

Districtwide Improvement Committee Minutes

November 5, 2002

Kay Magness reviewed the ground rules with the committee. She also discussed the roles and responsibilities of the committee as it functions as a district site-based committee. Then Kay led us through activities to review how the committee functions as an effective team including conflict resolution skills and consensus building.

Kay Muennink described the ZENITH program for gifted and talented students to committee. She noted that the district was completing the Five Year Strategic Plan for ZENITH and was in the process of developing a new Five Year Plan for each campus during this school year. Each of the District and Effectiveness, DEC, indicators was discussed. She and Kay Magness noted that the district is continuing to develop the continuum of learning experiences and will have the first working draft of the product and process components completed this fall. The last component, content, will be addressed once these two are completed.

Kaye discussed the Program Analysis System, PAS, for RFISD gifted and talented students with the committee. She noted that the district had an overall risk level of 1 with the number of students identified as G/T being a 3 and the percentage of students who scored a 3 or higher on advanced placement scores being a 3. TEA simply notes how students who are identified as G/T score on the AP exams irrespective of whether they were identified as G/T in that particular area. All other scores were below a three.

Ricki Brady shared information on the dyslexia program with DWIC. She discussed the process the district uses to identify students who are having reading difficulties in the kindergarten through second grade, described the dyslexia training using the Slingerland method and noted the teachers who have been trained in that method in the district (Audra Burke, Cheryl Deegan, Carolyn Edwards, Laurel McCurdy, Bridget Bergman, Tom Opfel, Beth Howard, Donna Zinn, Joe Pruett and Joanie Alderman). Ricki also noted that these students have performed well on the TAAS reading tests and that we have had no dyslexia students drop out of school.

DWIC was provided an update on the Curriculum Five Year Plan that was developed by the Strategic Planning Committee, SPC. Kay Magness reviewed the plan with the committee. The district has almost completed the first goal – to review, revise or reaffirm the Purpose Statement and the Competencies that have been the focus for instruction since they were developed in 1997. The district staff reviewed these documents and reaffirmed that the content of the purpose and competencies are still valid. Their responses will be discussed at the SPC meeting on November 19th.

DWIC recommended that the Campus Improvement Committees develop staff development surveys to share with their teachers before the next DWIC meeting. These surveys need to gather information on the staff development needed to continue to improve curriculum and instruction for their campuses, for individual professional development, and for other campus staff development. The survey also needs to evaluate the district staff development that will occur on November 25th and 26th. The results of these surveys will be shared with the committee at the December 10th meeting. At that time the DWIC will make recommendations to the calendar committee on the district staff development needs for the district for 2003-2004.

The committee set aside two tentative dates for mock DEC visits on Monday, January 6th or Wednesday, January 8th. Ernesto Tijerina will conduct a site-based roundtable visit to help the district and campus committees prepare for the DEC visit.

At the December DWIC meeting, the committee will review the staff development surveys and make recommendations to the calendar committee. The compensatory education plan will be reviewed and the results for these students will be discussed. The committee will review the prekindergarten program, and the Academic Excellence Indicator System, AEIS, report will be presented to the DWIC as well as the public.

Next scheduled meeting: Tuesday, December 10, 2002
Randolph Elementary
Room 6
4:00 PM