

EPAC Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 17, 2013
DSC Conference Rooms C&D
4:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at approximately 4:32 p.m.

Members Present:

Angelica Soto	Denise Triolo	Sonia Schulte	Emily Thompson
Kimberly Padilla	Gina Panfile	Liz Herrera	Isela Peña
Violet Chavez	Patricia Ochoa	Julietta Arredondo	Dianna Rios
Oscar Gonzalez	Kimberly Holt	Anna Muñoz	Elizabeth Ponce Lugo
Efren Navarro	Adriana Murillo	Dr. Frank Mercado Ed.D	Monique Garza
Dulce Aleman-Seanez	Herlinda Johnston	Lorena Martinez	Mohammad Shirazi
Irene Rojas	Olga Terrazas	Ruth Harris	Dr. Magdalena Aguilar
Mayte Marquez	Lori Alt	Melissa Piña	Steve Warren
Jessica Ferando	Annette Gonzalez	Omar Ortega	Paul Harrington
Conception Gonzalez	Ernesto Espinoza	Josefina Mendoza	Darren Cole
Antonio Rosales	Armando Morales	Angelica Zubia	Neysa Hardin
Gerardo Morales	Cynthia Herrera	Brandon Rios	Torita Hansby

Cabinet/Staff: Dr. José Espinoza, *Superintendent of Schools*; Troy Byrne, *Interim Assistant Superintendent - Secondary Education*; Brenda Chacon, *Interim Assistant Superintendent - Elementary Education*; Tony Reza, *Chief Financial Officer - Financial Services*; Tom Eyeington, *Chief Operations Officer - District Operations*; Dr. Maria G. Arias, *Director - State and Federal Programs*; George Thomas, *Director - Career and Technical Education*; Joyce Zarowski, *Director - Human Resources, Staffing*; Fernie Vasquez, *Assistant Director - State and Federal Programs*; Miguel Moreno, *Coordinator - Instructional Technology*; Oscar Leza, *Title I Specialist - State and Federal Programs*

I. Welcome - Mr. Paul Harrington & Dr. José Espinoza

Mr. Harrington opened the meeting, welcomed members, and turned the meeting over to Dr. Espinoza. Dr. Espinoza thanked members for attending and reminded them of the importance of sharing information back and forth with their campus SIT committees. He notified members that Ms. Marivel Macias was chosen as a 2nd Internal Auditor for the District, leaving a vacant principal position at Escontrias Elementary. He also notified members that Ms. Rosa Vega-Barrio was chosen as the principal for the new school being built in the Sparks area, leaving a vacant principal position at Dr. Sue Shook Elementary. He stated that soon there would be 47 schools in the District and that some shifting would occur as a result of the growth. He announced that the rollout for electronic tablets for teachers would continue until February of 2014 and that Rojas Elementary School would be the first to benefit from this. Dr. Espinoza continued that teachers would be implementing the use of the tablets in class and stressed the importance of taking proper care of these new tools. He asked EPAC members to stress to their SIT committees and campuses to be responsible in the care of these tablets. He reminded members that the Socorro Marchfest would occur on Saturday, October 19, 2014 and asked everyone to support the students there. He told members that community meetings at high schools would take place soon, starting with the Americas High School Open House on October 29. He asked that members get



the word out to everyone to ensure high attendance at these events. The EPAC member from Americas High School noted that sessions offered at the community meetings would be relevant to all feeder schools and multiple grade levels, not just high school parents. Dr. Espinoza praised the variety of sessions offered to parents and community members.

With regard to the new tablets, an EPAC member asked what would happen if one of the new tablets was to be stolen by a student. Mr. Miguel Moreno responded that the normal protocol for the loss or damage of school property would be followed, which would include filing a police report. When asked if tablets would be compatible with Interactive White Boards (IWBs), Mr. Moreno stated that Technology Services would look into it.

II. Approval of EPAC Minutes - *Mr. Paul Harrington*

Mr. Harrington reminded members to please take notes to relay to their SIT committees. He asked members to be mindful of the fact that days are getting dark sooner and that this could impact safety issues. He asked members to approve the minutes taken for the EPAC meeting held on September 19, 2013. Members motioned and seconded to approve the minutes, which were unanimously approved with no opposition.

III. SIT Committee Issues – *Mr. Paul Harrington*

Mr. Harrington asked members to please share any issues posed by their SIT committees that should be discussed at EPAC.

An EPAC member shared that a theft occurred on his campus and that people should remain vigilant with regards to school property. Mr. Harrington added that safety is of utmost importance and that campus teams should take care of their "second homes," the campuses themselves. He asked that members prompt campus teams to try and be more aware of safety threats.

An EPAC member asked if any additional funds would be made available to campuses. Mr. Tony Reza stated that additional State Compensatory Education (SCE) funds would be made available to campuses in the near future. He also stated that Financial Services would balance out funding using the upcoming October snapshot date. That is to say that if a campus' average daily attendance entitles it to additional funding, this would be carried out. With regard to Title I funding, Dr. Maria G. Arias stated that a second allocation to campuses could occur, possibly, by December.

Mr. Reza asked members to ensure that the District's Corrective Action Plan (CAP) and EIE Regulation be placed on SIT meeting agendas for discussion. The updated EIE Regulation would be sent soon to members to present at meetings. He asked that members please send copies of the SIT agendas to Oscar Leza at oleza@sisd.net. Dr. Magdalena Aguilar reminded EPAC members to please discuss staff development requests with their campus teams and send them to her.

IV. Budgeting – *Mr. Tony Reza and Dr. Maria G. Arias*

Via a PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Reza shared information with members about General funds and how they are used. He went over information such as Average Daily Attendance and programs such as Gifted and Talented, Bilingual Education, etc. When asked if funding projections had already been made for the new schools, Mr. Reza responded that this has already been done and that Financial Services does its best to anticipate and fund correctly. He stated that shifts in population do cause changes in funding. Via a PowerPoint presentation, Dr. Arias presented to members about Title I funding, how it is allocated to campuses, and how certain programs are funded at the district level.



V. Safety Update – *Dr. Magdalena Aguilar*

Dr. Aguilar shared a safety newsletter created by her department that contains important information for district stakeholders. She asked members to look at the data for their respective campuses and to share that with their SIT committees. She spoke about the importance of Emergency Operations Plans, reminding members about getting the required documents from campuses.

El Dorado 9th Grade Academy was lauded for its successful safety efforts and its diminished level of safety incidents.

VI. Closing – *Mr. Paul Harrington*

Mr. Harrington thanked members for attending and reminded them about the next meeting. He concluded the meeting at 6:02 p.m.

