

West Independent School District

801 N. Reagan West, Texas 76691 254.826.7500
Fax 254.826.7503



WEST ISD...where the best begins

Marty Crawford, Ed.D., Superintendent

West Independent School District Advisory Council (WISDAC)

Minutes of the March 2, 2010 Meeting

The West ISD Advisory Council met on March 2, 2009 at 4:00 P.M. in the West Intermediate School library. Members present are indicated on the attached sign in sheet.

Dr. Marty Crawford, superintendent, opened the meeting with a welcome and a brief explanation of the purpose of the meeting and an overview of the agenda.

Dr. Jan Hungate asked the members to review the minutes of the December 2, 2009 meeting. Rob Fleming made the motion seconded by Cindy Knapek that the council approve the minutes from the previous meeting. All council members voted for the motion.

The next item on the agenda was a review and revision of the West ISD parent involvement policy. All members reviewed the current policy and were asked for additional thoughts on ways parents could become involved in their children's educational experiences in West ISD. Dr. Hungate mentioned that a thorough review of this policy was made year before last by this committee with thoughtful revisions, and no changes were made last year. Steve Hart made the motion, seconded by Theresa Soukup to approve the district parent involvement policy as presented. All council members voted for the motion.

Dr. Hungate then gave a brief overview of the D.A.T.E. grant (District Awards for Teacher Excellence) under the Texas Educator Performance Awards program. In order to be eligible for these performance based grant funds totaling approximately \$69,000, a teacher must be a member of the Campus Instructional Leadership Team, members of which were selected through a screening process based on an application and an interview. All teachers in the district were encouraged to apply for these positions. After the grant proposal goes through the technical assistance team and TEA, a report will be made to the WISDAC with all final details of the approved grant awards. Grady Fulbright made the motion for the WISDAC to support the application of this grant, Rob Fleming seconded it, and all council members voted for the motion.

Dr. Hungate then gave an overview of the input she had received from each campus concerning the three calendar options previewed by district staff. She then presented a fourth calendar option which resulted from input from the campuses which included two weeks for the Christmas holiday and ending the year for students before Memorial Day. The two comp days would be during the winter break and the bad weather days would be in January and February.

A lengthy discussion then followed concerning pros and cons of ending the semester prior to the Christmas break and the timing of final exams. Opinions were especially expressed by the parent members and representatives from the high school and middle school since these are the groups most affected by finals. It was determined that the semester could still end after the break to balance out the six weeks, but that more discussion needed to be held on final exam schedule. Middle and high school WISDAC members will get more input from their campuses and a decision will be made at a later time concerning finals.

The consensus of the group was to leave spring break during the third week of March on the West ISD 2010-2011 calendar. Steve Hart made the motion, seconded by Amanda Adams to recommend Option D as the calendar to the West ISD Board of Trustees. All council members voted for the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 P.M.

Jan Hungate, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent

Charles Mikeska
Business Manager

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