Instructional Support*; Robert Amador, *Nurse on Special Assignment - Administrative Services*; Corina Bollain Y Goytia, *NGS Migrant Recruiter - State and Federal Programs*; Jose Corral, *Mobile Lab Coordinator - State and Federal Programs*; Sergio Jaurrieta, *Title I Specialist - State and Federal Programs*; Jennifer Jones, *Title I Specialist - State and Federal Programs*; Oscar Leza, *Title I Specialist - State and Federal Programs*; Valerie Sanchez, *Assessment and Data Specialist - Research and Evaluation*; Desiree Valdivia, *State Compensatory Education Specialist - State and Federal Programs*

I. Welcome - Mr. Earl Sanchez and Dr. José Espinoza

Mr. Sanchez opened the meeting, thanked members for attending, and handed the meeting over to Dr.



Espinoza. Dr. Espinoza wished everyone a happy new year and asked members to remind their campus teams about the importance of the SISD climate survey starting on February 2, 2015. Employees, students, and parents are asked to provide their input about the District and its activities. He stressed that employees should provide truthful feedback without a fear of retaliation since no tracking/tracing will take place. He shared with members that the District's newest elementary school, headed by Ms. Jennifer Parker, is now officially named Purple Heart Elementary. Related to this, the transfer period for employees will begin on February 23rd. He notified members that Ms. Ana Soto is the new principal at Helen Ball Elementary, Ms. Lilia Campoya is the new principal at Lujan-Chavez Elementary, Mr. Jonathan Valdez is the new principal at Socorro Middle School, and that Ms. Michelle Romero is the new principal at Hurshel Antwine Elementary. He also announced that Mr. Mark Torres was hired as the Head Coach at the District's newest high school, Pebble Hills High School. He finished his portion of the meeting by announcing that Dr. Maria G. Arias, Director of State and Federal Programs, would be retiring at the end of February. He thanked her for her service to the District. Dr. Arias briefly addressed members about her 25 years at Socorro ISD and that she regards the people of the District as her second family.

II. Consider Approval of EPAC Minutes for November 20, 2014 - Mr. Earl Sanchez

Mr. Sanchez opened the floor for a motion to approve the EPAC minutes for the meeting held on November 20, 2014. Dr. Magdalena Aguilar motioned to approve the minutes and the motion was seconded by Ms. Elizabeth Ponce-Lugo. The minutes were approved without opposition.

III. 2014/15 DIP Formative Evaluation – Dr. Maria G. Arias

Dr. Arias explained the process by which EPAC members would contribute to the 2014/15 District Improvement Plan Formative Evaluation. She stated that groups would work by addressing sections of the DIP, allowing for questions, comments, and/or suggestions regarding strategies. EPAC feedback would be gathered by staff members of the Department of State and Federal Programs for written entry into the Formative Evaluation. The groups then began their discussions for a period of 30 minutes.

IV. 2015/16 SISD Calendar – Ms. Alisa C. Zapata-Farmer

Ms. Zapata-Farmer provided members with a draft of the 2015/16 SISD calendar and also provided some talking points for them to discuss with their respective SIT committees. She stated that the District needed some feedback regarding the draft in order to decide how to proceed. Referring to the calendar itself, she pointed out the change of a teacher work day at the beginning of the year. Early dismissal days are still in place for training on the draft and there are 179 days of instruction rather than 180. Intersession dates are similar to the previous year and some holidays are flagged as possible weather makeup days. She asked members to share their committee input and suggestions with her via email at afarme@sisd.net by February 2, 2015. She also requested that they carbon copy the email to her secretary, Ms. Margie Hita, at mhita@sisd.net.

V. School Improvement Team Issues – Mr. Earl Sanchez

Mr. Sanchez opened the floor for members to discuss issues raised at their respective SIT committee meetings.

The EPAC member from Butler Elementary asked about flex days for teachers on the calendar. She took a moment to thank Dr. Arias for her services and for helping Butler work out some recent Title I funding issues. Ms. Zapata-Farmer asked the member to please email her the concern so that she may bring it up to Cabinet.

Dr. Arias asked Mr. Reyna about a recent issue with the P.A. system at Myrtle Cooper. Mr. Reyna



stated that this had been addressed already with Ms. Terrazas, the principal. Mr. Eyeington shared with members about other safety issues that were brought up at the previous EPAC meeting and that they had been addressed as well.

The EPAC member from Chester Jordan shared a concern from the SIT committee regarding whether first aid kits in school buses are updated each year to ensure that they are in a ready state in the event of an accident. He also brought up that their playground fence is short and easy to climb, presenting a possible safety issue. Mr. Eyeington stated that his department is already looking into the height of the fence to see what could be done. Ms. Macias stated that she would help obtain the information regarding the upkeep of first aid kits in buses.

VI. Closing – *Mr. Earl Sanchez*

Dr. Arias reminded EPAC members that their Campus Improvement Plan Formative Evaluations were due by January 30. She also reminded them that, as SIT members, they should be participating in its completion and that it should not be undertaken by only 1 person on campus. She stated that they should be aware of how funding is being spent on their campuses as per their Campus Improvement Plans. Mr. Sanchez thanked members and closed the meeting at 5:38 p.m.

