

Minutes of Meeting of Board of Trustees
El Paso Independent School District
August 6, 2002
5:00 p.m.
Education Center-Boeing

Present: Mr. Dan Wever, President
Dr. Gene Finke, Vice President
Miss Leonor Garcia, Secretary
Mr. Sal Mena, Jr.¹
Dr. Charles Roark
Mr. Joe Rosales
Mr. Richard Telles
Dr. Gilberto Anzaldúa, Superintendent

The meeting was called to order at 5:12 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Miss Garcia.

Presentation on the EPISD Transitional Bilingual Education/ESL Model for Elementary, Middle, and High Schools (Item #1)

Dr. Linda Holman, Associate Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction, provided information on the District's Bilingual Education program. She reported that the Integrated Bilingual program had inconsistencies within and among the schools and advised that the Transitional Bilingual Education/ESL Model will be implemented at the start of classes in August. The Transitional Model is in compliance with the Office of Civil Rights (OCR), the No Child Left Behind Act, and the English Language Acquisition Act.

Ms. Antonia Tapia, Director, Bilingual Education, provided information on the elementary and secondary level profiles and reviewed the makeup of the Bilingual Education Task Force, which is comprised of elementary, middle, and high school principals and teachers; secondary facilitators; a Special Education representative; a research evaluator; a Region 19 Education Service Center representative; and community members and parents. Ms. Tapia stated that the proposed model for LEP (limited English proficient) students is based on OCR regulations, Title I and Title III mandates, state and federal guidelines, scientifically-based research, and the needs of the LEP students. She reviewed the students' progression through the Transitional Program and state rules and requirements for a bilingual program. She advised that input into the program was obtained from national researchers Dr. Virginia Collier and Dr. Wayne Thomas. Ms. Tapia reported that assessments instruments will include the state-aligned reading test, the RPTE (Reading Proficiency Test in English), annual English language gains for LEP students, academic proficiency tests, and the English or Spanish TAKS.

Ms. Regina Gonzalez, Elementary Facilitator, Bilingual Education, reviewed the Elementary Transitional Program progression chart and the Transitional Elementary Model. She also provided information on the composition of the LPAC (Language Proficiency Assessment Committee), which is formed at each elementary school.

¹ Mr. Mena departed the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

Ms. Ana Soledad, Secondary Facilitator, Bilingual Education, provided details on the ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) Model. She reviewed the LAMP (Language Acquisition for the Middle School Program) Model, which is used in the middle schools, and the HILT (High Intensity Language Training) Model which is used in the high schools. She also provided information on the four-year, state-aligned graduation plan for high school ESOL students.

Departure of Board Member

Mr. Mena departed the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

There was discussion on the availability of Spanish Internet instructional programs; the “Families First” pilot program, the possibility of implementing a uniform testing program across the District at all grade levels, dissemination of student test data, teaching parents to teach the students, tracking failing grade 6 and grade 7 students to determine student dropouts, intervention for struggling students, conducting annual pre- and post-testing of students, and the importance of bilingualism.

Dr. Anzaldúa advised that the report on the Transitional Bilingual Education/ESOL Model was presented in order to inform the Board of changes in the program, which was designed with input from teachers, parents, and administrators.

Meeting Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Date Approved: December 10, 2002