

Meeting #1  
Community-based Committee  
First Phase of Implementation  
Wednesday, May 27, 2010  
Burnet Center, 5:30p.m.

Present

Steve Lecholop  
Andrea Pastrano  
Celina Peña  
Nellie Shannon  
Linda Jackson  
Dan Martinez  
Willie Mitchell  
Linda Tippins  
John Wilkins  
Armando Cadena  
Sandra Ojeda-Medina  
Cynthia Muñoz  
Roger Perales  
Dr. Sylvia Reyna  
Gloria Parra

Elizabeth "Liz" Riojas  
Olga Avila  
Gene Garcia  
Jessica Rae Sanchez  
Mike Villarreal  
Felix Alvarez  
Bob Comeaux  
Rachel Ponce  
Paul Talamantez, Jr.  
Terri Vasquez  
Josette J. Gonzalez  
Ted Guerra  
Rolando Ruvalcaba

Absent

Curtis Bowers  
Paulo G. Aguilera  
Andro Rey Herrera-Mendoza  
Jesse Tovar  
Dr. Charles Cotrell

The first meeting of the Community-based Committee was convened at 5:36 pm on May 27, 2010. SAISD Superintendent, Dr. Robert J. Durón, thanked attendees for being part of the committee and told them their work is very important to the school district. Their work is going to influence decision-making and in turn would influence the 56,000 students of SAISD.

Each member introduced themselves and gave one expectation they wanted realized from serving on this committee.

Next on the agenda, SAISD Board President James Howard spoke. He thanked the members for serving and said this endeavor is a worthwhile effort in order to provide our students a first-class quality education. He shared the good news on the preliminary 2010 TAKS scores which indicate the district, overall, continues to make progress.

Rep. Mike Villarreal, Committee Chairman, said the strength and power of this committee is working on a shared vision for the school district. He said a critical mass is needed of adults working to transform education one school at a time. He said committee members need to listen to each other and respect one another.

At the conclusion of his statements, the Chairman asked for nominations for someone to serve as co-chairperson of the committee. Rachel Ponce nominated Celina Peña. Terri Vasquez nominated herself and Linda Tippins nominated Willie Mitchell. All members were asked to vote for the person they wanted as co-chair on note paper provided and to pass their notes forward. After a count of the votes, it was announced that Celina Peña was selected as Co-Chair of the committee.

The committee reviewed the one-page outline on the role and responsibilities of the committee, which was included in the binder for each member. The purpose of the committee is to "verify and validate the recommendations of the Long-Range Facilities Plan Committee." Its

responsibilities will be to “advise and provide input and recommendations to the Board of Trustees.”

Superintendent Durón noted that it is important to share the history of the long-range planning process, which began with Phase I Visioning in January 2008. The key to the plan is flexibility and the plan should be revisited annually.

Through a PowerPoint, Dr. Durón elaborated on the need to restructure the school district with the goal of closing gaps as quickly and efficiently as possible. There was general discussion and questions to the superintendent about information on specific slides. A copy of the PowerPoint also was included in the binders.

With regard to a question about the parameters of this committee, Cambridge Strategic Services consultants, answered that this committee could recommend a bond package to the Board of Trustees. The Board would decide whether to call an election.

Chairman Villarreal said the committee needs to help the Board answer the questions:

- 1) Should there be an election?
- 2) When should the election be called?
- 3) What should be in the bond package?

He emphasized this committee can not advocate for a bond and asked that, at the next meeting, attorneys provide a one-page summary for the committee’s review of what members can and cannot do.

After a review of the schedule of meetings and discussion about dates and times, the committee voted to cancel the Saturday, June 12 meeting and instead is to meet on Wednesday, June 2 and Wednesday, June 23. The committee also decided to not meet on Saturday, June 19 and at the committee’s June 2 meeting will set the dates to meet in place of June 19.